

**Philosophical Fragments
Of Your
Ancient Name**



Doug Bentley

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“There was once an old frog who had lived all his life in a dank well. One day a frog from the sea paid him a visit.

‘Where do you come from?’ asked the frog in the well.

‘From the great ocean,’ he replied.

‘How big is your ocean?’

‘It’s gigantic.’

‘You mean about a quarter of the size of my well here?’

‘Bigger.’

‘Bigger? You mean half as big?’

‘No, even bigger.’

‘Is it ... as big as this well?’

‘There’s no comparison.’

‘That’s impossible! I’ve got to see this for myself.’

They set off together. When the frog from the well saw the ocean, it was such a shock that his head just exploded into pieces.”

Patrul Rinpoche (1808–1887)

II. The Climes They Are A Changin'

AS THE PROVERBIAL ICEBERG with only a fraction of its bulk visible above surface and greatest mass hidden, so the global climate change movement has many parts and dimensions. Some are readily visible, some are not.

The United Nations (UN) sponsored *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030)* was adopted at the Paris Climate Change Conference on December 12, 2015. It was signed by officials from more than 170 countries at the UN headquarters in New York on April 22, 2016, the seventh anniversary of International Mother Earth Day. The mission of the Paris Agreement is to hold “*the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C.*”⁽⁶⁾

Agenda 2030 grew out of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*, an international environmental treaty negotiated at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. The objective of the treaty is to “*stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.*”⁽⁷⁾ “*Anthropogenic interference*” refers to human agents which cause changes to climate. It is generally accepted that the anthropocene age, which marks the point at which human forces outstripped natural ones in influencing climate, began in the 1950s. *Article 1* of the treaty restricts the UN *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)* to studying the human causes of climate change.

According to IPCC climate scientists the fossil fuels industry is causing the global climate to warm up at an unprecedented speed. Seas shall rise and lands be flooded. The sun shall scorch with great heat. Rivers will wither. Forests will be turned to ash. To avoid this environmental apocalypse Agenda 2030 demands that we wean ourselves off our current 75% energy dependence on fossil fuels. It's a primary goal of Agenda 2030 that, by the year 2100, oil, gas, coal and nuclear energy producers will provide less than 15% of total world energy consumption.

Weaning ourselves off our addiction to fossil fuels resembles the withdrawal symptoms shown by a smoker who decides to quit the habit cold turkey. It's a shock to many national economies. With one hand political leaders slap restrictions on our use of fossil fuels. With the other hand they dole out public funds to prop up expensive, less reliable energy sources. A sense we're rushing headlong and blindly into this managed future is cause for pause and debate.

2.1 The IPCC Case

"That's our most important mission, to make sure our kids and our grandkids have at least as beautiful a planet, and hopefully more beautiful, than the one that we have."

USA President Barack Obama

October 5, 2016

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the international body which adjudicates official climate change science. Under its scientific mandate, the role of the IPCC is to assess scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to climate change. The IPCC can then gauge the impacts of climate change and put in place strategies for mitigating manmade climate risks.

The IPCC procedure for assessing research papers is unique in the field of science publishing. An initial review of the research paper is done by an IPCC approved expert author in the field. If warranted, the paper is reviewed by the expert author and an IPCC official. Finally, accompanying summaries and abstracts are reviewed. Approved research papers are published and distributed through IPCC sanctioned media channels only. IPCC published papers almost unanimously conclude that the primary driver of accelerated climate change is excess carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions originating in our industrial activities. According to its published research, almost 90% of manmade CO₂ emissions originate in the fossil fuels industry.

CO₂ in the air is measured in parts per million (ppm). At the beginning of the industrial revolution in Europe in the early 19th Century, CO₂ levels were estimated to be about 280ppm. 280ppm is then a baseline value not attributable to industrial activity. Today, CO₂ hovers just above 400ppm. According to the IPCC the main causes of the current 120ppm rise in CO₂ to 400ppm since the start of the industrial revolution are manmade. But the crucial issue is not CO₂ in the air. The real issue is the ocean's ability to absorb excess CO₂.

