

Proof that CO₂ is not the Cause of the Current Global Warming

Ian C McClintock

Introduction

Ian McClintock is a farmer from the south-west of NSW who, like most farmers, takes a very keen interest in the weather, in weather predictions, and for over twenty years has taken a very keen interest in the debate over anthropogenic emissions as an instrument of climate control.

He has held many positions in the NFF and in the NSW Farmers Association where he currently serves on the Climate Change Task Force, the Business Economic & Trade Committee, and on the Executive Council. He has served on the NFF's Economic Committee, Conservation Committee, and as the NFF's representative on the National Farm Forestry Round Table.

Ray Evans

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There is understandably, considerable uncertainty amongst the majority of the general public about the veracity of the claims made by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that anthropogenic (man induced) emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gasses, are the cause of the present warming period being experienced by planet Earth.

There is no empirical evidence available to demonstrate or prove this relationship, despite the expenditure of some \$50 billion directed to this end.

The IPCC theory is in fact only supported by computer models that due to the complexities and lack of detailed knowledge of many of the processes involved, are little more than best guesses, designed to accommodate the anticipated outcomes.

They are not scientifically credible and are incapable of predicting future climate, yet are assumed by many to be an accurate and trustworthy indication of future climatic trends.

The purpose of this paper is to show, by a variety of methods, that CO₂ is not and cannot be the primary cause of the present warming as claimed.

The implications from politicians and others from 'getting this wrong', by accepting this theory and its alarming consequences without checking the science, are potentially devastating.

There is a scientific truism that says, "Correlation can not prove causation, but a failure to correlate can prove non-causation".

This paper cites a number of demonstrative examples that prove conclusively that the theory of anthropogenic global warming is wrong.

INTRODUCTION

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its adherents, claim that with at least 90% certainty (and possibly as high as 99%) that anthropogenic (man-induced) emissions of greenhouse gasses, particularly carbon dioxide (CO₂) are the cause of the warming that has occurred globally since about the middle of the 1800's.

The basis for these claims is contained in the Working Group 1 Report, "The physical Science Basis".

This is summarized, as are the other two Working Group Reports¹ into the "Summary For Policymakers and Technical Summary" and "The AR4 Synthesis Report". These are usually the only Reports read by most people including policymakers. These Summary Reports are agreed line by line by a small number of Government representatives and reflect certain political agenda's that are at times at odds with the scientific content of the full Report and its authors. They are therefore the outcome of a political process, rather than being an impartial and objective scientific document.

A careful study of these Reports reveals that there is in fact no empirical evidence that supports the main theory of anthropogenic global warming (AGW) (this has now been changed to the all inclusive terminology 'climate change'²). Some 23 specialized computer models provide the only support for the IPCC theory.

There is considerable uncertainty, as a result of a fundamental lack of knowledge about the causes of 'climate change', admitted by the IPCC.

"There is still an incomplete physical understanding of many components of the climate system and their role in climate change. Key uncertainties include aspects of the roles played by clouds, the cryosphere, the oceans, land use and couplings between climate and biogeochemical cycles."

Significantly, our Sun provides 99.9% of the energy that drives the worlds climate systems and its varying Solar Wind protects us from galactic cosmic rays that have been shown to influence global cloud cover (and therefore temperature), and so this should be added to the list in the above quotation as this material is now largely ignored by the IPCC.

It has been common in recent times to claim that there is a scientific consensus about the causes of climate change, however it has become evident that this is clearly not the case. Amongst many other examples there are now well over 31,000 scientists who have signed a petition disagreeing, on scientific grounds, with the IPCC's claims. Science is never settled.

The object of this paper is to cite a number of examples that conclusively demonstrate and prove that the claims that CO₂ is the principle driver of climate change are false.

¹ The Working Group 11 Report "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability", and The Working Group 111 Report "Mitigation of Climate Change"

² This is confusing (probably deliberately), making it difficult to easily distinguish between natural and anthropogenic climate change.

Once this fact is accepted, it makes the whole objective of attempting to reduce CO₂ in the atmosphere a total waste of time, effort, financial and other resources, all of which can be better directed towards tackling real problems.

