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1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NE  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Proposed Fossil Fuel Power Plant Rule: “New Source Performance Standards for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From New, Modified, and Reconstructed Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Fossil Fuel-Fired Electric Generating Units; and Repeal of the Affordable Clean Energy Rule” (the “Proposed Rule”)

Dear Administrator Reagan,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Protection Agency’s (“EPA”) Proposed Rule.<sup>1</sup>

We are career physicists who have specialized in radiation physics and dynamic heat transfer for decades, subjects directly relevant to the global warming debate. Each of us has published over 200 peer-reviewed papers on the science of climate or closely related subjects. Our curricula vitae are attached in the appendix.

At the outset, these comments are organized around two Supreme Court opinions.

*First*, “‘scientific knowledge’ ... must be derived by the scientific method.” *Daubert v. Merrell Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*, 509 U.S. 579, 593 (1993).

*Second*, an agency rule is “arbitrary and capricious if the agency ... entirely failed to consider an important aspect of the problem” and “the relevant data.” *Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Association of the United States, Inc. v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company*, 463 U.S. 29, 43 (1983) (“*State Farm*”). (It similarly is a major violation of the scientific method not to consider all relevant data, as elaborated below.)

We demonstrate below that (1) EPA failed to consider critically important aspects and data concerning CO<sub>2</sub>, fossil fuels and climate change, and (2) EPA relied on numerous studies that violate the scientific method. As a result, the Proposed Rule, which could eliminate fossil fuel

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<sup>1</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,240 (May 23, 2023).

electricity plants that provide 61% of electricity in the United States,<sup>2</sup> will be disastrous for the country, for no scientifically justifiable reason.

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<sup>2</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33253.

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**I. Summary.**

**A. EPA Failed to Consider Important Aspects of Climate Change.**

In our opinion, the EPA’s Proposed Rule entirely fails to follow the *State Farm* mandate (and that of the scientific method) to consider each important aspect and relevant data on the issue of climate change.

A cornerstone of modern administrative law, the Supreme Court’s *State Farm* decision defines as arbitrary and capricious an agency rulemaking where, *inter alia*, “the agency has ... entirely failed to consider an important aspect of the problem, offered an explanation for its decision that runs counter to the evidence before the agency.” 463 U.S. at 42.

Time and again, courts have applied *State Farm*’s principles to invalidate agency rules where the agency failed to consider an important aspect of the problem, or cherry-picked data to support a preordained conclusion. *See, e.g., Dep’t of Homeland Sec. v. Regents of the Univ. of Calif.*, 140 S. Ct. 1891, 1913 (2020) (an agency official “entirely failed to consider ... [an] important aspect of the problem.”) and that “omission alone renders ... [the official’s] decision arbitrary and capricious”); *Am. Clinical Lab’y Ass’n v. Becerra*, 40 F.4th 616, 625 (D.C. Cir. 2022) (agency rule deemed arbitrary and capricious where “the agency, without adequate explanation, exempted a sizable portion of the laboratories covered by the statute from data reporting requirements”); *Natl. Lifeline Ass’n v. FCC*, 921 F.3d 1102, 1112 (D.C. Cir. 2019) (agency rule deemed arbitrary and capricious where agency departed from its “prior forbearance policy without reasoned explanation and failing to consider key aspects of the program”).

The Proposed Rule flunks this basic requirement by entirely failing to consider several important aspects of climate change and relevant data:

*First, Carbon Dioxide Is Essential to Life Social Benefits.* Carbon dioxide is essential to life, creating via the process of photosynthesis the food we eat and the oxygen we breathe. Without carbon dioxide, there would be no human life or other life on earth.

Further, increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere create more food for people worldwide, including more food for people in drought-stricken areas. To illustrate, increases in carbon dioxide over the past two centuries since the Industrial Revolution, from about 280 parts per million (ppm) to about 420 ppm,<sup>3</sup> caused an approximate 20% increase in the food available to people worldwide, as well as increased greening of the planet and a benign warming in temperature.

*Second, Fossil Fuel's Extraordinary Social Benefits.* Fossil fuels also have extraordinary social benefits. They are indispensable in creating nitrogen fertilizer and pesticides that feed nearly half the world; their combustion releases carbon dioxide and thus increases plant growth via increased CO<sub>2</sub> fertilization effect, creating more food worldwide; and they provide the most reliable, efficient and low-cost energy for many uses, including the production of 61% of the nation's electricity.

*Third, The Consequences of Net Zero Are Disastrous.* Corresponding to these benefits are the disastrous consequences that would flow from “net zeroing” fossil fuels and carbon dioxide and eliminating the enormous social benefits they provide, including the disastrous consequences of eliminating 61% of the nation's electricity provided by fossil fuel power plants.

The number of people worldwide who are moderately or severely food insecure is 2.3 billion, including over 900 million who face severe food insecurity.<sup>4</sup> Each ton of carbon dioxide emissions eliminated reduces the amount of food available worldwide. “Net zero” would reduce carbon emissions by over 40 gigatons (Gt) every year, and consequently would proportionally reduce the amount of food produced.

As to fossil fuels, one of us (Happer) has made clear that without the “use of inorganic [nitrogen] fertilizers” derived from fossil fuels, the world simply “will not achieve the food supply needed to support 8.5 to 10 billion people,”<sup>5</sup> resulting in widespread starvation.

*Fourth, The Scientific Method Proves There Is No Risk That Fossil Fuels and Carbon Dioxide Will Cause Catastrophic Warming and Extreme Weather.*

- All of the models that predict catastrophic global warming fail the key test of the scientific method: they grossly overpredict the warming versus actual data.
- 600 million years of data prove that today's CO<sub>2</sub> level of 420 parts per million (ppm) is very low, not high.
- 600 million years of data show that higher levels of CO<sub>2</sub> do not cause or even correlate with higher temperatures.

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<sup>3</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> levels cited in this comment vary between 400 and 420, depending on when, between 1900 and present day, the levels were measured according to the cited material.

<sup>4</sup> UNITED NATIONS, THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD, xviii (2022).

<sup>5</sup> William Happer, et al., *Nitrous Oxide and Climate*, CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION (Nov. 10, 2022), at 39 (emphasis added).

- Even at today’s relatively low levels, atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is now “heavily saturated,” in physics terms, meaning that additional increases in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> can have little warming effect.

**B. EPA and Numerous Studies It Relies On Do Not Use the Scientific Method.**

As a corollary to the arbitrary and capricious rule under *State Farm*, an agency must use reliable scientific methods to reach its conclusions. As *Daubert* emphasized, “any and all scientific testimony or evidence admitted ... [must be] not only relevant, but reliable.” *Id.* at 589.

Here the EPA relies on a number of studies, cited and analyzed below, that do not use the scientific method and therefore are not reliable. Instead, all use what we call the “Unscientific Method”: consensus, peer review, government opinion from the International Panel on Climate Change (“IPCC”), models that do not work, falsifying data by omitting contradictory data, and fabrication of supporting data. None of this produces scientific knowledge; only the scientific method does.

In science, omitting contradictory data is such an egregious violation of the scientific method that it is deemed “falsification.”<sup>6</sup> It is illustrated by what can be called the “world is flat analysis,” which involves cherry-picking a limited set of favorable data and then failing to consider contradictory evidence. Under this method, the theory that the world is flat is true if one uses only eyesight data and does not consider the voluminous other evidence that it is round.

The Unscientific Method of analysis, relying on consensus, peer review, government opinion, models that do not work, cherry-picking data and omitting voluminous contradictory data, is commonly employed in these studies and by the EPA in the Proposed Rule. None of the studies provides scientific knowledge, and thus none provides any scientific support for the Proposed Rule.

For all of these reasons, the Proposed Rule should not be adopted.

**II. The EPA’s Proposed Fossil Fuel Power Plant Rule.**

The EPA “is proposing five separate actions under section 111 of the Clean Air Act (“CAA”) addressing greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions from fossil fuel–fired electric generating units (“EGUs”).”<sup>7</sup>

The EPA asserts, “[e]levated concentrations of GHGs are and have been warming the planet, leading to changes in the Earth’s climate including changes in the frequency and intensity of heat waves, precipitation, and extreme weather events; rising seas; and retreating snow and ice.”<sup>8</sup>

Further, the EPA alarmingly states, “CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 415 ppm is already higher than at any time in the last 2 million years,” and asserts “elevated concentrations endanger our health

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<sup>6</sup> DAVID GOODSTEIN, ON FACT AND FRAUD 135 (2010) (“Falsification is... changing or omitting data or results.”).

<sup>7</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,240.

<sup>8</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249.

by affecting our food and water sources, the air we breathe, the weather we experience, and our interactions with the natural and built environments.”<sup>9</sup>

Key “science” cited to support the Proposed Rule is listed at 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249–50 and in the Regulatory Impact Analysis.

1. EPA.
  - 2009 Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for GHGs Under Section 202(a) of the CAA (December 15, 2009).<sup>10</sup>
  - 2016 Endangerment Findings and Cause or Contribute Findings for GHG Emissions From Aircraft (August 15, 2016).<sup>11</sup>
  - Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts (2021). Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts (epa.gov).
  - Framework for Evaluating Damages and Impacts (“FrEDI”).
2. U.S. Global Change Research Program’s (“USGCRP”).
  - 2017–2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment (“NCA4”).
  - 2016 The Impacts of Climate Change on Human Health in the United States: A Scientific Assessment.
3. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (“IPCC”).
  - 2018 Global Warming of 1.5 °C.
  - 2019 Climate Change and Land.
  - 2019 Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate.
  - 2021 IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (“AR6”).
4. Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA), which is significantly based on the Interagency Working Group, “Technical Support Document: Social Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive Order 13990” (“IWG SCC Estimate”).
5. National Academy of Sciences (“NAS”).
  - 2017 Valuing Climate Damages: Updating Estimation of the Social Cost of Carbon Dioxide.
  - 2016 Attribution of Extreme Weather Events in the Context of Climate Change.
  - 2019 Climate Change and Ecosystems Assessments.

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<sup>9</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249–50 (footnotes omitted).

