OCEAN TEMPERATURE AND CO₂

Global Climate Change Has Natural Causes

by Lance Endersbee

Professor Endersbee is the former Dean of Engineering and former Pro-Vice Chancellor at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. A civil engineer, he is a world authority on rocks and tunneling, and a lifelong advocate of Great Projects. He was instrumental in the engineering of the Snowy Mountain Scheme for hydroelectric power and irrigation, launched in 1949, one of Australia’s largest and most successful infrastructure projects, which is rated by the American Society of Engineers as “one of the seven engineering wonders” of the modern world. In 1964, he worked on water-management engineering on the great Mekong River system in Indochina. Now retired, he is pursuing science and infrastructure development as a “free scholar.” A chapter from his 2006 book, A Voyage of Discovery, appeared in EIR, March 10, 2006, titled “World’s Water Wells Are Drying Up.”

In the 5th and 6th centuries, the climate in Europe was cold and unpredictable. Crops failed. Famine followed famine, bringing epidemics. There was a belief that crop failures must be due to human wickedness. But who were the wicked ones? It was believed that there must be some witches who are in the grip of the devil. Witches were named, Inquisitors tested their faith, and a large number of poor souls were condemned and burnt at the stake. For decade after decade, fires burned in most towns in Europe.

It is an example of a public delusion. In 1841, Charles MacKay wrote a book, Extraordinary Public Delusions and the Madness of Crowds, which has since been reprinted. MacKay describes several popular delusions such as “The South-Sea Bubble,” “The Tulipmania,” “The Crusades,” and “The Witch Mania.” We read it today with a detached amusement, but there have been many other popular delusions since MacKay wrote his book. We are not immune to the madness of crowds.

Today, there is global warming. The droughts and warm weather are regarded as punishment for the environmental sins of mankind. The particular cause is claimed to be the use of carbon fuels.

Over the past two decades, the concepts of “man-made global warming” and “man-made climate change” have come to be accepted as reality. They are repeated every day, in the papers, on TV, in schools and universities. Many governments, and the United Nations, have declared their faith that man is causing global climate change. But is it true, or is it just another extraordinary popular delusion?

In Australia, the newly elected government won support on the popular understanding that they would stop climate change. Such a claim is arrogant, and scientifically impossible. But there was no demur.

Many scientists, engineers, farmers, and others around the world have sound reasons to believe that global climate change has natural causes, but there is little learned discussion. The reason is that climate change has now become a political and economic issue, and is no longer a scientific issue. These days, scientists from various disciplines cannot even reason together on climate change. If one has a scientific opinion opposing the popular doctrine of climate change, it is au-
tomatically treated as a political statement.

A good example is Engineers Australia. This learned society adopted climate change as policy, without any learned discussion at all. The recent issue of *Engineers Australia* magazine for January 2008 was about “Emissions Trading,” with the footnote, “Framework for a National Scheme.” There was no room for the learned view that emission trading is a popular delusion.

In Australia and New Zealand, many farmers have noted that there is no evidence of man-made climate change in their farm records for over a century and more. Similarly, engineers have noted that the records of rainfall and runoff for over a century show no evidence at all of man-made climate change.

### Setting Evidence Aside

Yet the Council of Engineers Australia decided to set all that historical evidence aside in favor of a vague notion of man-made “climate change.” I am a past president of this learned society and think that the decision was harmful to the members. Engineers carry responsibilities for planning and building our future infrastructure, including electricity and water. Their professional responsibilities demand intellectual independence, and a critical awareness of world knowledge in their field. They are harmed when their own learned society sets political acceptability above intellectual integrity.

An early action of the newly elected government in Australia was to attend the recent United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Bali and to sign the Kyoto Protocol. The protocol is designed to reduce carbon emissions. The scientific basis is the assumption that carbon dioxide is a pollutant. It is merely an assumption.

A group of about 100 scientists from around the world, including the author, united by common concern about the scandalous promotion of man-made climate change, made a formal submission to the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the time of the recent Bali Conference. The dissident scientists were concerned that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its supporters were quite wrong in their predictions of rising carbon dioxide levels, continued warming, rising sea levels, and so on, and were thereby subverting governments.

*Endersbee: “No room for the learned view that emission trading is a popular delusion.”*

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*Most of the change in atmospheric CO₂ levels results from changes in ocean surface temperature. A warmer ocean releases more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.*
and the public. The submission was made, but it was not at all welcome.