PROOF'S

1. LACK OF CORRELATION

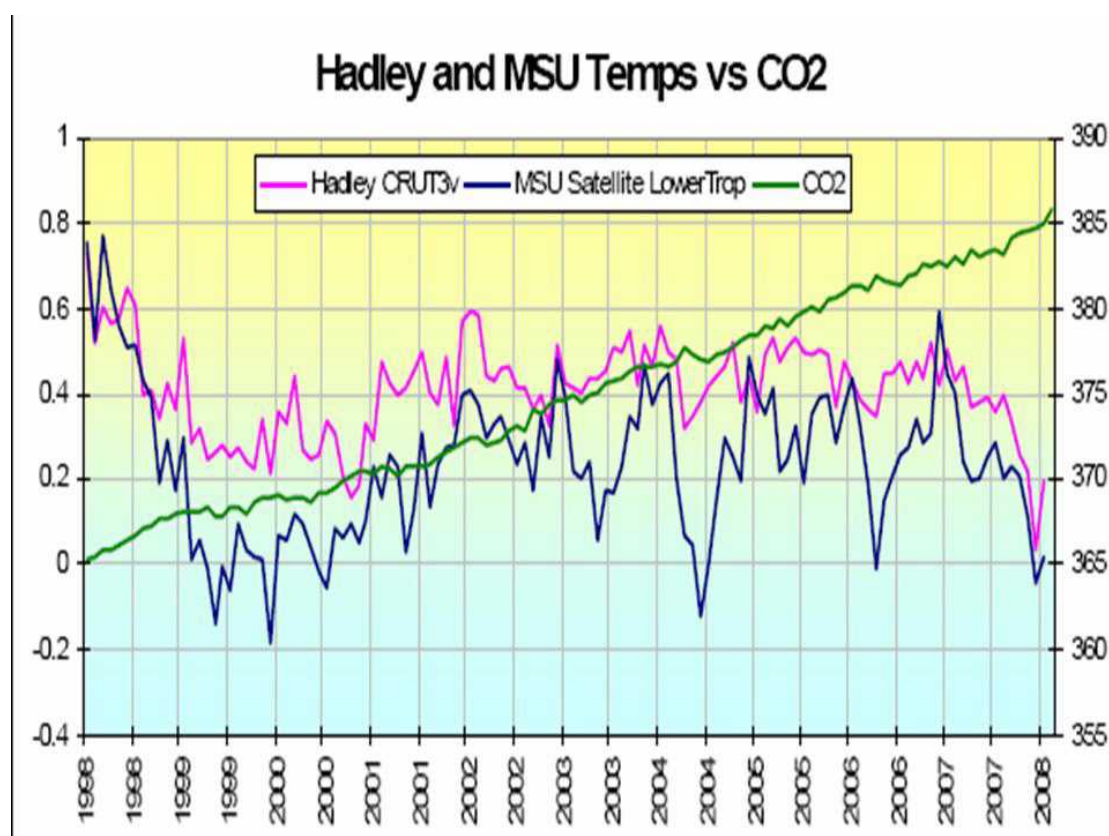
There is no correlation between levels of CO₂³ in the atmosphere and global temperature, in short, medium or long term historic time scales.

There is a scientific truism that says, "Correlation can not prove causation, but a failure to correlate can prove non-causation".

If anthropogenic CO₂ were the major climate driver (as claimed), warming would have continued to increase in synchronization with the increase in CO₂ levels.

(i) Short Term.

The graph below indicates the present cooling period we are now experiencing. This shows the Hadley UK ground based (pink) and the satellite (blue) temperature record and the simultaneously increasing CO₂ levels (green line).