<sup>10</sup> 74 Fed. Reg. 66,496.

<sup>11</sup> 81 Fed. Reg. 54,422.

6. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (“NOAA”) annual State of the Climate reports published by the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, most recently in August 2022.

The EPA warns, based on these assessments: “The most recent information demonstrates that the climate is continuing to change in response to the human-induced buildup of GHGs in the atmosphere. These recent assessments show that atmospheric concentrations of GHGs have risen to a level that has no precedent in human history..., and that these elevated concentrations endanger our health by affecting our food and water sources, the air we breathe, the weather we experience, and our interactions with the natural and built environments.”<sup>12</sup>

As examples, the EPA cites:

- “more intense hurricanes and more frequent and intense storms of other types and heavy precipitation.”
- “The rate of sea level rise during the 20th Century was higher than in any other century in at least the last 2,800 years.”
- “heatwaves and heavy precipitation are more frequent and more intense, along with increases in agricultural and ecological droughts in many regions.”<sup>13</sup>

The EPA concludes: “These scientific assessments, EPA analyses, and documented observed changes in the climate of the planet and of the U.S. present clear support regarding ... the importance of GHG emissions mitigation.”<sup>14</sup>

We demonstrate below that many of the key studies egregiously violate scientific method, and thus cannot be used as “scientific” justification for the Proposed Rule.

### **III. Scientific Theories Are Determined by the Scientific Method, Validating Theoretical Predictions with Observations, Not by Fabricated, Falsified or Omitted Contradictory Data, Models That Do Not Work, Government Opinion, Consensus or Peer Review.**

Scientific Method. Reliable scientific knowledge is determined by the scientific method, where theoretical predictions are validated or invalidated by observations. If the theoretical predictions do not work, the theory is rejected and not used. Agreement with observations is the measure of scientific truth.

Scientific progress proceeds through the interplay of theory and observation. Theory explains observations and predicts what will be observed in the future. Observations anchor understanding and weed out theories that don’t work. This has been the scientific method for more than three hundred years.

Professor Richard Feynman, a Nobel Laureate in Physics, incisively explained the scientific method:

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<sup>12</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,250.

<sup>13</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249–50 (footnotes omitted and emphasis added).

<sup>14</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,252.

[W]e compare the result of [a theory's] computation to nature, ... compare it directly with observations, to see if it works. If it disagrees with experiment, it is wrong. In that simple statement is the key to science.<sup>15</sup>

Thus, the scientific method is very simple and very profound: Does theory work with observations? If not, it is rejected and not used.

#### **IV. Unscientific Method Commonly Used by the EPA and Studies.**

##### **A. Fabricated, Falsified, and Omitted Contradictory Data.**

Since theories are tested with observations, fabricating data, falsifying data, and omitting contradictory facts to make a theory work is an egregious violation of the scientific method.<sup>16</sup>

Richard Feynman stated this fundamental principle of the scientific method:

If you're doing an experiment, you should report everything that you think might make it invalid – not only what you think is right about it... Details that could throw doubt on your interpretation must be given, if you know them.<sup>17</sup>

In Albert Einstein's words: "The right to search for truth implies also a duty; one must not conceal any part of what one has recognized to be true."<sup>18</sup> One of us (Lindzen) observes that "[m]isrepresentation, exaggeration, cherry-picking, or outright lying pretty much covers all the so-called evidence" marshalled in support of the theory of catastrophic global warming caused by fossil fuels and carbon dioxide, and of the urgent need to achieve Net Zero fossil fuel and other human CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.<sup>19</sup>

##### **B. Models That Do Not Work.**

Models are a type of theory; they predict physical observations. The scientific method requires models to be tested by observations to see if they work. If a model's prediction disagrees with observations of what it purports to predict, it is wrong and never used as science. The models supporting the climate-crisis narrative simply do not align with observations of the phenomena they are supposedly designed to predict. Instead, they consistently overestimate the warming effect of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, often predicting two or three times more warming than has been observed.

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<sup>15</sup> RICHARD FEYNMAN, *THE CHARACTER OF PHYSICAL LAW* 150 (1965).

<sup>16</sup> DAVID GOODSTEIN, *ON FACT AND FRAUD* 135 (2010). "Fabrication is making up data or results," "falsification is ... changing or omitting data or results."

<sup>17</sup> RICHARD FEYNMAN, *SURELY YOU'RE JOKING, MR. FEYNMAN!* 311–312 (1985).

<sup>18</sup> ALBERT EINSTEIN, *THE ULTIMATE QUOTABLE EINSTEIN* 480 (2010).

<sup>19</sup> Richard Lindzen, *Global Warming for the Two Cultures*, GLOBAL WARMING POL'Y FOUND. (2018), at 10.



On models, we understand that the legal standard is essentially the same as the scientific method: “An agency’s use of a model is arbitrary if that model bears no rational relationship to the reality it purports to represent.”<sup>20</sup>

### **C. Government Opinion.**

Nobel physicist Richard Feynman put it unambiguously:

No government has the right to decide on the truth of scientific principles.<sup>21</sup>

The importance of the scientific principle that government does not determine science was chillingly underscored recently in Sri Lanka and earlier in Russia under Stalin.

“Ideologically driven government mandates on agriculture have usually led to disaster,” one of us (Happer) explained. “The world has just witnessed the collapse of the once bountiful agricultural sector of Sri Lanka as a result of government restrictions on mineral [nitrogen] fertilizer.”<sup>22</sup>

Earlier in Russia, Stalin made Trofim Lysenko the czar of Russian biology and agriculture. His false biology, which rejected well-established genetic science, prevailed for 40 years in the Soviet Union because Lysenko gained dictatorial control, providing one of the most thoroughly documented and horrifying examples of the politicization of science. Lysenko was strongly supported by “scientists” who benefitted from his patronage. Millions died because of his ruthless campaign against genetic science in agriculture.<sup>23</sup>

### **D. Consensus.**

What is correct in science is not determined by consensus, but by experiment and observations. Historically, the consensus of scientists has often turned out to be wrong, and many of the greatest scientists in history are great precisely because they broke with consensus. To quote the profoundly true observation of Michael Crichton:

Historically, the claim of consensus has been the first refuge of scoundrels.... If it’s consensus, it isn’t science. If it’s science, it isn’t consensus.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> *Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. v. EPA*, 139 F.3d 914, 923 (D.C. Cir. 1998) (internal quotation marks omitted). See also *Kumho Tire Co. v. Carmichael*, 526 U.S. 137 (1999) as to trial evidence, where the Supreme Court upheld the exclusion of a tire expert and his model predicting a tire made by the Kumho Tire Company caused a fatal car crash because, among other things, “the expert could not say whether the tire had traveled more than 10, or 20, or 30, or 40, or 50 thousand miles,” *id.* at 154.

<sup>21</sup> RICHARD FEYNMAN, *THE MEANING OF IT ALL* 57 (1998).

<sup>22</sup> Happer, et al., *supra*, at 39 (emphasis added).

<sup>23</sup> William Happer, Chapter 1 in MICHAEL GOUGH, *POLITICIZING SCIENCE* 29–35 (2003).

<sup>24</sup> Crichton, “Aliens Cause Global Warming,” Caltech Michelin Lecture (Jan. 17, 2003).

## **E. Peer Review.**

Peer review can be helpful in many areas of science, but it does not determine scientific validity. In our decades of personal experience in the field, we have been dismayed that many distinguished scientific journals now have editorial boards that further the agenda of climate-change alarmism rather than objective science. Research papers with scientific findings contrary to the dogma of climate calamity are commonly rejected by peer reviewers, many of whom fear that their research funding will be cut if any doubt is cast on the looming climate catastrophe. Journal editors have been fired for publishing papers that go against the party line of the climate-alarm establishment.<sup>25</sup>

We also have been dismayed by the trillions of dollars that have been spent on one-sided research predicting catastrophic climate change. Dr. Harold Lewis, a distinguished physics professor, bluntly described this reality:

The global warming scam, with the (literally) trillions of dollars driving it ... has corrupted so many scientists ... It is the greatest and most successful pseudoscientific fraud I have seen in my long life as a physicist.<sup>26</sup>

As a result, we agree with the Supreme Court: “peer review and publication ... does not necessarily correlate with reliability.” *Daubert*, 509 U.S. at 593. Peer-reviewed climate science publications should not be viewed as reliable science and do not determine scientific validity. Agreement of theoretical predictions with observation or experiment is the only touchstone of truth in science.

## **V. The EPA’s Proposed Rule Failed to Consider Four Critically Important Aspects and Relevant Data.**

There is overwhelming scientific evidence that CO<sub>2</sub> and fossils fuels provide enormous social benefits for the poor, the United States, people worldwide and future generations; that reduction to Net Zero would be a worldwide disaster; and that there is no significant risk that CO<sub>2</sub> and fossils fuels will cause catastrophic warming and extreme events. EPA fails to consider all of this evidence, in violation of *State Farm* and the scientific method.

### **A. EPA Failed to Consider CO<sub>2</sub>’s Essential-to-Life Social Benefits.**

#### **1. CO<sub>2</sub> Is Essential to Food and Thus to Life on Earth.**

CO<sub>2</sub> is the basis for nearly all life on earth.<sup>27</sup> We owe our very existence to green plants that, through photosynthesis, convert CO<sub>2</sub> and water to carbohydrates and oxygen with sunlight. Land plants get the carbon they need from the CO<sub>2</sub> in the air. Other essential nutrients—water, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, etc.—come from the soil. In turn, livestock depend on the availability of green plants to consume, so that humans can consume the livestock. Without CO<sub>2</sub>, there would be no photosynthesis, no food and no human or other life.

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<sup>25</sup> See also Richard Lindzen, *Climate of Fear*, WALL STREET JOURNAL (Apr. 12, 2006).

<sup>26</sup> Harold Lewis, October 6, 2010 resignation letter to the American Physical Society.

<sup>27</sup> See, e.g., Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts* (2014), at 1.