Hawaii's gigantic Mauna Loa volcano is home to a little observatory which many consider the birthplace of modern climate change science. The observatory has been recording changes in atmospheric CO₂ since 1958. Its findings are known as The Keeling Curve. Since The Keeling Curve began tracking CO₂ over 90% of excess heat trapped by greenhouse gases (GHG) has been stored in the ocean. There is about 50 times as much carbon in the ocean now as there is in the air.

About 36 billion tons of CO₂ are discharged into the air every year. 30% of it is absorbed by the ocean as heat. This heat is transported around the globe by circulating ocean currents which are themselves becoming warmer. Water temperatures are increasing all through the ocean, not just on the surface. The carbon buildup is causing a decrease in ocean pH, referred to as ocean acidification. When ocean pH levels drop marine food chains are threatened. Organisms like corals, crustaceans, algae, mollusks and shellfish die out. Reports surface almost daily of mass marine life die offs in the Pacific. Fish and sea mammals are

washing ashore dead. Birds around the world are falling dead from the sky and dying from avian flu. These die offs are increasing in scope and frequency.

IPCC climate models show that the ocean cannot continue to absorb the CO₂ currently being pumped out by our industrial activities. If we don't reduce our CO₂ output the ocean will become warmer and warmer and might never cool down. This is the runaway greenhouse gases effect which IPCC researchers warn is a consequence of carbon caused anthropogenic global warming (CCAGW). A sign that a runaway GHG effect is occurring would be the appearance of a thermal hotspot in the troposphere. Such an event is unprecedented in earth's climate history. It's the reason IPCC scientists are ringing alarmbells.

As well, as ocean temperatures rise the ocean's ability to absorb more atmospheric CO₂ diminishes. The ocean overheats and CO₂ in the air rises even faster. If atmospheric CO₂ is not reduced soils will lose moisture, forests will shrink, deserts will spread. Water demand will increase even as water shortages multiply. Crop yields will fall, food prices rise. Demand on cooling technologies will increase. So will electricity prices. The costs of treating air and water pollution will rise. Diseases will increase, placing more demands on expensive and overburdened health services. Those least able to afford these damages will be hit hardest by them. Developing countries may lose 9% of their gross domestic product every year to worsening climate change impacts.

The United Nations set up The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 1988. Almost a decade later the 1997 *Kyoto Protocol*, signed by representatives of 150 countries, set voluntary guidelines for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below levels measured in 1990. Subsequent IPCC economic impact studies identified the carbon fuel tax as the most efficient measure for reducing atmospheric CO₂. It could be applied to the energy sector, and nowhere else.

The Province of British Columbia in Canada, where I live, is a leading jurisdiction in administering a carbon fuel tax. When one buys either gasoline or diesel for one's vehicle, or natural gas, propane or coal for one's home a carbon fuel tax is charged at the point of purchase. The carbon fuel tax serves as an incentive to each user-payer to improve their energy usage efficiency.

Nations which committed themselves to the Paris Climate Accord have obligated themselves to reducing their respective industrial carbon footprints. Under its mandate, the IPCC is in charge of monitoring each nation's compliance with the Accord.

2.2 The Skeptics Case

“I would rather have questions that can't be answered than answers which can't be questioned.”

Richard Feynman

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is limited by its mandate to studying manmade causes of climate change. Climate scientists who disagree with the IPCC theory of carbon caused anthropogenic global warming (CCAGW), referred to as skeptics, include natural causes of climate change in their research.

Factors other than CO₂ that affect climate are solar energy and sun cycles, geomagnetic fluctuations, cloud cover and air humidity, catastrophic earthquake shifts, volcanic eruptions, wind oscillations, ocean cycles, tilt of the earth's axis, and land use. Consensus among skeptics is growing that the sun and moon have the greatest effect on global climate. The sun causes half of the surface of the earth to rise several degrees in temperature in a few hours. It does so every morning. The moon causes seas around the planet to rise by several meters in hours too. It does so every full moon.

Skeptics assert that a hypothetical rise in air temperature of a few degrees and in ocean level of a few meters half a century from now, as predicted by IPCC scientists, is of no significance.

2.2.1 CO₂ in Climate and Biology

Whereas IPCC climate scientists identify excess CO₂ in the air from our burning of fossil fuels as global public enemy #1, biologists regard CO₂ a basic building block of life. CO₂ occurs naturally in volcanoes, hot springs, groundwater, and glaciers. Carbon dioxide is for plants what oxygen is for us. We need oxygen in the air to live; plants need carbon dioxide for the same reason. Without oxygen we will die in minutes; without carbon dioxide in sufficient amounts plants die out too. Mass plant die off begins when CO₂ dips below 180ppm.

