

THREE FATAL FLAWS IS ENOUGH

Until answered, continuation of the Garnaut Report is scientifically invalid.

A SUBMISSION TO THE GARNAUT INQUIRY

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By

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Fatal Flaw Number One.

Please refer to the Garnaut Climate Change review papers, the one named

EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME DISCUSSION PAPER March 2008

A quotation from it follows:

USE OF PERMIT REVENUE.

Auctioning of all permits will be the source of a substantial amount of government revenue. Governments will need to assess competing priorities for this revenue, which may include:

- Payments to TEEIs (to correct for market failures);*
- Payments to households;*
- Structural adjustment to support declining communities;*
- Payments to firms to correct market failures in relation to new technologies;*
- Support for public infrastructure; and*
- Cash reserves to purchase international permits/offsets to reconcile domestic emissions with international commitments.*

The political acceptability of the introduction of the ETS would be enhanced by government commitment to transparently return to the community through the mechanisms outlined above or in other ways, all of the revenue generated by the sale of permits. (end of quote).

Sherrington's Comment:

The purpose of the scheme is to reduce GHG emissions. It follows logically that the imposts so gathered will need to be spent on activities that generate lesser GHG or none.

There are very few activities that fit the criteria. Indeed, I believe that there are not enough global credit sources to balance the remediation targets. Nowhere have I seen an estimate of balance, an omission which can only be interpreted as ominous.

The most logical investment is **nuclear power**. (Credentials: I was for 20 years part of the management of the Ranger Uranium Deposits and for some years visiting President of the NT Chamber of Mines and Energy).

Investment in **forestry** is often bogus. If a valid sequestration of carbon is to be made, the new forest is **required** to be managed in perpetuity, not just for a short time followed by a lapse to BAU. (Credentials: I was an attendee at monthly management meetings of APPM, one of the largest forestry companies in Australia).

CO2 **sequestration by burial** is in its infancy. GHG emitters can scarcely be coerced into investment in greenfields schemes that have little present indication of success. That is not what Ronald Coase meant by free trade. (Credentials: I organised and ran an international seminar on Property Rights, including Professor Richard Epstein from Chicago, where Coase did much work).

Redistribution of income among households, as the report notes as a possibility, does not, of itself, reduce GHG emissions or lower global temperatures.

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Fatal Flaw Number Two.

Despite loud protestations from interested parties, and gagging by some, there is **NO** agreed scientific consensus that there is a strong link between GHG emissions and alteration of global temperatures.

As a simple but incomplete indication, the emission of GHG has continued for the past 10 years but in that time (and with better instruments) global temperature estimates have not risen. In fact, they have fallen significantly.