## 2. More CO<sub>2</sub>, Including CO<sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuels, Produces More Food.

A major social benefit of increasing CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is the indisputable science that it increases the amount of food that plants produce through what is known as CO<sub>2</sub> “fertilization.” More CO<sub>2</sub> means more food. Sylvan Wittwer, the father of agricultural research on this topic, emphasized the enormous benefits of rising CO<sub>2</sub> worldwide:

The rising level of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> could be the one global natural resource that is progressively increasing food production and total biological output, in a world of otherwise diminishing natural resources of land, water, energy, minerals, and fertilizer. ... The effects know no boundaries and both developing and developed countries are, and will be, sharing equally.... [for] the rising level of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is a universally free premium.<sup>28</sup>

A graphic illustration of the response of plants to increases in CO<sub>2</sub> is shown below. Dr. Sherwood Idso grew Eldarica (Afghan) pine trees with increasing amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> in experiments, starting with an ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 385 ppm. He showed what happens when CO<sub>2</sub> is increased from 385 ppm to 535 ppm, 685 ppm and 835 ppm over 10 years:<sup>29</sup>



<sup>28</sup> Quoted in NIPCC, *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Fossil Fuels* (2019), at 322–23.

<sup>29</sup> Craig Idso, *Increased Plant Productivity: The First Key Benefit of Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment*, MASTER RESOURCE (Apr. 21, 2022), <https://www.masterresource.org/carbon-dioxide/increased-plant-productivity-the-first-key-benefit-of-atmospheric-co2-enrichment/>; CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION, [https://co2coalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/CO2\\_3.jpg](https://co2coalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/CO2_3.jpg).

Thousands of experimental results demonstrate that more CO<sub>2</sub> increases the amount of food that a large variety of plants produce.<sup>30</sup> This “fertilization” effect varies significantly by type of plant, but Dr. Craig Idso has shown that a 300 ppm increase in CO<sub>2</sub> resulted in an average increase of 46%.<sup>31</sup>

This implies that each 100 ppm increase of CO<sub>2</sub> “fertilization” results in a 15.3% (46%/3) increase, on average, in food supply worldwide.<sup>32</sup>

Dr. Idso reported, “[s]ince the start of the Industrial Revolution, it can be calculated ... that the 120-ppm increase in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration increased agricultural production per unit land area” for various crops ranging from 28% to 70%.<sup>33</sup> Using more recent data on the 140 ppm increase of CO<sub>2</sub> from 280 ppm in 1750 to 420 ppm today and the formula above, people worldwide benefited by a 21% increase in agricultural productivity since 1750. And doubling CO<sub>2</sub> from 400 to 800 ppm would result in an additional increase of about 60% (4 x 15.3%).

What if the Net Zero fossil fuel and CO<sub>2</sub> policy was in effect in 1750 and CO<sub>2</sub> did not rise from 280 ppm to 420 ppm? There would be 21% less food worldwide.

### 3. More CO<sub>2</sub> Increases Food in Drought-Stricken Areas.

Another enormous social benefit of increasing CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is that drought-stricken areas will have more food. In regions of the world suffering from drought, more CO<sub>2</sub> means there will be more food, because increasing CO<sub>2</sub> lessens water lost by plant transpiration:

One of the principal benefits plants receive from elevated levels of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is an increase in their water use efficiency. At higher CO<sub>2</sub> levels, plants generally do not open their leaf stomatal pores as wide as they do at lower CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. The result is a reduction in most plants’ rates of water loss by transpiration .... At higher atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, plants need *less* water to produce the *same* — or an even *greater* — amount of biomass.<sup>34</sup>

None of these enormous social benefits of CO<sub>2</sub> essential to life and the voluminous data supporting them was considered by the EPA in the Proposed Rule.

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<sup>30</sup> See, e.g., NIPCC, *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts* (2014); Craig Idso, “What Rising CO<sub>2</sub> Means For Global Food Security” CO<sub>2</sub> Coalition (2019); *Plant Growth Database*, CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CARBON DIOXIDE AND GLOBAL CHANGE, [http://www.CO2science.org/data/plant\\_growth/dry/dry\\_subject.php](http://www.CO2science.org/data/plant_growth/dry/dry_subject.php).

<sup>31</sup> Craig Idso, *The Positive Externalities of Carbon Dioxide*, CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION (2013), at 3, (discussed in GREGORY WRIGHTSTONE, *INCONVENIENT FACTS 19* (2017)).

<sup>32</sup> Dr. Idso advised there is a linear relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> levels and the amount of food produced for most plants through 800 ppm. (Personal communication).

<sup>33</sup> Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC), *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts* (2014), at 322.

<sup>34</sup> Craig Idso, *What Rising CO<sub>2</sub> Means for Global Food Security*, CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION (2019), at 13. See also CRAIG IDSO & SHERWOOD IDSO, *THE MANY BENEFITS OF ATMOSPHERIC AND CO<sub>2</sub> ENRICHMENT* (2011).

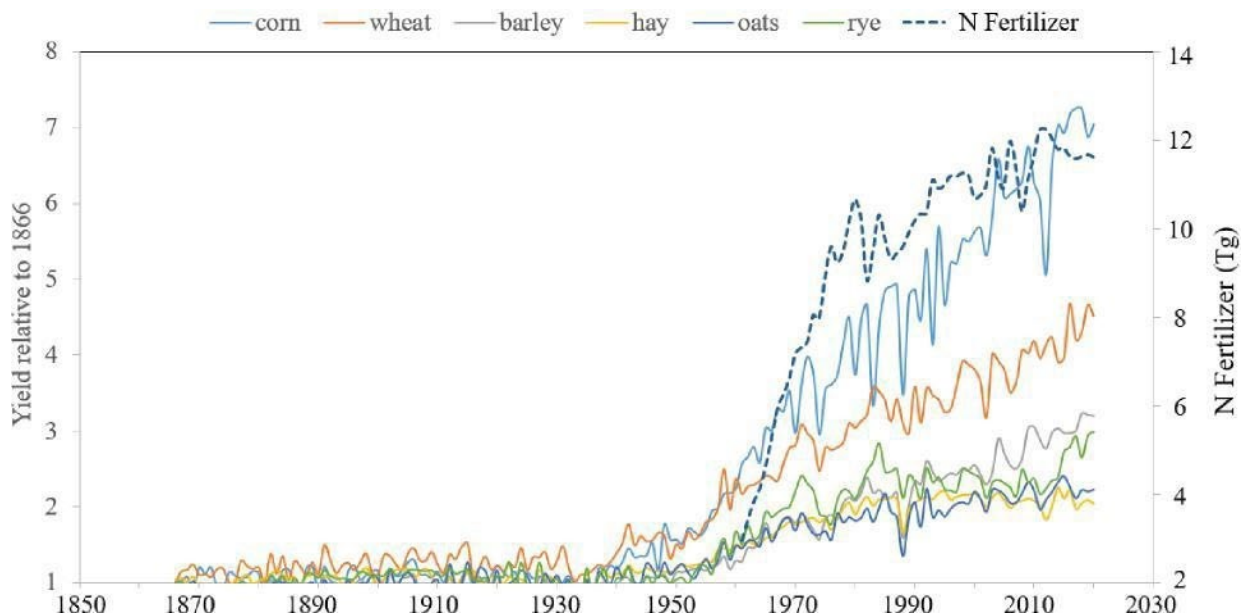
## B. EPA Failed to Consider Fossil Fuels' Enormous Social Benefits.

### 1. Burning Fossil Fuels Creates More CO<sub>2</sub> and Thus More Food.

As explained, increasing the CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere can substantially increase the amount of food available to people worldwide. Fossil-fuel CO<sub>2</sub> has the same power to create more food through more photosynthesis.<sup>35</sup>

### 2. Fossil Fuels Are Essential to Making Fertilizers and Pesticides That Feed the World.

In the early 1900s, Fritz Haber and Carl Bosch developed a process and method of production by which natural gas and atmospheric nitrogen oxide (N<sub>2</sub>) could be converted into ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), an extraordinarily effective fertilizer for growing plants. The importance of fossil fuel-derived nitrogen fertilizers cannot be overstated. It is “estimated that nitrogen fertilizer now supports approximately half of the global population” by itself.<sup>36</sup> The importance of these fertilizers is shown in the following chart:<sup>37</sup>



*Crop yields relative to yields in 1866 for corn, wheat, barley, grass hay, oats and rye in the United States. Also shown from the year 1961 is the annual mineral nitrogen fertilizer (in Tg = megatonnes) used in agriculture. Crop yields are from*

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<sup>35</sup> “Contrary to the claims of proponents of the Green New Deal and Net Zero, fossil fuels are the greenest fuels... uniquely among energy sources, fossil fuel use emits CO<sub>2</sub>, which is the ultimate source of the elemental building block, carbon, found in all carbon-based life, i.e., virtually all life.” Indur M. Goklany, *Fossil Fuels are the Greenest Energy Sources*, CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION (Aug. 30, 2022).

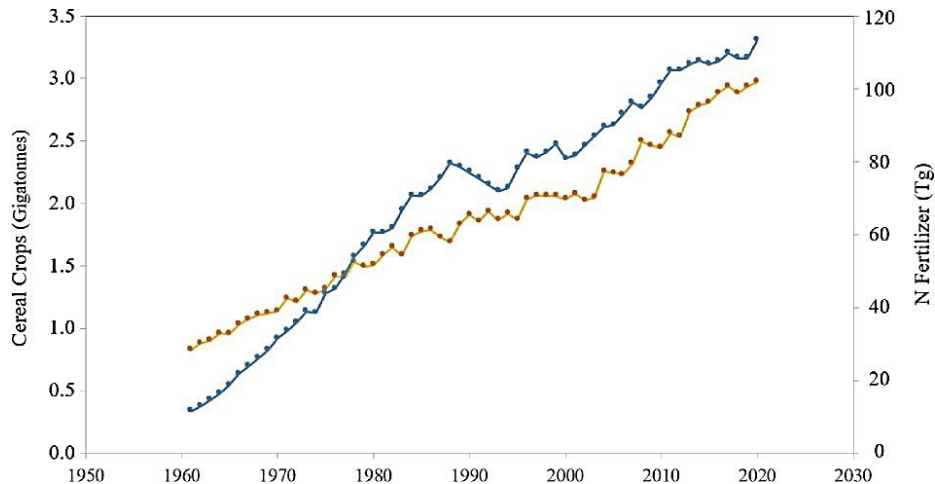
<sup>36</sup> Hannah Ritchie, Max Roser and Pablo Rosado, *How Many People Does Synthetic Fertilizer Feed?*, OUR WORLD IN DATA (Nov. 7, 2017).