It's ironic that the theme of the 2016 International Mother Earth Day on April 22, 2016 at the UN was *Trees for the Earth*. The UN *Trees for the Earth* theme lists some contributions trees make to enriching our lives.

“1. Trees help combat climate change.

They absorb excess and harmful CO₂ from our atmosphere. In fact, in a single year, an acre of mature trees absorbs the same amount of CO₂ produced by driving the average car 26,000 miles.

2. Trees help us breathe clean air.

Trees absorb odors and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and ozone) and filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on their leaves and bark.

3. Trees help us to counteract the loss of species.

By planting the right trees, we can help counteract the loss of species, as well as provide increased habitat connectivity between regional forest patches.

4. *Trees help communities and their Livelihoods.*

Trees help communities achieve long-term economic and environmental sustainability and provide food, energy and income."

There's debate over whether IPCC climate models accurately predict future climate conditions. There's no debate that higher CO₂ levels produce faster growing, larger plant populations. The more CO₂ available in the air for plants to breathe, the healthier and more plentiful earth's plant and animal life has geologically proven to be.

The IPCC timeline begins in 1958 with The Keeling Curve, day one of the anthropocene age. Skeptics' timelines extend back hundreds of millions of years. Skeptics find that CO₂ has not been this low since the Permian, over 100,000,000 years before humans walked the earth. CO₂ in the air held steady at about 2,000ppm for tens of millions of years, five times our current level. During these epochs, life flourished. Biology's evolutionary tree put forth new branches at every opportunity. By all accounts the ocean, land and air did very well together for a very long time.

Why did plants and animals on the land, sea and air not only survive, but explode in numbers when atmospheric CO₂ was five times as high as it is today?

The optimum CO₂ range for plant life is between 800ppm and 1200ppm, two to three times our current level. Periods of higher CO₂ than our current one fostered more plant growth, less heating of land, less extremes of temperature, and less changes in the amount of water vapor in air. When the climate was warmer agriculture flourished. Growing

seasons were longer. More land areas were able to grow food crops. In contrast, when climate cools agriculture suffers; growing seasons shorten, plant stocks die off.

According to IPCC scientists, the capacity of CO₂ to absorb heat and transfer that heat from the air to the ocean is a more important metric than the level of CO₂ in the air. In reply, skeptics point to physics. To heat the planetary ocean 1°C, 6,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 joules of energy are needed. If we devoted every coal, nuclear, gas, hydro, wind and solar power plant we have to heating the ocean, it would take more than 30,000 years to heat it by 1°C. Our influence on ocean temperature, even if we devoted every resource we have to heating it, would be infinitesimal.

Skeptics go further. Skeptics claim that even the effect of CO₂ on temperature is negligible. Water vapor constitutes earth's most significant greenhouse gas. It accounts for about 95% of the globe's greenhouse effect. CO₂- both manmade and natural- accounts for less than 4%. When water vapor is taken into account, human activity contributes only 0.28% to the entire greenhouse effect.

Rather than being a major cause of temperature change, CO₂ is not even a relevant effect of temperature change.

2.2.2 The Electric Hurricane

Discussion has confined itself to the 0.0035% of the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) we can see. We can see glaciers melt, lands flood, rivers dry up, deserts spread. The 99%+ of the EMS not visible to us contributes to changes in climate too. Electromagnetic radiation generates heat:

thermal radiation measurable in the infrared band. Thermal radiation emissions create electric winds: movements of thermal radiation through the atmosphere that impact local air temperature.

Every electronic device heats up its surroundings a tad. Touch a hot lightbulb and you might singe a finger. Touch the back of a cooling appliance like a refrigerator or air conditioning unit and you probably will. Electric and nuclear power plants consume and heat up enormous volumes of water just to cool themselves down. It takes a lot of heat just to keep our gadgets cool.

Infrared ray imaging makes EMS heat signatures visible. If we could view the world around us with infrared sensing eyes we might think that electronic devices are alive. They look like glowing bodies. There are billions of electronic warmbodies on the planet, with thousands more made every minute. Our electrical activities might have more effect upon air temperature than do our industrial ones.

