



CO2 COALITION

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## **New Scientific Study Shows Climate Change is Less Sensitive to Rising Carbon Dioxide Than UN Projects**

*MIT Emeritus Professor of Meteorology Dr. Richard Lindzen Disputes Claims by Climate Change Alarmists About How Carbon Dioxide Levels Affect Temperature*

**Arlington, VA** - As governments gathered in Spain for a UN meeting on energy policy, a group of climate scientists today released a study showing that global temperature warms far less from carbon dioxide emissions than UN computer models project. Dr. Richard Lindzen, the emeritus Alfred P. Sloan professor of meteorology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, released *On Climate Sensitivity* as part of the Coalition's "Climate Issues in Depth" series. The topic lies at the center of the public policy debate over climate and energy, and the author is one of America's most distinguished atmospheric physicists.

The paper cites data showing that human-induced global warming above the lower end of the UN model range of 1.5 to 4.5 degrees Celsius for a doubling of carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere requires "highly implausible adjustments." Another CO2 Coalition member Dr. Roy Spencer, the University of Alabama Huntsville climatologist who invented and manages satellite "remote sensing" of climate data, provided review assistance.

Dr. Lindzen found no evidence for "feedbacks" boosting human-caused warming, which have been publicized recently by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The paper by the former UN IPCC lead author, which summarizes his 50 years of climate research and peer-reviewed publication, finds "no reason to expect" significant warming or related crises from CO2 emissions.

An excerpt from the paper states:

*It is commonly accepted that increasing CO2 in the atmosphere should lead to some warming (e.g. Arrhenius, 1896; Callendar, 1938). This, per se, is not particularly worrisome. As has been recognized since antiquity, the dose makes the poison. The notion that any warming, however small, is evidence of coming disaster defies reason. With respect to CO2, the dose is determined by what we call climate sensitivity. By convention, this is the eventual total increase in global mean temperature associated with a doubling of CO2. The reason we refer to a doubling is that the impact of each doubling is the same: i.e. a well-established equation based on empirical data shows that we get the same warming from an increase from 400 parts per million (ppm) to 800 ppm as we would from 200 ppm to 400 ppm (Pierrehumbert, 2011)."*

*That is to say, the impact of each added unit of CO2 is less than the impact of its predecessor. In addition, reasonably straightforward calculations suggest that, all other indirect factors (e.g. clouds) being held constant, a doubling of CO2 should produce about one degree Celsius (1°C) of direct warming—a value that is not generally held to be alarming (Wilson and Gea-*

*Banacloche, 2012). The radiative forcing effect of CO2 is measured in units of Watts per square meter. Each doubling of CO2 is expected to provide about 3.7 Watts per square meter (Pierrehumbert, 2011). This can be compared to the natural flows of radiant energy in and out of the climate system, estimated to be 235 to 245 Watts per square meter (Trenberth et al., 2009).*

CO2 Coalition executive director Caleb Rossiter, a climate statistician, welcomed the report: “Professor Lindzen is a great teacher. He presents the complex and chaotic world of dynamic meteorology in a way that will allow many readers in the public, the media and Congress to understand for the first time just what it is that physicists are arguing about: hypothesized warming feedbacks in computer models that simply aren’t showing up in the real-world data.”

The report in full [can be found here](#). For additional information or to arrange an interview with the authors of this report, please contact [Ryan@ROKKSolutions.com](mailto:Ryan@ROKKSolutions.com).

*The CO2 Coalition was established in 2015 as a 501(c)(3) for the purpose of educating thought leaders, policy makers, and the public about the important contribution made by carbon dioxide to our lives and the economy. The Coalition seeks to engage in an informed and dispassionate discussion of climate change, humans’ role in the climate system, the limitations of climate models, and the consequences of mandated reductions in CO2 emissions.*

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