<sup>37</sup> Happer et al., *supra*, at 39, fig. 14.

*the USDA, National Statistical Service [62] and nitrogen fertilizer usage is from the Food Agriculture Organization statistical database [58]. Note the high correlation between yields and the use of nitrogen fertilizer.*

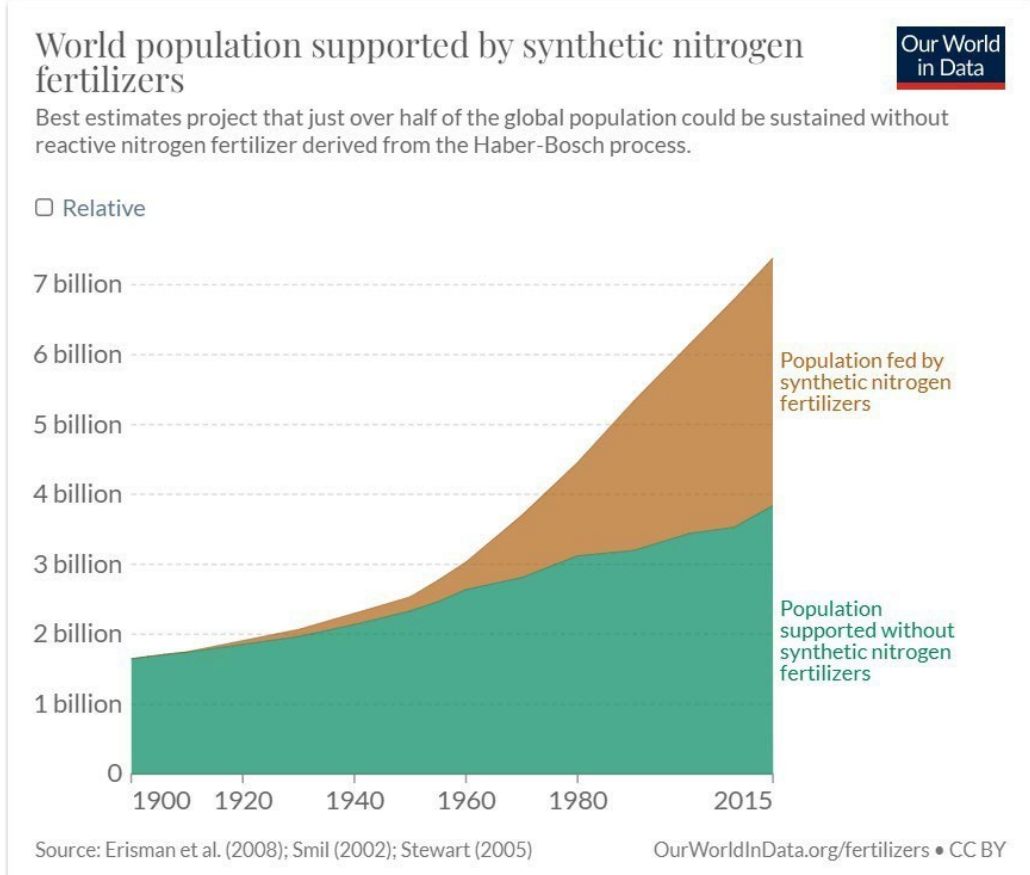
The chart shows a remarkable increase in crop yields after the widespread use of fossil fuel-derived nitrogen fertilizer began around 1950, compared to crop yields from 1866 to 1950.

The following chart shows more specifically what happened after the widespread use of nitrogen fertilizer started around 1950, with a threefold increase in cereal crop production between 1950 and 2020:<sup>38</sup>



*Annual world production of nitrogen fertilizer used in agriculture (blue, in Tg) and world production of all cereal crops (orange, in gigatonnes) from 1961 to 2019. Data from reference [58]. The threefold increase of cereal crop yields was largely due to the use of mineral nitrogen fertilizer. Additional contributors to the increased yields were other mineral fertilizers like phosphorus and potassium, better plant varieties like hybrid corn, increasing concentrations of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, etc.*

<sup>38</sup> *Id.* at 38, fig. 13.



The proportion of the world’s population that depends for life on nitrogen fertilizer is shown in the chart above.<sup>39</sup>

This is not mere theory. Sri Lankan President Rajapaksa in April 2021 banned “the importation and use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides and ordered the country’s 2 million farmers to go organic.”<sup>40</sup> The result was disastrous. “Its rice production has dropped more than 50%, while domestic rice prices have increased more than 80%.”<sup>41</sup> This is a real-life warning of the worldwide disaster that would result from eliminating fossil fuels.

Further, many pesticides (and countless other chemicals in everyday use) are produced from gas and oil, including chlorobenzene, neonicotinoids, and pyrethroids. About one billion pounds of pesticides are used each year in the United States to control weeds, insects, and other pests.

The use of pesticides has resulted in a range of benefits, including increased food production and reduction of insect-borne disease. Those benefits would be greatly diminished and more expensive if nitrogen derived from fossil fuels were unavailable.

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<sup>39</sup> Ritchie, et al., *supra*.

<sup>40</sup> Helen Raleigh, *Sri Lanka Crisis Shows the Damning Consequences of Western Elites Green Revolution*, FEDERALIST (July 15, 2022).

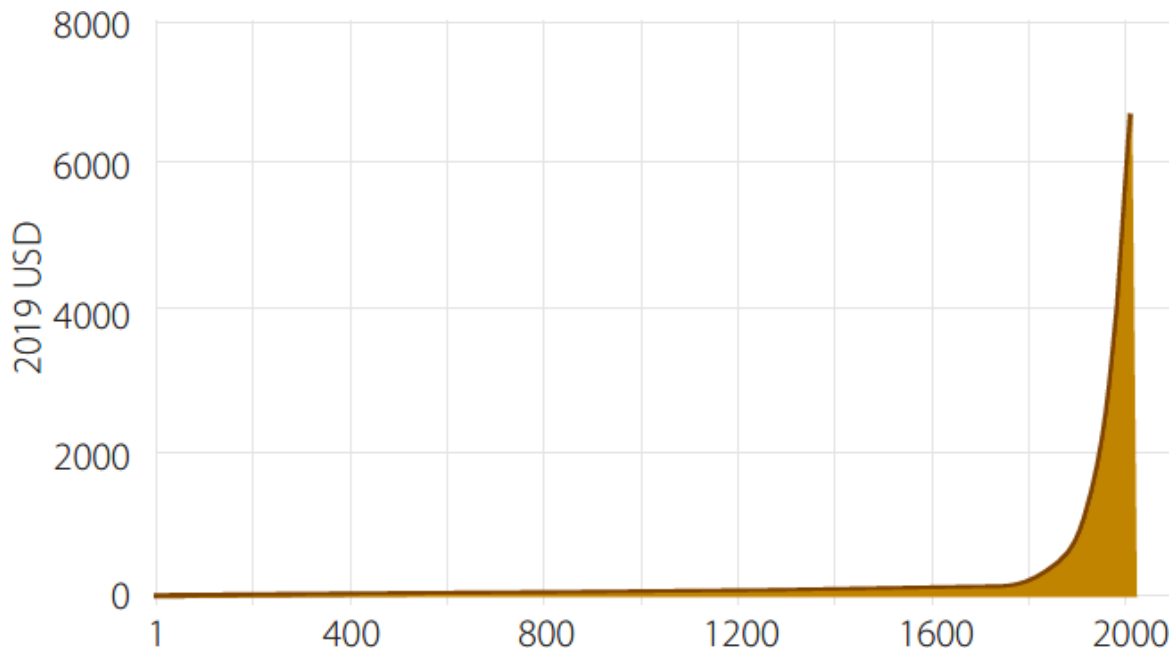
<sup>41</sup> *Id.*

Thus, eliminating fossil fuels would be disastrous by itself for eliminating fertilizers and pesticides that the world's food supply depends on, and without which there would be massive human starvation.

### 3. Fossil Fuels Are the Most Reliable, Efficient and Low-Cost Source of Energy.

The third extraordinary social benefit of fossil fuels is that they provide low-cost energy and resulting jobs. Affordable, abundant fossil fuels have given ordinary people the sort of freedom, prosperity and health that was reserved for kings and queens in ages past.

The following chart of the GDP per person for the last 2,000 years powerfully illustrates what has happened:<sup>42</sup>



Moreover, the following chart shows the powerful relationship between rising CO<sub>2</sub> and rising GDP:<sup>43</sup>

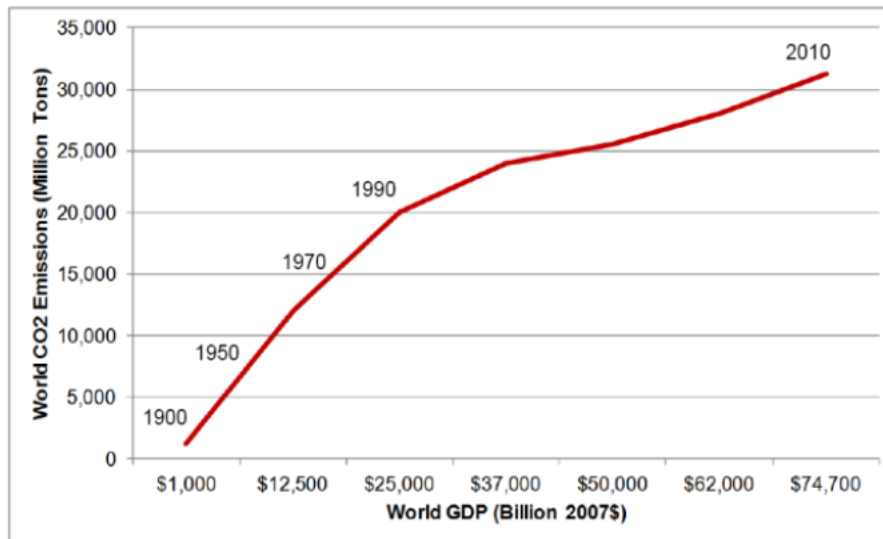
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<sup>42</sup> Rupert Darwall, *Climate Noose: Business, Net Zero and the IPCC's Anticapitalism* GLOBAL WARMING POLICY FOUNDATION (2020), at 21.