The Australian government has initiated an enquiry into the economic consequences of “Emissions Trading,” chaired by Prof. Ross Garnaut, an economist. The basis of the enquiry is the assumption that man-made climate change is a fact. Another group of concerned scientists and engineers submitted a proposal for a Joint Australia-New Zealand scientific Royal Commission on Climate Change, insisting that the government should get the science right first. I am a signatory.

An example of the strength of scientific criticism of IPCC can be seen in a paper by two distinguished German physicists on the key assumptions in the IPCC computer studies. Their paper, “Falsification of the Atmospheric CO₂ Greenhouse Effects Within the Frame of Physics,” by Dr. Gerhard Gerlich, of the Institute of Mathematical Physics at the Technical University Carolo-Wilhelmina in Braunschweig, and Dr. Ralf D. Tscheuschner in Hamburg, July 2007, may be found at http://arxiv.org/abs/0707.1161v3. It is rather advanced physics, but it certainly gives an idea of the solid scientific criticism of IPCC.

Putting Climate Change in Perspective

Two years ago I published my book, A Voyage of Discovery. It is a history of ideas about the Earth, with a new understanding of the global resources of water and petroleum, and the problems of climate change. Since then, I have continued my studies. My present understanding on global climate change is outlined below.

It is my belief that:

• Climate change is a characteristic feature of the dynamic system of the Earth, Sun, and Cosmos.
• Air pollution and global warming are scientifically separate issues.
• Emissions of carbon dioxide are not a cause of global climate change.
• Carbon dioxide is not a pollutant. It is essential for all life.
• The solubility of carbon dioxide in the oceans decreases with an increase in sea temperature, and increases with cooling.
• The oceans breathe carbon dioxide in and out with the seasons, and with major climate changes such as El Niño and La Niña events.
• The vast surface area of the oceans determines the interchange of gases between the atmosphere and the oceans.

• There is no need for carbon trading, or geosequestration.
• Carbon trading is the result of fear mongering about global warming by the IPCC and others.
• Carbon trading has not arisen from market forces, and presents enormous risks to investors.
• When it is recognized that carbon dioxide is not a pollutant, carbon trading will collapse.
• The vast areas of black pavements and dark buildings in large cities cause local heating, called an urban heat island effect.
• The deadly pollution of dust, acid gases, and water vapor entering the atmosphere in many world cities adds to the heat island effect.
• Such cities can be most unhealthy places. The problems are local, not global, and correction to this man-made pollution must be industry- and city-centered.

The Sun Drives Our Climate

The major driving forces causing climatic variations on Earth are the variations in the full spectrum of radiation of the Sun, the variations in the orbit of the Earth around the Sun, the varying gravitational influence of the larger planets on the Sun, and the influence of cosmic radiation on both the Sun and the Earth.

The oceans have a major influence in helping to regulate
climate on Earth. The two accompanying charts show the
cyclic behavior of the surface temperature of the oceans, and the
way the oceans and the atmosphere comprise an integrated
system.

It is difficult to see any influence of human activity in the
variations of sea surface temperatures shown in the chart
(Figure 1). The gaseous emissions of our industrial world are
virtually constant. However, the popular assumption is that
the overall increase in temperature is due to carbon dioxide
emissions.

Overall, the sea surface temperature over the period from
1980 to 2007 has been warmer by about 0.3°C above the mean
temperature for the past century. Thus, on a long-term aver-
age, the sea surface temperature would be expected to be
0.3°C cooler than today.

The present Winter in the Northern Hemisphere has been
the coldest for several decades. Scientists studying solar be-

Figure 2 reflects the strong sensitiv-
ity of the solubility of carbon dioxide in
water to variation of temperature of the

The experience curve shows the huge ca-
pacity of the oceans to absorb the carbon di-
oxide emissions of mankind without departure from the expe-
rience curve.

The clear relationship in Figure 2 is only evident in the
recent data on global average sea surface temperatures de-

The recent observations of a quieter Sun, together with
the much colder weather in the Northern Hemisphere Win-
ter, suggest that it is probable that there will be continued
global cooling. Thus we may expect a continued decline
of sea surface temperatures. In that event, we may antici-
pate that carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere will also
decline.

In essence, I anticipate that within about three years we
will be experiencing natural global cooling, and we will be
recognizing that the present fears of man-made global warm-
ing were just a delusion.