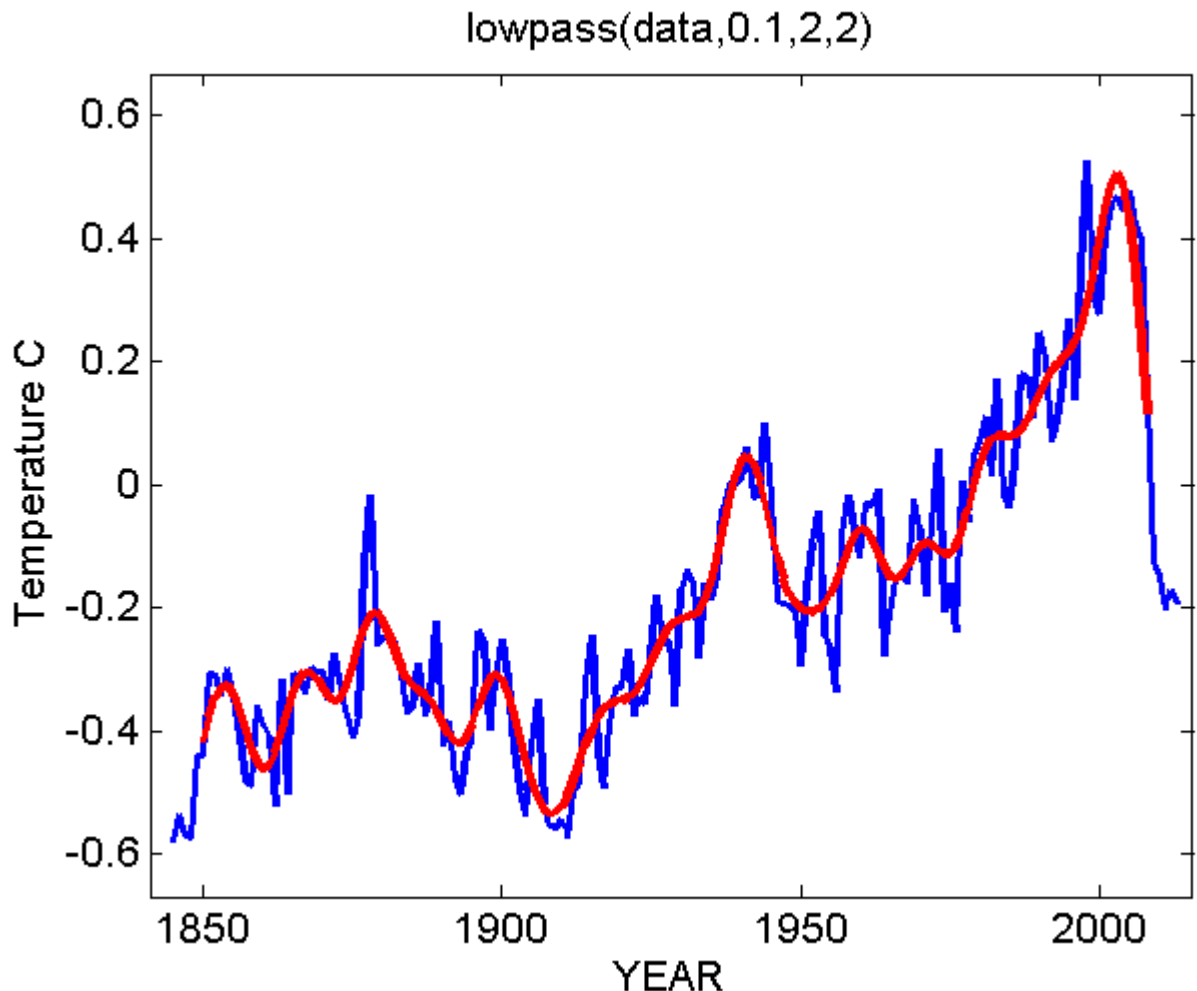


Figure from Climate Audit: Source, HADLEY/CRU England, annual global data anomaly, red processed by Michael Mann's smoothing method called *minimum roughness* (using his lowpass.m). Ref http://signals.auditblogs.com/files/2008/03/mann_smooth.png

Of course, the present author, Sherrington, has been taught by alarmist methodology to show the problem in its worst light, but still a correct one according to the mathematics and data base.

What is more, strong model predictions that the tropical tropopause should heat have not been vindicated. **This is a key failure** of essentially all major models.

In short, the alarm generated by the spectre of GHG emissions is overplayed. Australian industry does not deserve punishment based on a theory which can fail and has failed.

Fatal Flaw Number Three.

The past global temperature record is flawed in many ways and should **NOT** be used unreservedly to claim that global warming has a certain magnitude. The true error envelope of 100-year temperature estimates is hugely greater than the much-claimed 0.8 deg C rise in that time.

In particular, dendrochronology and dendrothermometry have been essentially taken from the list of viable proxies. (See Wegman Report below, in full).

Large questions remain about the use of ice core data. They remain because of the persistent refusal of some researchers to obey the law and release their raw data for audit.

Regarding surface temperature data, several "adjustments" are invariably made to raw data. These include acronyms such as TOBs and Filnet. These two adjustments alone account for about half of the adjustment, which in turn amounts to about half of the worrying temperature "anomaly". The weather stations used to gather past data are often deficient. See for example <http://www.surfacestations.org>

Satellite data available for about the last 20 years do not show a large increase in temperature. They show the likelihood of errors in adjustment of surface temperature. There is published evidence of "doctoring" of results to obtain the answers sought, which is an inexcusable approach in science.

The statistical treatment of past climatological data has been heavily criticised by experts. See, for example, this report by the top statistician from the USA Academy of Science. http://www.climateaudit.org/pdf/others/07142006_Wegman_Report.pdf

The present author repeats the Wegman recommendations below because they will serve as a useful guide to the conduct of the Garnaut Report.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1. *Especially when massive amounts of public monies and human lives are at stake, academic work should have a more intense level of scrutiny and review. It is especially the case that authors of policy-related documents like the IPCC report, Climate Change 2001: The Scientific Basis, should not be the same people as those that constructed the academic papers.*

Recommendation 2. *We believe that federally funded research agencies should develop a more comprehensive and concise policy on disclosure. All of us writing this report have been federally funded. Our experience with funding agencies has been that they do not in general articulate clear guidelines to the investigators as to what must be disclosed.*

Federally funded work including code should be made available to other researchers upon reasonable request, especially if the intellectual property has no commercial value. Some consideration should be granted to data collectors to have exclusive use of their data for one or two years, prior to publication. But data collected under federal support should be made publicly available. (As federal agencies such as NASA do routinely.)

Recommendation 3. *With clinical trials for drugs and devices to be approved for human use by the FDA, review and consultation with statisticians is expected. Indeed, it is standard practice to include statisticians in the application-for-approval process. We judge this to be a good policy when public health and also when substantial amounts of monies are involved, for example, when there are major policy decisions to be made based on statistical assessments. In such cases, evaluation by statisticians should be standard practice. This evaluation phase should be a mandatory part of all grant applications and funded accordingly.*

Recommendation 4. *Emphasis should be placed on the Federal funding of research related to fundamental understanding of the mechanisms of climate change. Funding should focus on interdisciplinary teams and avoid narrowly focused discipline research. (End)*