<sup>43</sup> NIPCC, CLIMATE CHANGE RECONSIDERED II: FOSSIL FUELS 4 (2019).



## Relationship between world GDP and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



### C. EPA Failed to Consider the Disastrous Consequences of Net Zeroing Fossil Fuels and CO<sub>2</sub>.

The rule also fails to consider the overwhelming scientific evidence that reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to Net Zero and eliminating fossil fuels would be disastrous to millions of people worldwide by destroying these social benefits, including:

- eliminating nitrogen fertilizer that is essential to feeding nearly half the world;
- reducing the amount of food available worldwide, especially in drought-stricken areas;
- eliminating the most reliable, efficient and low-cost source of energy;
- eliminating the source of 61% of the nation's electricity.

### D. EPA Failed to Consider the Reliable Science That Proves There Is No Risk That Fossil Fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> Will Cause Catastrophic Global Warming and Extreme Weather.

#### 1. The Models Predicting Catastrophic Warming and Extreme Weather Fail the Key Scientific Test: They Do Not Work.

The EPA explained the model it used to make all its estimates justifying this Proposed Rule, the

increased deaths due to increasing temperatures, as well as climate-driven changes in air quality, transportation impacts due to coastal flooding resulting from sea level rise, increased mortality from wildfire emission exposure and response costs for fire suppression

is called the Framework for Evaluating Damages and Impacts ("FrEDI"). The EPA further explained FrEDI "uses climate modeling outputs from the fifth phase of the Coupled Model

Intercomparison Project” (“CMIP5”).<sup>44</sup> The IPCC is the dominant source of the models used by everybody analyzing climate change, in our experience.

The CMIP models do not reliably predict temperatures and “bears no rational relationship to the reality they purport to represent.” *Columbia Falls Aluminum*, 139 F.3d at 923. They and FrEDI, therefore, should never be used under both scientific and legal standards.

The importance of the scientific and legal failure of the CMIP models underlying all of the EPA’s Proposed Rule cannot be overemphasized. There is no scientific basis for the catastrophic projections of extreme weather<sup>45</sup> being used as justification for extreme action to essentially close down fossil fuel electricity generating plants.<sup>46</sup>

Here are the details:

CMIP5. John Christy, Ph.D., Professor of Atmospheric Science at the University of Alabama, applied the scientific method to CMIP5’s 102 predictions of temperatures from 1979 to 2016 by models from 32 institutions.

He explained he used “the traditional scientific method in which a claim (hypothesis) is made and is tested against independent information to see if the claim can be sustained,” and produced the following chart:<sup>47</sup>

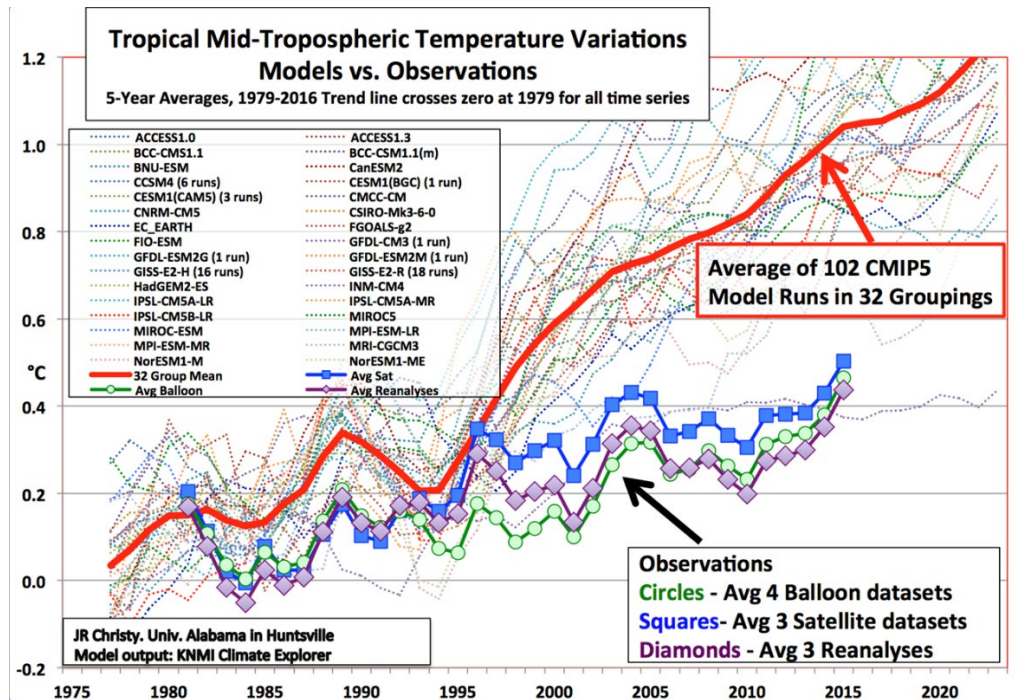
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<sup>44</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,252; EPA Technical Documentation on the Framework for Evaluating Damages and Impacts (FrEDI) (Oct. 2021), at 8. n.8, [technical-documentation-on-the-framework-for-evaluating-damages-and-impacts\\_maintext.pdf](#) (epa.gov).

<sup>45</sup> The wildfire, tornado, hurricane, sea level rise and other extreme weather predictions are also scientifically fallacious for using the “world is flat method” of analysis of cherry-picking limited periods of time and omitting contradictory data from a longer period of times, demonstrated in Part V.

<sup>46</sup> *See, e.g.*, 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249–52.

<sup>47</sup> John Christy, House Comm. Science, Space and Technology (Mar. 29, 2017), at 3, 5.



At the bottom, the blue, purple and green lines show the actual reality—temperature observations against which the models’ predictions were tested.

The dotted lines are 102 temperature “simulations” (predictions) made by the models from 32 institutions for the period 1979–2016.

The red line is the consensus of the models, their average.

In our opinion and his, the graph clearly shows 101 of the 102 predictions by the models (dotted lines) and their consensus average (red line) fail miserably to predict reality.<sup>48</sup> Focusing on the red consensus line, Dr. Christy concluded, and we agree:

When the ‘scientific method’ is applied to the output from climate models of the IPCC AR5, specifically the bulk atmospheric temperature trends since 1979 (a key variable with a strong and obvious theoretical response to increasing GHGs in this period), . . . the consensus of the models [red line] fails the test to match the real-world observations by a significant margin. As such, the average of the models is considered to be untruthful in representing the recent decades of climate variation and change, and thus would be inappropriate for use in predicting future changes in the climate or related policy decisions.<sup>49</sup>

<sup>48</sup> The one model that closely predicted the temperatures actually observed is a Russian model and is the only model that should be used in science. However, the IPCC did not use it but used the models that it should have rejected.

<sup>49</sup> *Id.* at 13 (emphasis added).

Thus, in our opinion, the models that produced the 101 predictions fail the Feynman test under scientific method. They do not “work,” and “bears no rational relationship to the reality they purport to represent.” *Columbia Falls Aluminum*, 139 F.3d at 923. Thus, CMIP5 provides no reliable scientific evidence for FrEDI and the Proposed Rule.

Nor can EPA fix the problems by using CMIP6. We examined the analysis of the CMIP6 by Professor Steven Koonin, Ph.D., a Cal-Tech physicist, professor at New York University and author of *Unsettled* (2021) which devoted an entire chapter to “Many Muddled Models.”<sup>50</sup> He concluded, and we agree:

One stunning problem is that ... the later generation of [CMIP] models are actually more uncertain than the earlier one[s].

The CMIP6 models that inform the IPCC’s upcoming AR6 [Climate Change reports] don’t perform any better than those of CMIP5.<sup>51</sup>

He elaborated on CMIP6’s failure using the scientific method in detail:

- “An analysis of 267 simulations run by 29 different CMIP6 models created by 19 modeling groups around the world shows that they do a very poor job [1] describing warming since 1950 and ... [2] underestimate the rate of warming in the early twentieth century.”<sup>52</sup>
- “Comparisons among the [29] models [show] ... model results differed dramatically both from each other and from observations ... [and] disagree wildly with each other.”<sup>53</sup>
- “One particularly jarring failure is that the simulated global average surface temperature ... varies among models ... three times greater than the observed value of the twentieth century warming they’re purporting to describe and explain.”<sup>54</sup>
- As to the early twentieth century warming when CO<sub>2</sub> levels only increased from 300 to 310 ppm, “strong warming [was] observed from 1910 to 1940. On average, the models give a warming rate over that period of about half what was actually observed. That the models can’t reproduce the past is the big red flag — it erodes confidence in their projections of future climate.”<sup>55</sup>

Thus, the CMIP6 models also fail the fundamental test under scientific method: they do not work and do not provide reliable scientific evidence for the Proposed Rule.

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<sup>50</sup> STEVEN KOONIN, UNSETTLED (2021).

<sup>51</sup> *Id.* at 87, 90 (emphasis added).

<sup>52</sup> *Id.* at 90.

<sup>53</sup> *Id.*

<sup>54</sup> *Id.* at 87.

