Carbon Sense

www.carbon-sense.com

Opposing pollution of the atmosphere and the mind.

CS 100421 April 2010



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If images are lost or format mangled in transmission, you can link to a print friendly PDF of this newsletter here: http://carbon-sense.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/sunbeams-and-seabreezes.pdf

"Gambling our Future on Sunbeams and Sea Breezes"

A Statement by Mr Viv Forbes, Chairman, The Carbon Sense Coalition, Australia. 20 April 2010

The Carbon Sense Coalition today accused Australian politicians of risking Australian jobs and industry on a quixotic scheme to generate 20% of 2020 electricity from sunbeams and sea breezes.

The Chairman of "Carbon Sense", Mr Viv Forbes, said that even if this were possible, it could only be achieved by tripling power costs to industry and consumers.

"The proposed Renewable Energy Target Scheme would legislate that 20% of Australia's electricity must come from "renewable" sources. They tell us this will reduce our production of carbon dioxide and thus reduce global warming.

"This is a foolish gamble.

"Firstly, there is no evidence that man's production of carbon dioxide controls climate. The pulsating sun, the churning cosmos, the restless oceans, the changing clouds, the swirling jet streams and the erupting volcanoes on land and under-sea are the real climate controllers. Man's effect on global climate is insignificant.

"Secondly, there is extensive evidence that a warmer world with more carbon dioxide plant food in the air would be a cleaner, greener and more abundant place for most people.

"Thirdly, the only non-carbon fuel that can reliably supply the legislated 20% of Australia's grid power by 2020 is nuclear fuel. But that is currently prohibited, and there is not enough time for development.

"Man has been using wind and solar power for centuries. They were invaluable for the cottages and cottage industries of yesteryear. They are not suitable to supply large modern cities and industries – they are very dilute energy sources needing large areas of land for collection, and they can never supply continuous power. Every large solar/wind facility in the world has to be backed up 100% by a reliable power source – coal, gas, nuclear, geothermal, hydro or some not-yet-invented large capacity storage unit. Of these, only gas is immediately available and politically acceptable in Australia.

"Compulsory development of wind & solar energy will thus force the wasteful construction of backup gas-fired power plants. Soaring capital and operating costs will then force Australia's electricity prices to at least treble by 2020.

"But, alas, burning gas also generates the dreaded CO₂. And it is not "renewable".

"Every producer and consumer should be free to use wind and solar power at their own expense, but Canberra should not enforce such job-killing and job-exporting silliness onto every consumer and industry in the land.

"Abolish Renewable Energy Targets – Australia and its climate will be better without them."

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"Carbon Sense" has responded to a call by Penny Wong for comments on the proposed increases in Renewable Energy Targets. Our submission can be found at: http://carbon-sense.com/2010/04/18/renewable-energy-targets/

For an authoritative estimate of future power costs under the revised RET Scheme, see: http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/energy-prices-to-triple-says-origin-chief/story-e6frg8zx-1225853385647

"The Great Kyoto Land Grab."

Many Australian landowners have had their land devalued and assets seized in devious moves by Federal and State Governments over several years. This was prompted by Governments using bans on vegetation control to make them appear to be achieving Kyoto cuts to carbon dioxide emissions. The Howard government started it all and then Rudd levered moral obligations into real obligations by signing Kyoto. Both realised that, if they could say they had prevented tree clearing, they became eligible for Kyoto credits.

These credits have real value, but governments have expropriated this value leaving the landowners without the carbon credits but with the pain of the growing burden of eucalypt regrowth.

"Carbon Sense" (in a great hurry), lodged a submission entitled "Grasses, Trees, Climate and Food" which can be seen here:

http://carbon-sense.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/grass-trees-climate-food.pdf

We were then invited to appear before the Senate Committee when they conducted public hearings in Rockhampton. We accepted the invitation and Viv Forbes flew to Rockhampton. Our introductory presentation "The Great Kyoto Land Grab" is here: http://carbon-sense.com/2010/04/18/great-kyoto-land-grab/

The Iceland Volcano and Climate Change.

The alarmists have a problem. The temperature of the globe refuses to follow the IPCC computer predictions. There has been no warming for at least a decade despite continual increase in the content of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (from "almost nothing" to "very little"). The northern hemisphere has suffered two bitterly cold winters. After every year of failed forecasts, new excuses are offered up – some alarmists have even discovered the probable real cause – a quiet sun.

But now a volcano in Iceland offers hope to the alarmist cause - "Global warming is there all right, but it is masked by the volcanic dust haze obscuring the northern sun. If it weren't for this volcano, the globe would be sizzling. Once the haze clears, warming will resume with a vengeance – we have no time to lose – we must pass the Ration-N-Tax Scheme bill as soon as possible."

And of course we have the serial alarmists who now say that global warming is causing increased volcanic activity (just like wet roads cause rain?).

The volcano illustrates the remarkable potential of molten lava to melt ice and warm seawater. Now we also have a hint as to what process periodically warms deep ocean waters.

The combination of warm oceans and cold skies is sometimes deadly for world climate.

