

A Near Perfect Setup

Everything came together this summer, with hot temperatures along the East Coast, and testimonials from government scientists that 2010 was the hottest year ever. These scientists and their many accomplices in the media claimed that the earth's temperature is rising more than expected, sea level is rising ominously, and the Arctic is dangerously close to melting. The National Academy of Sciences issued reports claiming, 1) their scientists are superior to skeptics, and 2) carbon dioxide from fossil fuels is responsible for climate change. Blue ribbon commissions exonerated the guilty in Climategate, and Al Gore escaped charges of attacking a masseuse in Portland.

It was a near perfect assault on reason, but it failed. The U.S. Senate decided not to sacrifice the U.S. economy on the alter of Global Warming. We were lucky.

Author Michael Crichton saw this assault coming in 2003 when he said: “The greatest challenge facing mankind is the challenge of distinguishing reality from fantasy, truth from propaganda.” President Eisenhower saw the danger in 1961 when he warned that “public policy could itself become the captive of a scientific-technological elite” dominated by the power of public money. And George Orwell anticipated an endless stream of propaganda coming from a “Ministry of Truth” in his novel “1984.”

As with all propaganda, there is a shred of truth mixed with crafty deception.

The global temperature did rise over the last 150 years, as we came out of “The Little Ice Age.” But it has NOT risen further in many years, according to the best data we have from NASA satellites (Reference: Roy Spencer). Professor Phil Jones, the central figure in the Climategate scandal, admitted in a moment of candor that there has been no warming since 1995. Others have pointed out that the global temperature was actually lower 20 years after James Hansen of NASA GISS first warned Congress about 'catastrophic warming' in 1988. Alarmists lament their inability to explain this, although the reason is clear: carbon dioxide is not the culprit.

Our present warm period peaked in 1998 with a 'Grand Maximum' of solar cycles and has been constant or slightly cooling on average since, as the Sun turned remarkably quiet. From various temperature proxies, we know that the present 10,000 year interglacial epoch has seen similar warmth at thousand year intervals. Each warm period has been slightly cooler than the previous one as we slide toward another deep ice age. (References: Habibullo Abdussamatov and Robert Carter)

Fleeting warmth this year came from an El Nino involving pooling of warmer surface water in the tropical Eastern Pacific and was replaced by a La Nina and a declining global temperature. Such brief fluctuations are expected on a fluid planet with vast oceans and atmosphere that are never in equilibrium. (Reference: Richard Lindzen)

What about sea level rise? That's “the greatest lie ever told,” according to Swedish scientist Nils-Axel Morner who has long studied such changes. Aside from virtual changes caused by coastlines rising or sinking, worldwide sea level has been constant for decades.

The Arctic is melting a little more this summer than it does on average, but Antarctic sea ice has been growing more than normal. It's also been unusually cold in the South America and Australia. (Reference: Cryosphere Today)

Perhaps the most stunning evidence involves carbon dioxide itself. While recent evidence from Hawaii shows steadily rising CO₂ in the atmosphere, older measurements show a peak in the 1940s that was higher than the level observed today . That says that natural processes are regulating CO₂ in our atmosphere, a concept with strong theoretical backing. (References: Ernst-Georg Beck and Zbigniew Jaworowski)

We certainly don't know everything there is to know about climate, but we do know that Orwellian pronouncements about a catastrophe are dangerous propaganda disguised as science.

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