The 1880s in Europe and America marked the beginning of large scale electrical power transmission. Streets in major cities were strung with power lines that turned night into day. Factories, homes, businesses and transportation routes functioned 24/7 on artificial light. Since the first telegraph wire was strung in the mid-19th Century use of the EMS has climbed logarithmically. We pump out one million times as much thermal radiation into the air, land and sea than did our pre20th Century precursors.

We come into contact with extremely low frequency (ELF) electromagnetic fields (EMFs) everywhere. In our homes, electrical lighting and appliances like refrigerators, ovens, dishwashers, clothes washers and dryers, air conditioners and water heaters are common. In the workplace, computers, photocopiers, fax machines, and fluorescent lights are standard.

ELFs are everywhere and they can affect our bodies on a cellular level. ELF fields play a role in worsening and accelerating cardiac, vascular, neurological and mental illnesses. That smartphone we're addicted to can interfere with cardiac pacemakers, defibrillators, and hearing aids.

When a nuclear fission device explodes its local radiation level peaks immediately then falls rapidly. When a nuclear reactor breaks apart, like the Chernobyl and Fukushima Daiichi disasters, radioactive contamination rises until it's contained. Damaged reactors at Fukushima Daiichi have been leaking radioactive contamination since 11 March 2011. About 80% of the contamination has ended up in the Pacific Ocean.

The Fukushima Daiichi catastrophe is ongoing testimony to how manmade nuclear contamination can harm the lives of people and organisms thousands of kilometers away for decades.

2.3 The Peoples Case

“One must say clearly that we redistribute de facto the world’s wealth by climate policy ... One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. This has almost nothing to do with environmental policy anymore.”⁽⁸⁾

Dr. Ottmar Georg Edenhofer,
Co-Chair IPCC Working Group III

2.3.1 Clearing The Air

The Inuit elders who live in the Canadian Arctic say that the sun has changed its position in the sky. This is their way of alerting us that Earth’s polar axis has recently shifted relative to the positions of the sun. Polar axis movements, wobbles, even reversals have been documented through scientific investigation, historical record, legends and myths that originate in widely separated places and times around the world. A polar axis shift causes jet streams to shift. Inevitably, seasonal weather patterns do too.

When we burrow into the earth or seas and find evidence of ancient settlements there we are viewing a history of preindustrial climate change. In 2016, The British Museum in London launched its first major exhibition of underwater archaeology. On view were relics recovered from two ancient Egyptian cities. They were found under seven meters of water on the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea.

Nearby, legendary Cleopatra's Palace sits in pristine splendor. 1,500 years ago an earthquake dispatched it to the same watery grave. The sacred city of Dvārakā off the northwest coast of India lies 40 meters (130 feet) beneath the Indian Ocean. Artifacts have been dated to 7500BCE.

Magnificent achievements of great civilizations, all these long buried ruins were helpless victims of catastrophic, sudden local climate change. We did not cause these things to happen, nor can we control them. They illustrate that the anthropogenic theory of climate change caused by human industrial activity has limits.

Imagine a floor covered with 10,000 marbles. All marbles are white in color except for three that are black. The three black marbles represent CO₂ at the start of the industrial revolution: 280ppm (ie. almost 3 parts in 10,000). Imagine that one white marble turns black. This black marble represents the change from 3 parts in 10,000 of CO₂ at the start of the industrial revolution to 4 parts in 10,000 (ie. 400ppm), our current level. This black marble is caused by our recent industrial activities: 1 part in 10,000.

Under the terms of its science mandate the IPCC disperses funds for climate change research to scientists who study "*dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.*" IPCC published papers must provide evidence of human-caused global warming. The IPCC's theory of carbon caused anthropogenic global warming (CCAGW) claims that when CO₂ in the air rises, ocean temperature rises, polar ice shields melt and ocean level rises.

Natural factors like solar cycles and phases, earthquakes, volcanic disruptions on land and sea, magnetic pole fluctuations and jet stream shifts cause changes in climate too.

Astronauts live for months in environments where CO₂ hovers between 5,000ppm and 7,000ppm, 12 to 17 times current concentration. Crews on submerged nuclear submarines live in similar conditions. Temperatures inside space stations and submarines stay constant and comfortable. CO₂ does not trigger any temperature change.