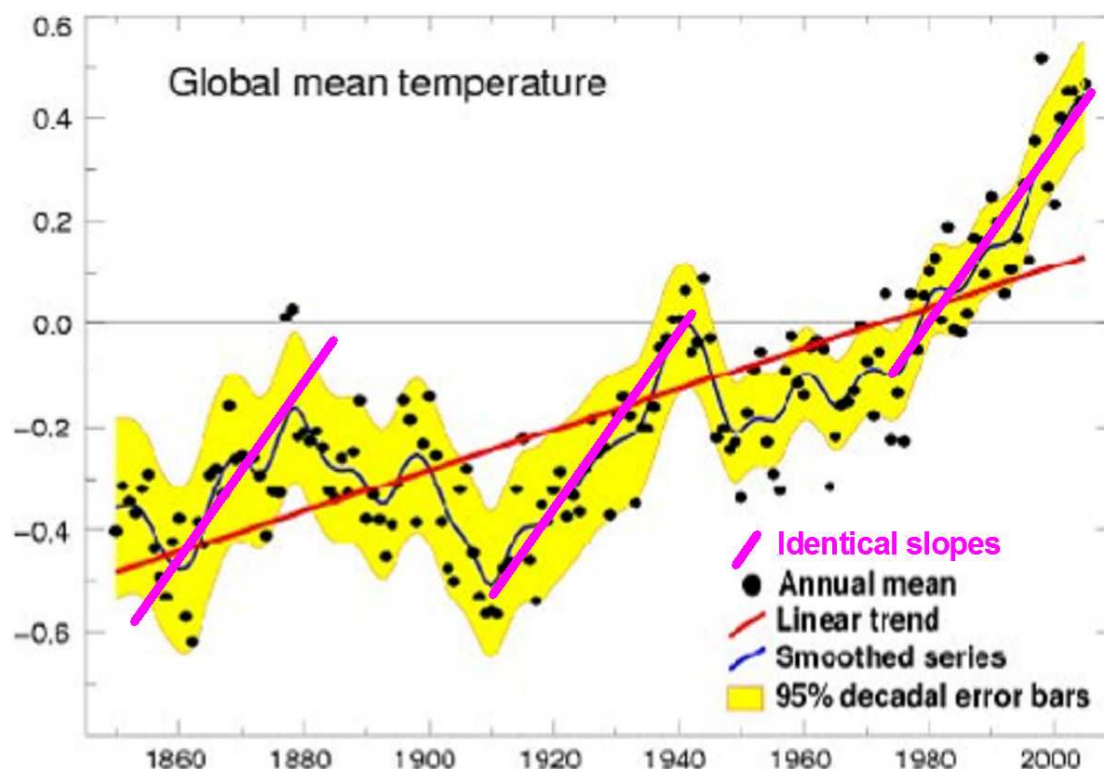
Not one of the computer models predicted this result, although at least one was tweaked retrospectively to show the present cooling. This graphically illustrates the

³ CO₂ is used here as the suite of minor greenhouse gases (i.e., excluding the major greenhouse gas water vapour) often denominated as CO_{2-e}

lack of correlation with CO₂ increases and the inability to predict climate even in the very short term, let alone for 100 or more years into the future.

With the Sun now entering a 'quiet' phase, it is anticipated that this cooling trend is likely to continue until Sun activity increases.

(ii) Medium Term.



This graph shows the temperature recovery (warming) that has occurred since the last gasp of the Little Ice Age (LIA) in the mid 1800's.

It shows three warmings and two coolings, in fact there are now three coolings with details of the latest one (shown on p4) not included on this graph. Again there is no correlation with CO₂ levels in the atmosphere.

It is worth noting that the rate of increase in the latest warming period (1975 – 1998) is similar to the rate of increase in the previous two warmings (sloping parallel bars), despite significantly higher levels of CO₂ being present during the last warming.

There appears to be a clear cyclical signature evident in these temperature perturbations that is absent in the CO₂ data. It is very obvious that other influences are dominating.

(iii) Long Term.

For the first 4 billion years of Earth history, the CO₂ content of the atmosphere has been from 3 to 100 times the current level (Plimer. I. 2009), without any ‘tipping point’ leading to a runaway greenhouse effect, as predicted by the alarmists.

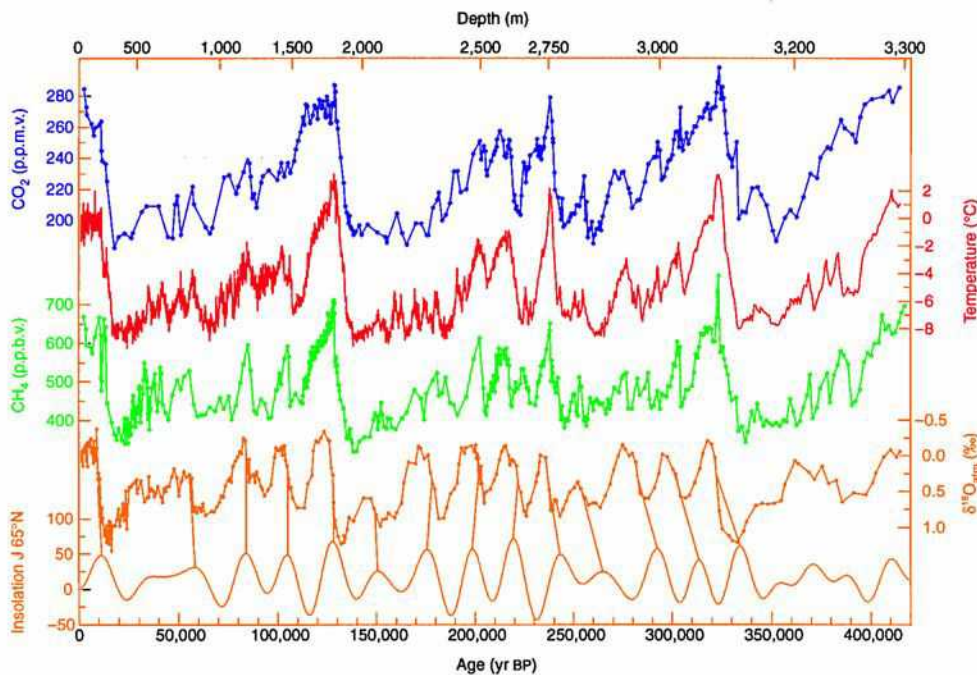
The historical record indicates that CO₂ levels have been significantly higher than they are now, being 25 times at 545 Ma, (million years ago) (Veizer. J. et al 2000).

