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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**“Hurricane Harvey was a natural event not human-induced”**

We are now being accused of causing Hurricane Harvey as a result of human-induced “climate change”. The accusation wrongly implies that the planet’s climate would be stable if we didn’t generate carbon dioxide (“CO<sub>2</sub>”, aka “carbon emissions”) by consuming hydrocarbon fuels (coal, oil, and gas).

According to NOAA’s Earth System Research Laboratory (Mauna Loa, Hawaii), the CO<sub>2</sub> content of the atmosphere is increasing about 2 parts per million (“ppm”) each year. The climate alarmists believe that a doubling of CO<sub>2</sub> will result in a global temperature increase of 2° C.

Using this unproven, exaggerated CO<sub>2</sub>/temperature sensitivity, simple arithmetic reveals that CO<sub>2</sub> would be responsible for a maximum temperature increase of 0.01° C per year. [(2 ppm x 2° C)/400 ppm = 0.01° C]

Therefore, it is nonsensical to attribute any alleged, climate-change evidence to this minuscule, CO<sub>2</sub>-related, temperature increase. Such attribution to human activities is much more outrageous when it is recognised that man-made CO<sub>2</sub> is responsible for only 4% of the CO<sub>2</sub> increase; that is, 4% of 0.01° C = 0.0004° C per year.

The foregoing worst-case scenario reveals that CO<sub>2</sub>’s role is immaterial in affecting climate change. In reality, CO<sub>2</sub> is not a factor.

Clearly, Harvey is a natural weather event and is not the product of CO<sub>2</sub>-induced climate change. Accordingly, we must be found innocent of the charge of causing Harvey!

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