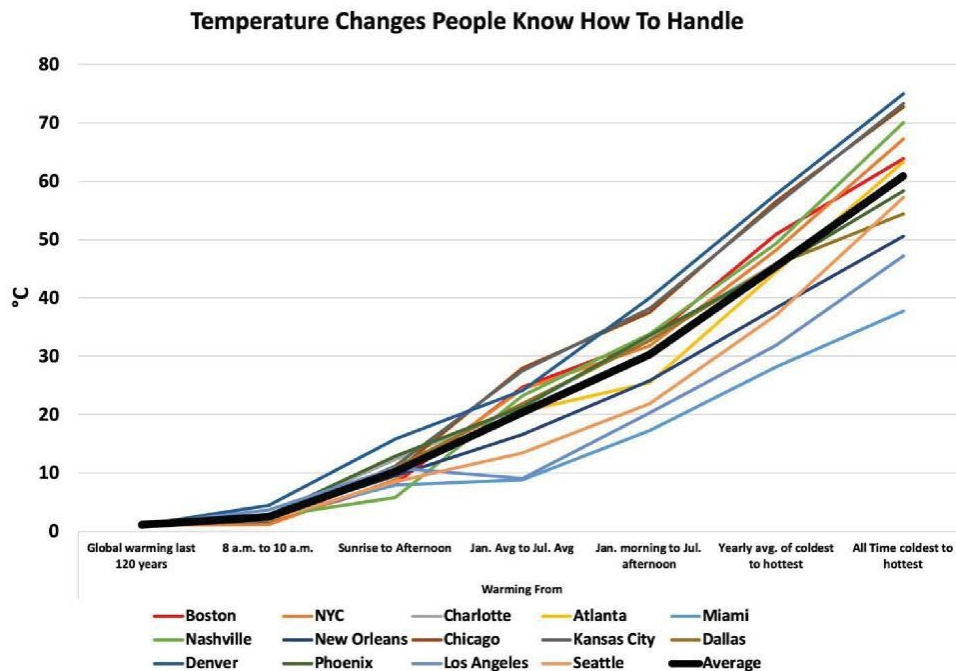
<sup>55</sup> *Id.* at 88, 95.

The EPA’s Proposed Rule fails to consider the overwhelming scientific evidence that FrEDI based on CMIP5 cannot pass the basic test of scientific and legal method and therefore should never be used. Professor Koonin concluded, and we agree:

The uncertainties in modeling of both climate change and the consequences of future greenhouse gas emissions make it impossible today to provide reliable, quantitative statements about relative risks and consequences and benefits of rising greenhouse gases to the Earth system as a whole, let alone to specific regions of the planet.<sup>56</sup>

Moreover, the temperature swings that humans experience daily in non-tropical regions are far greater than the changes that models relied upon by EPA predict will occur over years or decades. We cope well with the larger fluctuations, and there is no reason for alarm or concern about much smaller ones. As one of us wrote:

Indeed, the 1.2 degree Celsius global temperature change in the past 120 years, depicted as alarming is only equivalent to the thickness of the “Average” line in [the figure] below. As the figure shows, the difference in average temperature from January to July in these major cities ranges from just under ten degrees in Los Angeles to nearly 30 C degrees in Chicago. And the average difference between the coldest and warmest moments each year ranges from about 25 C degrees in Miami (a 45 degree Fahrenheit change) to 55 C degrees in Denver (a 99 degree Fahrenheit change).<sup>57</sup>



<sup>56</sup> *Id.* at 24, 96.

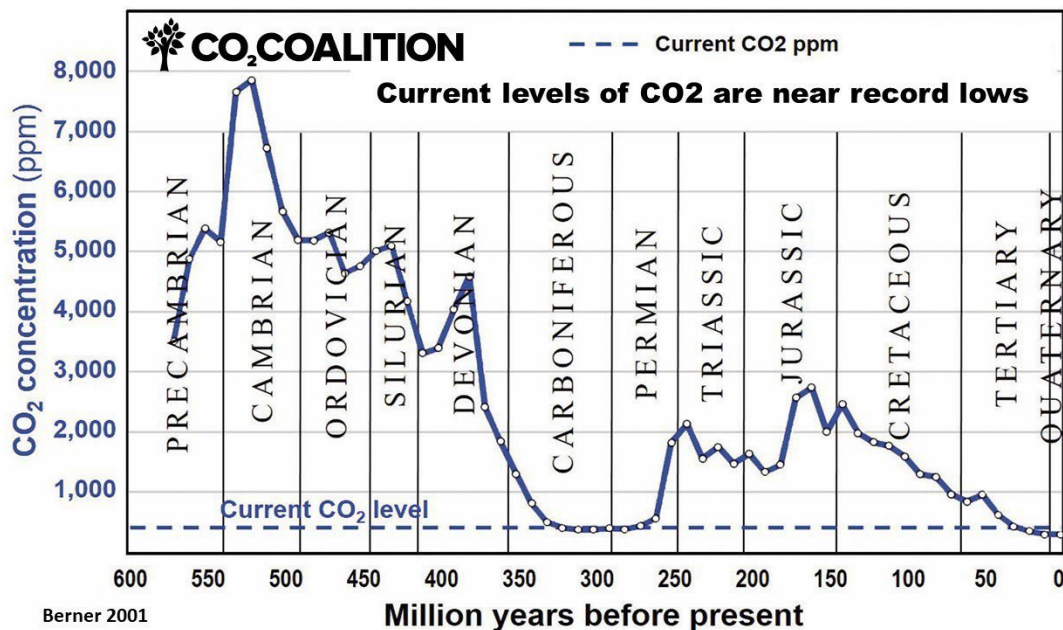
<sup>57</sup> Richard Lindzen and John Christy, *The Global Mean Temperature Anomaly Record*, CO<sub>2</sub> COALITION (Dec. 4, 2020), at 12.

There is no scientifically proven risk that CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil fuels will cause catastrophic global warming, and the Proposed Rule should not be adopted.

## 2. 600 Million Years of Data Show Today's 420 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> Level Is Low.

The EPA, like many, asserts that today's CO<sub>2</sub> level is dangerously high and engages in what science deems falsifying data by cherry-picking a short period of geological time to prove its point: "CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 415 ppm is already higher than at any time in the last 2 million years," and "elevated concentrations endanger our health by affecting our food and water sources, the air we breathe, the weather we experience, and our interactions with the natural and built environments."<sup>58</sup>

Two million years raises the obvious scientific question, what happened over geological time? The EPA omits and fails to consider the contradictory data over 600 hundred million years that prove CO<sub>2</sub> levels today are near a record low:<sup>59</sup>



The omitted hundreds of millions of years of data prove that:

- CO<sub>2</sub> levels were more than 2,000 ppm for over half of the last 600 million years.
- Today's 420 ppm is not far above the minimal level when plants die of CO<sub>2</sub> starvation, around 150 ppm, when all human and other life would die from lack of food.
- CO<sub>2</sub> levels ranged from a high of over 7,000 ppm—almost 20 times higher than today's 420 ppm, to a low of 200 ppm, close to today's low 420 ppm.

<sup>58</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249–50 (footnotes omitted).

<sup>59</sup> GREGORY WRIGHTSTONE, INCONVENIENT FACTS 16 (2017).

- The often highly emphasized 140 ppm increase in CO<sub>2</sub> since the beginning of the Industrial Age is trivial compared to CO<sub>2</sub> changes over the geological history of life on Earth.

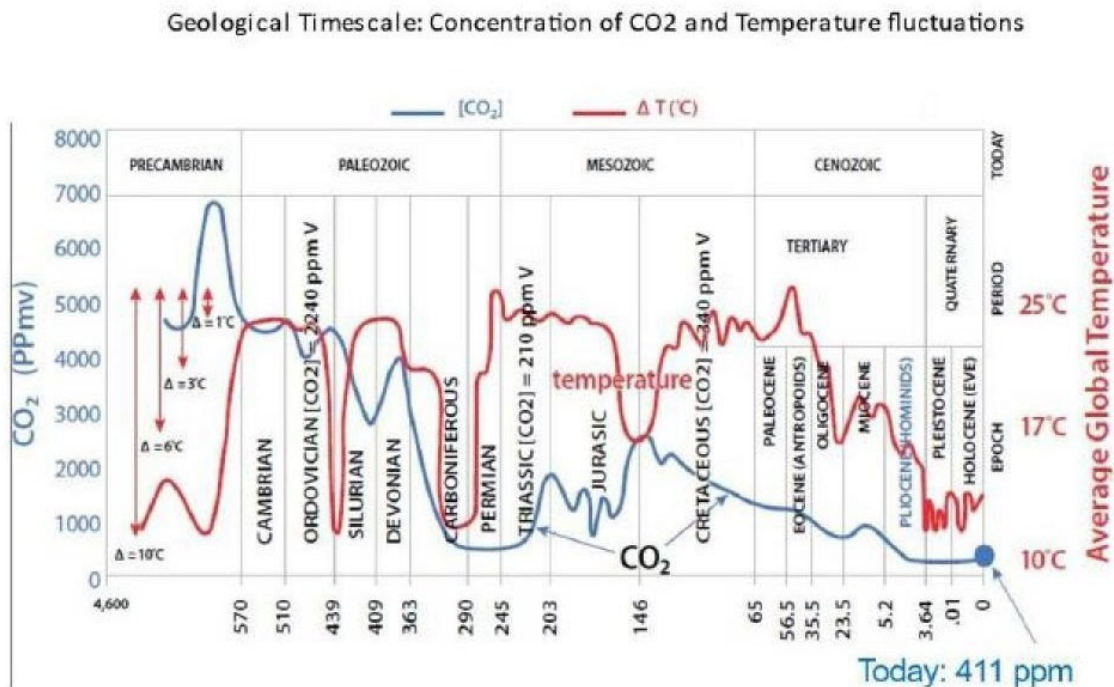
What about temperatures?

### 3. 600 Million Years of CO<sub>2</sub> and Temperature Data Contradict the Theory That High Levels of CO<sub>2</sub> Will Cause Catastrophic Global Warming.

The chart below shows 600 million years of CO<sub>2</sub> levels and temperature data.<sup>60</sup> It shows an inverse relationship between CO<sub>2</sub> and climate temperatures during much of Earth's history over the last 600 million years.

Higher levels of CO<sub>2</sub> correlated with lower temperatures and vice versa. Although the data are based on various proxies, with the attendant uncertainties, they are good enough to demolish the argument that atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations control Earth's climate and the theory that fossil fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> will cause catastrophic global warming. They will not.