The killer proof that CO₂ does not drive climate is to be found during the Ordovician-Silurian (450-420 Ma) and the Jurassic-Cretaceous periods (151-132 Ma), when CO₂ levels were greater than 4000 ppmv (parts per million by volume) and about 2000 ppmv respectively⁴.

If the IPCC theory is correct there should have been runaway greenhouse induced global warming during these periods, but instead there was glaciation.

This unequivocally proves that CO₂ does not drive climate, it can only be a minor player, swamped by other far more powerful influences.

2. VOSTOK ICE CORES



This graph, illustrates the cyclical nature of the Sun (orange), Temperature (red) CO₂ (blue) and Methane (green) over the last 450,000 years.

It has been used by the IPCC (and Al Gore⁵) as evidence that CO₂ has caused the temperature increases, however they failed to explain that in fact the CO₂ increases occurred on average 800 years after the temperatures increased.

⁴ Berner, R.A. and Kothavala, Z. 2001: Geocarb III: A revised model of atmospheric CO₂ over Phanerozoic time. American Journal of Science 301: 182-204

⁵ Al Gore in ‘An Inconvenient Truth’ used this graph as his sole justification for believing that carbon emissions cause global warming.

This proves three things.

Firstly, CO₂ did not, and could not, have caused the warmings.

Secondly, rising global temperatures were responsible for increasing levels of both CO₂ and CH₄ (Methane) and also Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), not shown. The physics of how this might occur are well established and beyond dispute.

Thirdly, increased levels of CO₂ did not inhibit in any way the subsequent fall in temperatures that regularly occurred, plunging the world into another ice age.

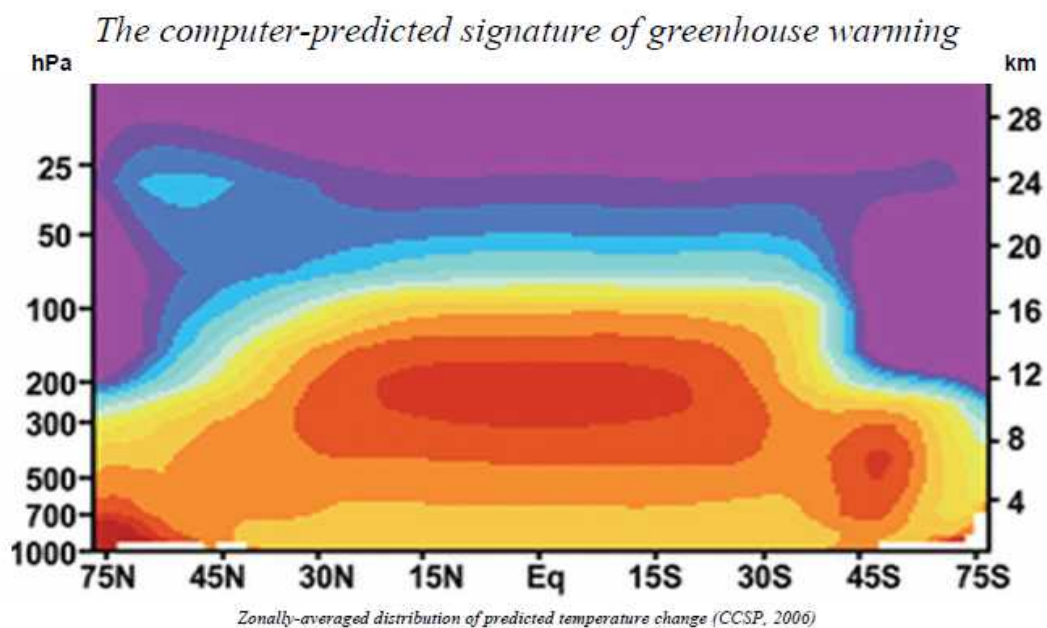
It should be noted that the indicated CO₂ levels, obtained from deep ice cores, are likely to be significantly understated due to inevitable losses sustained in the ice-core extraction process,⁶ however the relativities are likely to be maintained.

