

Letters to the editor

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An unintended consequence of net zero

Carbon-capture-storage ("CCS") facilities are an important part of the net-zero strategy to negate the amount of carbon dioxide ("CO₂", "carbon emission") produced by human activities. This strategy is driven by the mistaken belief that CO₂ is causing global warming.

Any student of physical chemistry will recognize that the oceans are already capturing and storing an amount equal to 98 per cent of our carbon emissions. Consequently, CCS facilities are redundant and an outrageous waste of money.

Nevertheless, investments in CCS technology and facilities continue unabated.

For example, a CBC News article by Chris Brown (Oct. 30, 2021) reveals that Carbfix has developed in Iceland an underground process capable of turning CO₂ into stone. According to Kari Helgason of Carbfix, "Iceland could store about 50 times the annual emissions of mankind."

Fortunately for carbon life forms, current CCS facilities are capturing relatively small quantities of CO₂ per year. Although CCS facilities are not, as yet, a serious threat to life on Earth, it would not be unreasonable to believe that this activity will accelerate, especially as 98 per cent of the captured CO₂ is replaced by the oceans.

Such a threat to plants is real because atmospheric CO₂ is now much less than the optimal minimum level and approaches the no-growth level during the planet's glaciation cycles. The consumption of all known carbon reserves will not remedy the situation but it will significantly extend the planet's green period.

If the number of CCS facilities continue to multiply and the capture technology continues to advance, it is conceivable that US Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's prediction of the world ending in 12 years (2031) could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Civilization is in dire need of a Churchill with the wisdom and courage to denounce the vilification of CO₂ and to condemn all CCS facilities, which are not only anti-green/anti-life operations but also potential weapons of mass destruction.

In conclusion, CO₂ is not a pollutant nor is it a climate-control variable. For individuals interested in what really controls the Earth's climate, please view this video entitled:

"Demystifying the Atmospheric Greenhouse Effect" by Ned Nikolov, PhD

<https://vimeo.com/602819278>

The lecture is also on YouTube. Find it on YouTube by searching Ned Nikolov and the video's title as above.

Thorpe Watson, PhD

Warfield

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnt9YZyCTAQ>