When measurements of CO₂ and temperature are extended beyond the timeline of The Keeling Curve, skeptics found that changes in CO₂ lag in time behind changes in temperature. A cause cannot trigger an effect that occurs before the cause. Changes in CO₂ cannot cause temperature to change because changes in temperature happen before changes in CO₂. Carbon dioxide cannot cause global warming.

Climate change science is a science, not a religion: based on fact, not belief. The fact is that there is no precedent in geological history for a runaway greenhouse gases effect. It has never happened. Neither are current CO₂ levels unprecedented. In fact, they're geologically low. So there's no scientific basis for, no justification for a carbon fuel tax. Neither do our industrial activities have any discernible impact on global temperature.

The Climategate email scandals exposed how lead IPCC authors skewed research data to fit IPCC climate models. IPCC lead authors engaged in scientific fraud. Meanwhile,

legitimate challenges to IPCC findings are aggressively muzzled. Research papers that challenge IPCC findings fail to find a publisher. Researchers fail to gain new funding or find their funding cut or stopped. Why are skeptics being bullied, humiliated and defunded by their IPCC peers? Why are respectable scientists resorting to scientific fraud to prop up the IPCC climate agenda?

2.3.2 Energy Sustainability and Economic Growth

Viewed from space the white continent of Antarctica is entirely surrounded by blue ocean. Maps divide it up and assign a name to each part but there's only one ocean. People sail around the world on it all the time. Over 70% of this planet is covered by water. Of the remaining 30%, we landlubbers seem to want to live as close to water as we can. Half of us live within 60 kilometers from a sea. The majority of our largest cities are built beside ocean coastlines.

Next to clean air, our most urgent need is clean water. Worldwide, 700 million people don't have access to enough clean water. 97.5% of water on earth is salt water. We need to turn ocean water into drinkable water. Water desalination is not a climate change issue. But the technology that delivers it will likely run on coal power. Our use of coal power is a climate issue.

During the last three decades coal power has been the engine lifting billions of people in east and south asia out of conditions of imminent famine. China, India, Indonesia and Vietnam build new coal-fired power plants every day. It's the least expensive electricity source for these countries.

One coal worker generates about 7,700 megawatt-hours of electricity; natural gas workers generate 3,800 MWH per worker; wind, 836 MWH; solar, 98 MWH per worker. One coal worker creates as much electricity as two natural gas workers, 12 wind industry employees or 79 solar workers.

Yet, solar energy is the most abundant permanent energy resource. Agenda 2030 promotes it as the energy technology of choice for the future. How close are we to deploying this most abundant permanent energy resource to solving our energy needs?

On March 9, 2015 Solar Impulse 2, a long-range experimental solar-powered aircraft, left Dubai to begin a circumnavigation of earth. It carried a crew of one, the pilot Bertrand Piccard. Piccard said of his craft that it shows *“Solar energy is the pathway to a future with reduced carbon emissions and a safer, cleaner planet Earth.”*⁽⁹⁾ Piccard’s achievement was celebrated in mid-flight by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a live broadcast from the glider to the UN General Assembly.

Due to numerous technical and weather delays Solar Impulse 2 did not complete its circumnavigation until July 26, 2016, 16^{1/2} months later. One solar glider carrying one pilot circumnavigated the globe in 16^{1/2} months. The torturous flight of Solar Impulse 2 underscores how miserably the next generation of solar technologies fail to deliver on their promise.

Wind energy projects are also economically uncompetitive. Publicly funded subsidies, investment tax credits, production tax credits, a myriad of special subsidies,

exemptions from endangered species acts, laws requiring that utility companies buy electricity from them, are concessions needed from local governments in order to avoid corporate bankruptcies.

Wind energy projects eat up massive amounts of land. It's difficult to find windy locations to place the turbine fields on. They produce relatively little energy. Each turbine generates only about 2 MW of electrical power. The turbines need petroleum based generators to power them. They are operable only half the time. They kill millions of birds every year. In sum, wind turbines are an expensive, low efficiency technology that cannot help us solve either present or future energy needs.