3. GREENHOUSE SIGNATURE

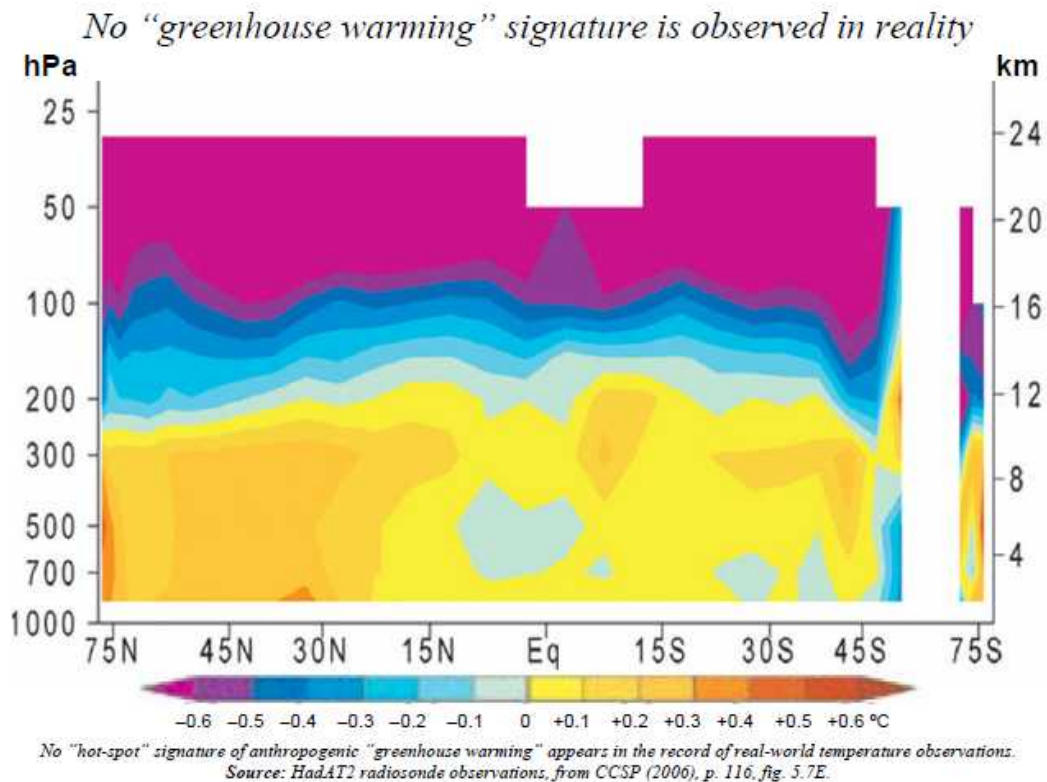
Each possible cause of global warming has a different and distinctive pattern of where in the planet the warming occurs first and the most. The signature of an increased greenhouse effect is a hot spot about 10-12 km up in the atmosphere over the tropics.

Despite decades of measurements using radiosondes (weather balloons with thermometers that radio the varying temperatures back as the balloon rises) and satellites, they show no hotspot at all.

This is based on the relevant physics and is incorporated into a number of the IPCC computer models as shown below.



⁶ Zbigniew Jaworowski 2007. "glaciological studies are not able to provide a reliable reconstruction of CO₂ levels in the ancient atmosphere. This is because the ice cores do not fulfil the essential closed system criteria."



The above figure represents the results of repeated accurate measurements of the area in question and shows no anomalous warming at all at the 10-12 km altitude as predicted.

This again offers substantive proof that CO₂ is not causing the warming.

4. WARMING ON OTHER SOLAR SYSTEM PLANETS AND MOONS.

Further evidence that CO₂ is not the principle driver of warming on this planet is provided by the simultaneous warming of other planets and moons in our solar system, despite the fact that they obviously have no anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gasses.

Mars, Triton, Pluto and Jupiter all show global warming,^{7, 8} pointing to the Sun as the dominating influence in determining climate throughout the solar system.

CONCLUSION

There is much evidence in addition to the above, supporting the contention that anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gasses are not the main drivers of global climate change, however the above are sufficient to conclusively prove the case.

They prove, by a variety of methods, that the key hypothesis of the IPCC and its supporters fails.

⁷ Marcus, P.S. 2004: Prediction of global climate change on Jupiter: *Nature* 446:828-831

⁸ Hathaway, D.H. and Wilson, R.M. 200: What the sunspot record tells us about space climate. *Solar Physics* 224: 5-19