WATSON LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Trail Times 14 April 2022

'The greatest existential threat to humanity'

The greatest existential threat to humanity is humanity itself as it fails to recognize the importance of carbon dioxide (aka " CO_2", "carbon emission", "greenhouse emission") in sustaining life on the planet.

A planet without CO_2 is a dead planet!

Furthermore, our store of bioavailable CO_2 is now at a low level because of the natural, ongoing depletion of the store to form carbonate rocks.

Unfortunately, the consumption of all known reserves of coal, oil, and natural gas ("fossil fuels") will not adequately replenish the store of bioavailable CO_2. It will remain in a severely depleted state and close to the level at which all plant growth ceases!

Then why is the UN advocating that we go beyond net-zero emissions by implementing an option called "carbon dioxide removal".

“It involves removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it on land, in the ground or in the ocean”, explains author Masahiro Sugiyama.

Billions of dollars are already being squandered on a proliferation of carbon-capture facilities.

And they will continue to proliferate until their redundancy is recognized; that is, until our politicians learn that the oceans replace 98 per cent of the captured CO_2 and, conversely, absorb an amount equal to 98 per cent of our emissions.

As a result of the oceans being an effective CO_2 sink, our emissions are a negligible contributor to the total CO_2 content of the atmosphere.

Variations in the CO_2 level are primarily attributable to the natural redistribution of CO_2 between two phases (atmosphere and oceans), all in accordance with basic phase equilibrium principles.

Consequently, the consumption of all fossil-fuel reserves over the next millennium will result in a temperature increase of only 0.4 degrees Celsius, allegedly related to our CO_2 emissions. This climate-model projection is based on numbers reported by the UN and is obviously not a climate catastrophe.

In reality, a CO_2-induced temperature increase will not be measurable.

Needless to say, the real threat to humanity is this insane war on fossil fuels and CO_2. Without fossil fuels, economies will be devastated, and millions will starve. Without CO_2, everyone will starve.

Contrary to what the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, is telling us, a refusal to invest in "new fossil fuel infrastructure is moral and economic madness".

Our political representatives must denounce this unwarranted war on fossil fuels before it's too late to avoid deliberate shortages of both energy and food around the world.

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BABCOCK LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Trail Times 14 April 2022

'Should Trail wean itself from hydrocarbon fuels?'

Grant Bennett's letter dated April 7, 2022 entitled "Trail must transition to 100 percent renewable energy" clearly insinuates that carbon dioxide (CO_2) is the main cause of all the fires and heat domes that he discusses in his letter.

The absence of the scientific rationale for that implied connection is very common to the side of the fossil fuel debate that endeavors to demonize CO_2 in the eyes of the public.

Why is the public supposed to blindly accept such a connection as being true? The only consensus among scientists regarding CO_2 and global warming is that CO_2 is a gas capable of contributing to global warming, but there are relatively few scientists with the necessary and germane knowledge (and having no skin in the 'game') who argue or stand behind the idea that CO_2's contribution to global warming is material or even measurable.

The other side of that debate, however, does not avoid attempts to explain the lack of cause/effect relationship between CO_2 and global warming, the fires, the heat domes, the hurricanes, the droughts, the floods, etc.

Indeed, the skeptic side of the anthropogenic global warming (AGW) side of this debate earnestly tries to explain its skepticism using scientific rationale and principles, facts, and raw evidence.

Unfortunately, most of the public is not armed with adequate basic understanding of physics, chemistry, and biology to grasp the meaning of those explanations, leaving them vulnerable to the loudest voices with the biggest megaphones, hammering away at them day in and day out about impending doom all caused by the sinister coal, oil, and gas industries.
Those doomsayers are the media, some opportunistic politicians, and the fear-mongering charlatans selling their snake oil (windmills and solar panels).

It is shameful!

Truth be known, this extremely fearful and ridiculous notion (AGW) is hardly scientifically based. It is politically and ideologically inspired from start to finish, and it is potentially very dangerous.

Not only are the vulnerable poor in this world already being denied a reliable source of energy, we now have opportunistic enterprises using government grants to develop technology that will actually remove CO_2 from Earth's atmosphere.

It's called sequestering CO_2 (aka carbon capture), and it will be dangerous because CO_2 is already in the shortest supply of the 4 critical ingredients to all life on Earth (sunlight, oxygen,

water, and carbon dioxide). It occupies only 0.04 per cent of our atmosphere and is much closer to a minimum level to sustain Life than it has been in eras past - both warmer and colder eras than the one we're in now I might add.

Purposefully removing it from our atmosphere or sequestering it from Nature's carbon cycle is massively suicidal. Instead of funding it with our tax dollars, it should be legislated as being illegal!

One last point: Long before we exhaust our naturally produced supplies of hydrocarbons, and probably even before 2050 arrives, mankind will likely have developed the technology to mimic Mother Nature's production of hydrocarbons (aka fossil fuels) on a commercial scale, thus making hydrocarbons a renewable energy resource.

Let's refocus mankind's efforts to such initiatives instead of allowing moronic politicians to remain fixated on destroying the hydrocarbon energy industries.

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