

Submission to climate change review
John A O'Shea BE (Civil), M Ed. Admin.

As a retired professional engineer I have taken a great interest in the global warming debate and have been dismayed at the way a considerable body of basic knowledge has been ignored or dismissed in the media.

I am concerned that general public and perhaps our decision makers may not fully appreciate that :-

1. CO₂ is regarded as a minor greenhouse gas compared with the major one – H₂O.
2. A natural phenomenon known as the carbon cycle operates without any cost to humankind to remove CO₂ from the atmosphere and recycle its two elements.
3. Atmospheric temperature is fundamentally regulated by the sun which is known to fluctuate in its activity.
4. In general, planet Earth displays an amazing ability to cope and regenerate (eg recovery of the ozone layer after control of a man-made foreign compound).

In relation to your interim report in which you sought “feedback from interested people before formulating recommendations for the final report” I earnestly commend a recent (2007) publication to you. Viz:- “Environmental effects of increased atmospheric carbon dioxide”. Arthur B. Robinson, Noah E Robinson and Willie Soon. *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons (2007) 12, 79-90.*

This provides a comprehensive historical review of such items as:

- Solar radiation
- Sea surface temperature
- Glacial shortening
- Land surface temperature
- Rainfall
- Severe tornados
- Global sea level
- Atlantic hurricanes that made landfall

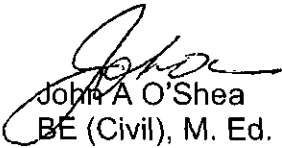
Along with graphs showing their correlation with “world hydrocarbon use”.

In a frank and full debate on global warming I would have expected that the authors conclusions would have been better publicised to restore some balance in the global warming debate.

My own position at this point is that many countries have been profligate in their use of hydrocarbons and some pull-back by the developed nations is well warranted. However the developing nations should not be required to deny their populations improved standards of living over the next 20 to 30 years.

Further I believe that the world can afford to postpone drastic action for about the same period and then review the situation. In political terms I occupy the "middle ground" and I believe that your forthcoming report should also do that.

Historical evidence supports a "do-nothing" approach whereas the climate modellers stress drastic action now, so a middle course for 20 or 30 years seems a reasonable approach and involves little risk. Such a time scale would also enable new technologies to be developed.


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