Fossil fuel divestment is the removal of investment assets including stocks, bonds, and investment funds from companies involved in extracting fossil fuels. Fossil fuel divestment is used to cripple the fossil fuels industry worldwide. Other financial instruments used include transport electrification, decommissioning of operating fossil fuel-fired power plants, and prevention of the construction of new fossil fuel-fired power stations.

In the USA, prime agricultural soil has been diverted from food to fuel crops to make alternative gasolines. Ethanol quotas now eat up 40% of the nation's corn crop. Meeting the quotas consumes cropland the size of Iowa, billions of gallons of water, and vast quantities of pesticides and fertilizers. Ethanol fuel drives up food prices, damages small engines, and gets one-third less mileage per gallon than regular gasolines.

Petroleum reserves are national strategic assets. In natural disasters like earthquakes, violent storms, and floods, or technological crises like war, electric grid shutdown, and nuclear explosion, gas and diesel power engines are the only longer-term modes of transportation. The value of a strategic asset rests on how much of it has been stored away, not on how much has been used. In 1947 the world's proven oil reserves totalled 47 billion barrels. Over the next 70 years, hundreds of billions of barrels were consumed. Yet, in 2016, we still have at least 2,800 billion barrels of oil reserves- a century's worth. Global oil reserves have grown by 60% in the last two decades.

The fossil fuels industry has propelled us from the horse-and-buggy days of the late 19th Century to the edges of the solar system in our own. It employs millions of people around the globe in many of the largest corporations and infrastructure networks. Fossil fuels power the infrastructure upon which new energy sources take root. When over one billion people still live without access to any modern energy service why does the IPCC continue to impose measures to dismantle the fossil fuels industry when it knows that burning fossil fuels has little to no effect on climate change?

It's one thing to call for changes in economic activity. It's another matter to force millions of people to sacrifice their livelihoods on the basis of computer models, simulations and hypotheticals- especially after they have been proven to be false. People in the developing world still depend heavily on cheap coal power to meet their needs. Forcing the poorest among us to abandon inexpensive, plentiful

local energy in favor of difficult to access, expensive alternative ones is not the right thing to do.

We can't foresee technologies that will spring up 80, or even 20 years from now. Why do we give the IPCC the power to regulate today's activities based on the wholly unknown needs and resources of future generations? Why are we letting unelected UN bureaucrats subsidize the development of price-prohibitive, anemic, unreliable energy sources at the expense of cheaper, plentiful, reliable ones that have already proven their worth?

Lead IPCC authors bullied, humiliated, defunded their peers and engaged in scientific fraud to protect the IPCC agenda because the carbon fuel tax is more important than The Keeling Curve in setting IPCC climate policies.

2.3.3 The Chains Of Behemoth

Tax laws govern the work of accountants, business owners, employees and all persons who are economically active. Businesses must record and account for any items listed in relevant tax codes, as must individuals. Government accounting practices are extremely efficient at tracking and recording every penny that a taxpayer or business earns. They're notoriously inefficient at keeping track of how taxpayer money is spent.

Billions of dollars in public revenue is lost through bureaucratic mismanagement, waste and corruption. Every year, billions of dollars in carbon fuel tax will flow into IPCC coffers. We don't know how funds from the carbon

fuel tax will be used and who will receive the final disbursements.

The financial crisis of 2007-2008 triggered the greatest transfer of wealth to the world's wealthiest in history. John D. Rockefeller became the first confirmed US\$ billionaire in 1916, a century ago. *Forbes* magazine listed 946 billionaires in the world in 2007, prior to the financial crisis. In 2016, 1,810 billionaires were named in *Forbes'* list. It took 91 years to reach 946 billionaires after Rockefeller cleared the bar in 1916. It took only nine years to almost double that number. According to a recent report from Oxfam, the world's wealthiest 1% own as much wealth as the rest of us combined.

This elite economic oligarchy now owns or controls most companies that get large government energy contracts. Their companies receive subsidies, tax breaks and other financial concessions and incentives that are not available nor offered to less well-connected competitors. This practice reinforces the elite's advantage over competitors. The system is rigged in favor of the wealthiest.

Official climate science publication and control of carbon fuel tax revenues are administered by the same agency, the UN IPCC. Carbon fuel tax revenues are dispersed back into local economies through IPCC approved chains of official stakeholders. The IPCC uses the contract bidding process to funnel funds to the economic elites. The public can't trace the carbon fuel tax money flows. We may never know where trillions of public tax dollars ultimately end up.