The blue line shows CO<sub>2</sub> levels. The red line shows temperature.



1- *Analysis of the Temperature Oscillations in Geological Eras* by Dr. C. R. Scotese © 2002. 2. Ruddiman, W.F. 2001. *Earth's Climate: past and future* W.H. Freeman & Sons. New York, NY. 3 - Mark Pegani *et al.* *Marked Decline in Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Concentrations During the Paleocene*. *Science*; Vol. 309, No. 5734; pp. 600-603. 22 July 2005. *Corrected on 07 July 2008 (CO2: Ordovician Period)*.

Reconstructed atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations (Berner, 2001) & global mean surface temperature (Scotese, 1999) over the last 550 million years

<sup>60</sup> Nasif Nahle, *Geologic Global Climate Changes*, BIOLOGY CABINET J. (Mar. 2007).

Specifically, the chart shows:

- When CO<sub>2</sub> was at a record high at about 7,000 ppm, temperatures were at a near-record low.
- CO<sub>2</sub> levels were low when temperatures were at the highest they have ever been, about 60 million years ago.
- CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations and temperatures are usually inversely related over 600 million years. For hundreds of millions of years, temperatures were low when CO<sub>2</sub> levels were high, and temperatures were high when CO<sub>2</sub> levels were low.
- CO<sub>2</sub> levels have been relatively low for the last 300 million years and have been declining from 2,800 ppm to today's 420 ppm over the last 145 million years.
- Temperatures have been higher than today over most of the 600 million years and life flourished (but not in Ice Ages).

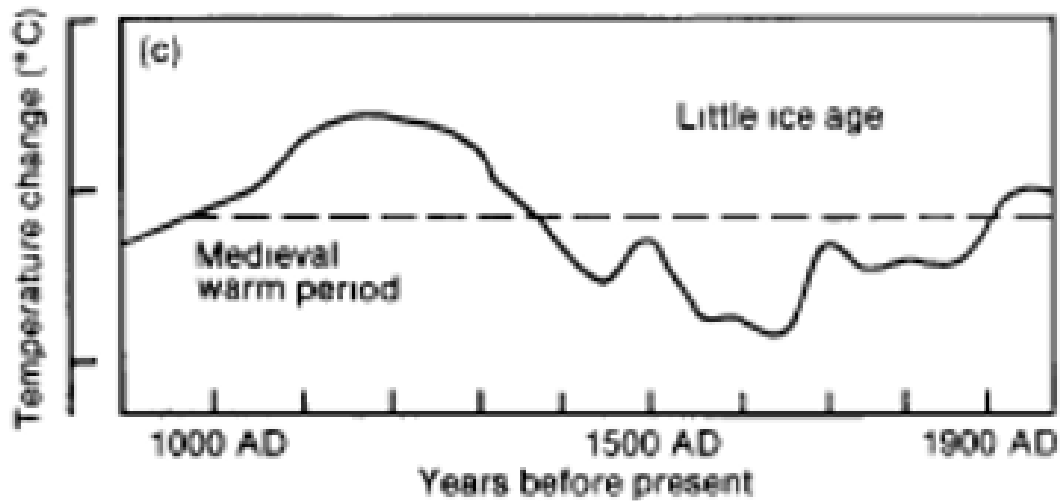
Neither contemporary observations nor the geological record support computer modeling-based claims that CO<sub>2</sub> is the “control knob” on the earth's climate. There have been tremendous fluctuations in global temperature, including ice ages and warm periods, when there was negligible use of fossil fuels. A thousand years ago, during the medieval warm period (about 850–1250 A.D.), Greenland supported Norse farmers who grew crops such as barley, which cannot be grown there now because of the cold. There followed the Little Ice Age that lasted from about 1250–1850 A.D.; glaciers have been retreating ever since then. None of these fluctuations, far more dramatic than anything predicted by the studies on which EPA relies, were caused by, or had any correlation with, changing CO<sub>2</sub> levels.

The IPCC provided this chart about the Medieval Warm Period (950–1250) and the Little Ice Age (1450–1850):<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> IPCC, CLIMATE CHANGE: THE IPCC SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT 203 (1990). We have confirmed this IPCC data from many sources.





The IPCC noted:

The late tenth to early thirteenth centuries (about AD 950–1250) appear to have been exceptionally warm ... This period is known as the Medieval Climatic Optimum.... This period of widespread warmth is notable in that there is no evidence that it was accompanied by an increase of greenhouse gases. (Emphasis added).<sup>62</sup>

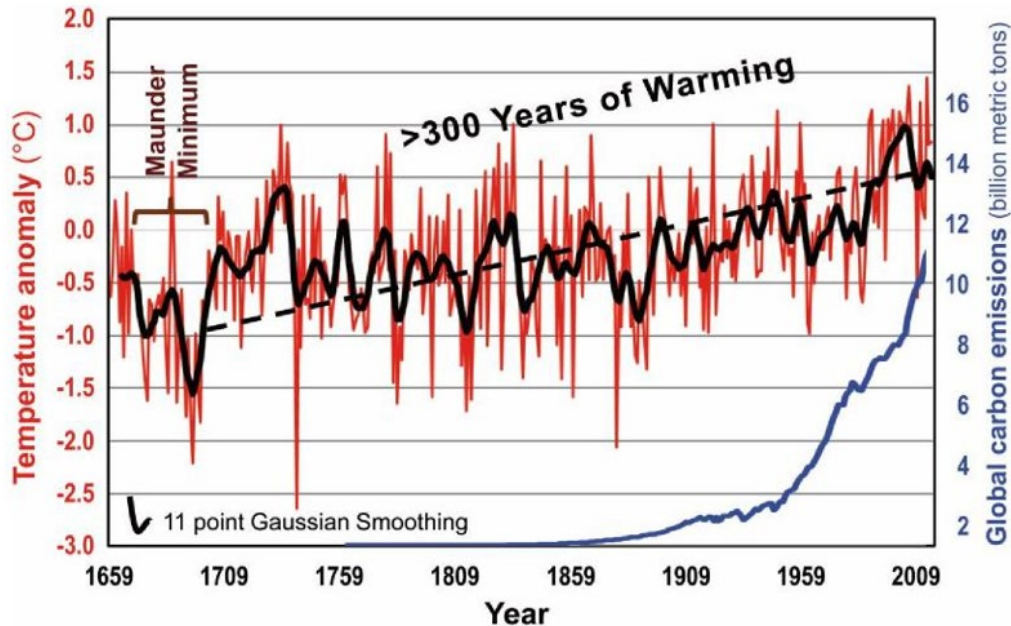
The little warming we observe now is a continuation of the 300-year warming that is a recovery from the depths of the Little Ice Age, as shown in the following chart.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> *Id.* at 202.

<sup>63</sup> WRIGHTSTONE, *supra*, at 34.

Figure I-24: Greater than 300 years of warming in central England from 1695 – 2017



(Source data: Temperature: Parker 1992; CO<sub>2</sub>: Boden 2016)

Note that the blue line at the bottom shows that humans did not start emitting any significant amount of CO<sub>2</sub> until after 1900, and only a trivial amount since the beginning of the Industrial Age from about 1750 to 1950.

No scientist familiar with radiation transfer denies that more carbon dioxide is likely to cause some surface warming. But the warming would be small and benign. In fact, history shows that warmings of a few degrees Celsius—which extended growing seasons—have been good for humanity. The golden age of classical Roman civilization occurred during a warm period as did the first great civilizations during the Bronze Age in the Minoan Warm Period.

Thus, applying the scientific method to the 600 million years of omitted and not considered data contradicts the EPA’s theory that fossil fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> will cause catastrophic global warming. The theory does not agree with the facts, and the scientific method requires the theory must be rejected. For this reason alone, there is no risk CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil fuels will cause catastrophic global warming.

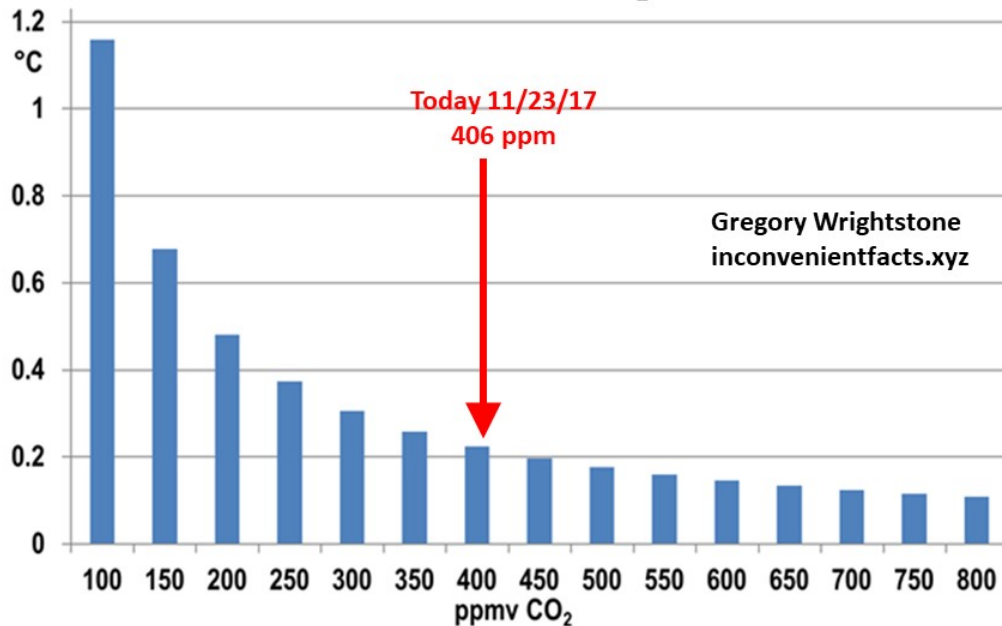
**4. Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Is Now “Heavily Saturated,” Which in Physics Means More CO<sub>2</sub> Will Have Little Warming Effect.**

Both of us have special expertise in radiation transfer, the prime mover of the greenhouse effect in Earth’s atmosphere. Radiation physics explains the effect of adding CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere.