Warming of the oceans increases evaporation, and winds carry that moisture over land. But the cold continental air turns that moisture into clouds, rain, ice and snow, presenting the sun with a blinding white blanket. Ice, snow and clouds reflect the sun's heat, causing bleak weather. Once there is sufficient thickness of snow that it does not all melt next summer, more reflection of the sun's heat causes further cooling. The real danger of all this is not global warming, which brings boom times to life on earth, but global cooling, which is deadly for most of earth's creatures.

Abundant power supplies on the ground and abundant carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will help societies survive any global cooling. Destroying our capacity to produce cheap reliable power and food, and thinking of burying our valuable carbon dioxide, are suicidal policies.

To see how extra carbon dioxide can feed the world look at this time lapse video here: http://carbon-sense.com/2010/04/15/carbon-dioxide-time-lapse/

Oceans, Volcanic Heat and Ice.

"Climatology is 98% about oceans, not atmosphere . . . One major reason is that oceans have a thousand times as much heat capacity as the atmosphere. That's 100,000% as much heat at the same temperature."

"Massive amounts of heat are required to change the state of water from ice to liquid, which means that Arctic Ice is not melted by the atmosphere, it melts from underneath."

"Ice ages are triggered by ocean heat, not by some mysterious cooling effect."

Gary Novak, www.nov55.com.

Events in Iceland dramatise a few other things the computer models have forgotten:

Most people now know of the potential for the volcanic dust haze to obscure the sun and cool the atmosphere and the land surface.

But the Iceland volcano also illustrates the capacity of nature to emit huge quantities of gas into the atmosphere. See dramatic pictures at:

http://www.swisseduc.ch/stromboli/perm/iceland/eyafallajokull_20100416-en.html?id=1

Emissions from Nature

"One hot spring can release far more CO_2 than one 1000 mW coal-fired power station, yet they are neither seen nor measured. Submarine volcanic gas does not even figure in calculations of the sources and sinks of atmospheric CO_2 in the IPCC climate models."

Ian Plimer "Heaven & Earth" p208.

These are not just harmless gases like carbon dioxide and water vapour but also toxic gases containing fluorine, chlorine, sulphur, nitrogen and metals. There are thousands of undersea volcanoes and hot springs along the Pacific and Atlantic mid-ocean rifts. Many of these emit prodigious quantities of carbon dioxide and other gases. The carbon dioxide dissolves in the cold ocean water, only to be expelled to the atmosphere, years later, when that cold deep water warms and rises to the surface. Like bubbles in your warm beer, the carbon dioxide is expelled to the atmosphere as the ocean waters warm up.

Recent events in Iceland also make it clear why Iceland is able to generate most of its power from geothermal energy – their hot rocks are very close to the surface.

A final happy thought from Iceland – "The Grounding of 63,000 flights over the past four days has saved 1.3 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, more than the annual emissions of many developing countries."

No Time for Resting

On the plains of hesitation
Lie the bones of countless millions
Who, on the dawn of victory,
Lay down to rest
And resting, died.

Author unknown

With the collapse of the Copenhagen Climate Confab, the lack of global warming and the discrediting of the IPCC, alarmist politicians have gone quiet. But we must not relax - they are down but not defeated.

USA, Australia, and the Basic Group (Russia, China, India, Brazil and South Africa) are the key battlegrounds now. If either USA or Australia folds first, it will be a psychological blow to the other. Luckily the Basic Group are adamantly opposed to being forced to cap their industrial growth - just last week Russia threatened to withdraw from the Kyoto agreement.

Obama discovered how to ram his Health Bills through the House against widespread public opposition. He may suddenly try the same tactics with their Ration-N-Tax Scheme. The latest plan is to present a new bill to the US Senate next week. Rudd met his mate recently and is now scheming a possible double dissolution where the main topic will be Health, but the secret plan will be Penny Wong's Ration-N-Tax Scheme. And if all of that fails, Rudd and the Greens are secretly cooking up a fall back, a carbon tax.

So please keep the pressure on all politicians, especially the few white ants and weasels in the Liberal Party, and the Union representatives in the ALP (presumably they know something about what creates and destroys jobs.) Be active in your local media.

Don't feel that your one letter, phone call or email will change nothing. Politics is a numbers game. Most politicians have a great antenna but no compass. Make sure his antenna vibrates. Even if the pollie does not see or read every letter, he does hear how many letters he got attacking Climate Hysteria. Ten letters is a groundswell, fifty letters is a tidal wave of public opposition. Let them know what you think in your own words. Make sure they know you will vote AGAINST and deny election funds to every politician who does not oppose new climate bills or carbon taxes.

There is no time for resting. This year is crucial. Turn up the heat.

Viv Forbes

Viv Forbes is Chairman of the Carbon Sense Coalition which opposes waste of resources, opposes pollution, and promotes the rational and sustainable use of carbon energy and carbon food.

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Please spread "Carbon Sense" around.

For more information visit our web site at www.carbon-sense.com Literary, financial or other contributions to help our cause are welcomed.

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The End Game:

For an insight into the quality of some US defenders of the environment watch this short video (about 2 minutes):

http://theconstitutionalalamo.com/2010/04/01/congressman-hank-johnson-d-ga-champion-of-the-environment/