IPCC bureaucrats talk to other bureaucrats; they don't practise democracy. They answer to no rulers apart from themselves. Our elected and non-elected elites have decided that we, the people, have no voice or vote in these decisions. Binding agreements are ratified without public review or debate by politicians we elect to protect and promote our interests. The people we have elected to safeguard our rights and freedoms are the same ones who are giving them away. How did we allow a tiny clique of faceless, unaccountable bureaucrats in the IPCC to dictate global economic and energy policies? Who elected them to do so?

How did this come to be?

2.3.4 The Days of the Earth

Modern day climate alarmism erupted into mass consciousness on April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day. That is the day, more than any other, leading ecologists of the time launched the green movement by raising the spectre of looming global cooling. Here are some of the predictions made by leading environmentalists on Earth Day One.

"Population will inevitably and completely outstrip whatever small increases in food supplies we make. The death rate will increase until at least 100-200 million people per year will be starving to death during the next ten years." Paul Ehrlich, Stanford University biologist

"It is already too late to avoid mass starvation." Denis Hayes, chief organizer for Earth Day

“Demographers agree almost unanimously on the following grim timetable: by 1975 widespread famines will begin in India; these will spread by 1990 to include all of India, Pakistan, China and the Near East, Africa. By the year 2000, or conceivably sooner, South and Central America will exist under famine conditions....By the year 2000, thirty years from now, the entire world, with the exception of Western Europe, North America, and Australia, will be in famine.” Peter Gunter, professor, North Texas State University

“We are prospecting for the very last of our resources and using up the nonrenewable things many times faster than we are finding new ones.” Martin Litton, Sierra Club director

“By the year 2000, if present trends continue, we will be using up crude oil at such a rate...that there won't be any more crude oil. You'll drive up to the pump and say, 'Fill 'er up, buddy,' and he'll say, 'I am very sorry, there isn't any.'” Kenneth Watt, Ecologist

“By...[1975] some experts feel that food shortages will have escalated the present level of world hunger and starvation into famines of unbelievable proportions. Other experts, more optimistic, think the ultimate food-population collision will not occur until the decade of the 1980s.” Paul Ehrlich, Stanford University biologist

“The world has been chilling sharply for about twenty years. If present trends continue, the world will be about four degrees colder for the global mean temperature in 1990, but eleven degrees colder in the year 2000. This is about twice what it would take to put us into an ice age.” Kenneth Watt, Ecologist

All their predictions of ecological apocalypse (ie. population explosion, oil exhaustion, elephant extinction, rainforest loss, acid rain, the ozone layer, desertification, nuclear winter, running out of resources, pandemics) never happened. Climate alarmism is the perpetual doomsday scenario which never materializes and always changes.

Yet climate alarmism has controlled the popular narrative since Earth Day One. Its persistence to the present day illustrates that the climate alarmists four decade plus agenda has never been about climate or environment. Ottmar Edenhofer, co-chair of the IPCC Working Group III, explained the real role and mission of the IPCC:

“One must say clearly that we redistribute de facto the world’s wealth by climate policy ... One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. This has almost nothing to do with environmental policy anymore.”⁽⁹⁾

Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, added:

“This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time, to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the industrial revolution. That will not happen overnight and it will not happen at a single conference on climate change, be it COP 15, 21, 40 you choose the number. It just does not occur like that. It is a process, because of the depth of the transformation.”⁽⁵⁾

What would otherwise be an obscure science of interest to few outside the field has become arguably the most influential science today.

2.3.5 The End Of Days

We have outlined the testimonies of two expert, opposing scientific witnesses and the verdict on this issue is in. Climate scientists, both IPCC and skeptic, have been willing to let their science be used as a platform in a broader political agenda. Their failure of courage, and collusion, will cost their science its integrity in the court of public opinion. It's costing humanity opportunities to build up its collective energy wealth.

The IPCC self-declared mission to "*redistribute de facto the world's wealth*" has nothing to do with classical socialism or collectivism. That's a façade. Rather than redistributing wealth to the collective, the IPCC bureaucracy is a mechanism for funneling energy contracts to the well-connected elites.

We, the common people, have been locked out of decision-making and locked into the carbon fuel tax. Our political leaders have failed to safeguard the rights of those who elect them. Worse, they willingly partner with those whose mission it is to strip us of our rights.

If the carbon fuel tax were discontinued the IPCC will implode back into the obscurity and irrelevancy that it came from.

2.3.6 The Scientist & The Romantic

It's not surprising that Pope Francis has become a leading spokesperson of the climate change movement. Roman Catholicism believes that natural man sins against God. The IPCC claims that industrial man sins against God's creation. Roman Catholicism believes that we're born in sin and our body is the source of sin. The IPCC claims that our industrial activities are the source of sins we commit against mother earth. Both believe that Man is, by nature and actions, a destroyer of nature. Perhaps we are. Our need to dominate nature began with Adam's naming of the animals in the Garden of Eden:

"Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals...." (Genesis 2:19-20)*

[* Bible quotations are from the *New International Version Bible*.]

Francis Bacon (1561–1626), in a breathtaking display of one-upmanship, magnified our God-given right to dominate nature when he proclaimed what would become the goal of future science. The purpose of science would be *"to endeavor to establish the power and dominion of the human race itself over the universe."*⁽¹⁰⁾ The mission of science would be to dominate not only nature but the cosmos itself. It was a vision of limitless power.

Mother nature, a feminine principle, became submissive to masculine science. Under Darwin's evolution theories mother earth became a terrifying womb, devouring weak offspring through the indifferent mechanism of natural selection. This wasn't the loving earth mother painted by romantic idealists and nature poets. But we can't return to the rearview nostalgic of romantic idealism. We've got the tools four centuries of science has armed us with.

2.3.7 The Dragon's Tail

So the key question in the climate change issue is not *What is earth?*; it's *What is Man?*

Finding answers to the question *What is Man?* begins with agreement. Let's agree that Man is a lifeform. We can then agree: in order to survive, every lifeform must have a space around itself that is secure. The enemies of ancient man included climate, disease, hunger, animal predators, and probably paranoid neighbors. We have been taught to think in terms of limits: limits to economic growth, limits to population, limits to CO₂. We have been conditioned to view the future as a source of fear, not of hope.

Agenda 2030 is set in stone. It's the most comprehensive and visionary climate agreement the nations of the world have ever entered into. Unfortunately, the foundation underpinning the agreement, carbon caused anthropogenic global warming, CCAGW, does not exist. The idea that one part in 10,000 of atmosphere attributable to human activity, comprising less than 0.3% of total greenhouse gas emissions can trigger runaway global warming is absurd.

Within the next decade the human race may welcome its eight billionth member. A cubic volume equal to eight billion people fits into a space the size of The Grand Canyon many times over. What then is the limit to human population? When is one person more one too many?

Four centuries of cartesian science has accustomed the mind of Man to the concept of limitlessness. Cartesian science has awakened the dream of unlimited possibility. This was Bacon's vision. Yet we're still weighed down by the dogmas of limitation.

What we can be and do as a species is unknown. But we live in a time that can ensure future generations have opportunities to reach unprecedented heights. This is optimism. Optimism springs from our unlimited creativity, imagination, and will to persevere.

2.3.7.1 Shenzhen

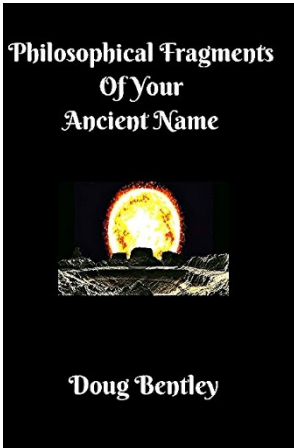
I first saw Shenzhen in 1980. I had taken a bus to the border between Hong Kong and the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone (SEZ). Standing at the border fence, I looked over a landscape of pasture lands that stretched out in all directions. There were a few patches of cattle. That's all. In 1980 Shenzhen was only a field of dreams. Today Shenzhen is home to 12 million industrious souls.

12,000,000 people live on the same land space where once only cattle grazed. The SEZ is now the hub and financial engine of the Pearl River Delta, China's powerful dragon tail, home to more than 120 million.

Like the people of Shenzhen, each of us lives to make our dreams come true. That's because we're builders, not destroyers.

Man creates wealth. Limitlessly.

End of Excerpt



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