CO<sub>2</sub> becomes a less effective greenhouse gas at higher concentrations because of what in physics is called “saturation.” Each additional 50 ppm increase of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere causes

a smaller and smaller change in “radiative forcing,” or in temperature. The saturation is shown in the chart below.<sup>64</sup>

**Figure I-3: Less global warming for each additional 50 parts-per-million-by-volume of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration**



This means that from now on, our emissions from burning fossil fuels will have little impact on global warming. We could double atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> to 840 ppm and have little warming effect.

Saturation also explains why temperatures were not catastrophically high over the hundreds of millions of years when CO<sub>2</sub> levels were 10 to 20 times higher than they are today, shown in the chart above.

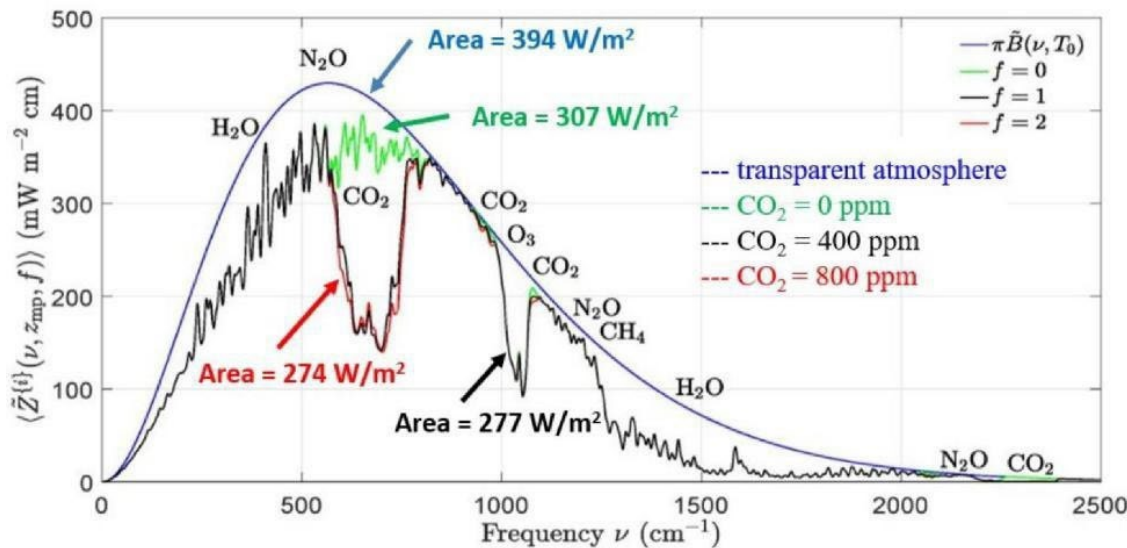
Further, as a matter of physics, saturation explains why reducing the use of fossil fuels to Net Zero would have a trivial impact on climate, also contradicting the theory it is urgently necessary to eliminate fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> to avoid catastrophic global warming. Adding more CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere slightly decreases the amount of long-wave infrared radiation that goes to space, called the “flux.” The details are shown in the graph below.<sup>65</sup>

The [blue curve](#) shows the heat energy the Earth would radiate to space if our atmosphere had no greenhouse gases or clouds. The magnitude is measured in Watts per square meter (W/m<sup>2</sup>). Without greenhouse gases, the total heat loss of 394 W/m<sup>2</sup> would soon cool the Earth’s surface to

<sup>64</sup> *Id.* at 7.

<sup>65</sup> William Happer & Williaam Van Wijngaarden, *Dependence of Earth’s Thermal Radiation on Five Most Abundant Greenhouse Gases*, ARXIV (June 8, 2020), 2006.03098.pdf (arxiv.org).

16° F, well below freezing. Most life would end at these low temperatures. Thus, we should be grateful for greenhouse warming of the Earth.



The jagged black curve below the blue curve shows how much less the Earth radiates infrared radiation to space with the current concentration of greenhouse gases: water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>). Because of these greenhouse gases, the Earth radiates 277 W/m<sup>2</sup> rather than 394 W/m<sup>2</sup> to space, 70% (277/394) of what it would radiate with no greenhouse gases.

What would happen if CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were doubled from 400 ppm to 800 ppm?

- without the greenhouse effect, 394 W/m<sup>2</sup> would be radiated to space;
- with the greenhouse effect, only 277 W/m<sup>2</sup> is radiated to space;
- if CO<sub>2</sub> were doubled from 400 ppm to 800 ppm, only 3 W/m<sup>2</sup> more warming would result. (See the red curve.) That means a temperature increase of a trivial amount, less than 1° C (2° F).

Since CO<sub>2</sub> at today's level is "saturated," for this reason alone there is no risk that the continued use of fossil fuels and even a doubling of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> will cause catastrophic global warming.

It bears noting that CO<sub>2</sub> is not nearly as potent a greenhouse substance as water vapor and clouds (especially cirrus clouds). A radiation-blocking effect of only about 3 watts/m<sup>2</sup> could easily also be produced by changes in the size or height of cloud cover on any given day. This is a complex system, and the idea that one variable, globally average temperature, is changed primarily by one thing, manmade CO<sub>2</sub>, is baseless. As one of us (Lindzen) has explained:

The climate system consists of two turbulent fluids interacting with each other, [ocean and atmosphere]. They are on a rotating planet that is differentially heated by the sun. A vital constituent of the atmospheric component is water in the liquid, solid, and vapor phases, and the changes in phase have vast energetic ramifications.

The energy budget of this system involves the absorption and remission of about 200 watts per square meter. Doubling CO<sub>2</sub> involves a two percent perturbation to this budget. So do minor changes in clouds, ocean circulations, and other features, and such changes are common. In this complex multifactor system, what is the likelihood that the climate (which itself consists of many variables and not just globally averaged temperature anomalies) is controlled by a two percent perturbation in the energy budget due to just one of the numerous variables, namely CO<sub>2</sub>? Believing this is pretty close to believing in magic.<sup>66</sup>

In summary, the EPA's Proposed Rule fails to consider these four critically important aspects of climate change—the extraordinary social benefits of CO<sub>2</sub>, the extraordinary social benefits of fossil fuels, the disastrous consequences of Net Zeroing them, and the reliable science that proves there is no risk fossil fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> will cause catastrophic global warming—singly or together, renders the EPA's Proposed Rule arbitrary and capricious under *State Farm* (as well as an egregious violation of the scientific method by omitting relevant contradictory data).

#### **VI. EPA's Proposed Rule Relies on Studies That Violate Scientific Method, and Thus Have No Scientific Value.**

The Proposed Rule relies on a number of studies that involve egregious violations of scientific method, and thus have no scientific value. As a result, they contaminate the Proposed Rule and there is no need to analyze the other studies the Proposed Rule relies on.

We focus on the following:

- Framework for Evaluating Damages and Impacts (“FrEDI”), already covered in Part IV.D.1.
- U.S. Global Change Research Program’s (“USGCRP”) Fourth National Climate Assessment 2017–2018 (“NCA4”).
- EPA 2009 Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for GHGs Under section 202(a) of the CAA (December 15, 2009).<sup>67</sup>
- All IPCC studies (Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) (2022), Warming of 1.5 °C (2018), Climate Change and Land (2019), Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (2021)).
- The primary basis of the Regulatory Impact Analysis (“RIA”) section 4 Benefits Analysis, the Interagency Working Group, “Technical Support Document: Social Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive Order 13990” (“February IWG SCC Estimate”).
- National Academy of Sciences (“NAS”) Valuing Climate Damages: Updating Estimation of the Social Cost of Carbon Dioxide (2017).

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<sup>66</sup> Richard Lindzen, “Straight Talk About Climate Change,” *Acad. Quest.* (2017), p. 432.

<sup>67</sup> 74 Fed. Reg. 66,496.

**A. All Never Considered the Four Critically Important Aspects and Relevant Data.**

All of the above studies failed to scientifically consider the extensive science and data on the critically important social benefits of carbon dioxide, the critically important social benefits of fossil fuels, the disastrous social consequences of reducing them to Net Zero, and the scientific proof there is no risk carbon dioxide and fossil fuels will cause catastrophic global warming. In science, omitting data that contradicts a scientific theory is an egregious violation of the scientific method.

Accordingly, for this reason alone, the studies have no scientific value and contribute no scientific knowledge. Their use in the Proposed Rule contaminates it scientifically.

**B. The USGCRP Fourth National Climate Assessments (NCA4).**

Thirteen federal agencies comprise the U.S. Global Change Research Program (“USGCRP”) and are required to prepare a National Climate Assessment (“NCA”) about every five years. Their 4th NCA was published in two volumes: Vol. I “Climate Science Special Report” (CSSR) (2017) and Vol. II: “Impacts, Risks, and Adaptation in the United States” (2018). They are preparing their 5th National Climate Assessment now for release later this year.

The Proposed Rule cites NCA4 warnings about extreme weather multiple times: “The NCA4 ... evaluated a number of impacts specific to the U.S. Severe drought and outbreaks of insects,” “Wildfires have burned more than 3.7 million acres in 14 of the 17 years between 2000 and 2016,” “The rate of sea level rise during the 20th Century was higher than in any other century in at least the last 2,800 years,” “Droughts, floods, storm surges, wildfires, and other extreme events stress nations and people through loss of life, displacement of populations, and impacts on livelihoods.”<sup>68</sup>

The Proposed Rule asserts repeatedly that the nation faces extreme weather events caused by fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions, and therefore that GHG emissions from power plants must be dramatically reduced. For example, “The increased concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere and the resulting warming have led to more frequent and more intense heat waves and extreme weather events,” “Climate change is also expected to cause more intense hurricanes,” and “more intense and larger wildfires.”<sup>69</sup>

Shockingly, the NCA4 CSSR fabricated, falsified and omitted contradictory data on, for example, heat waves, hurricanes, wildfires and sea levels.

**1. Heat Waves.**

The CSSR reported “Record Warm Daily Temperatures Are Occurring More Often” with the chart below in its Executive Summary creating the misleading appearance that temperatures are going through the roof:<sup>70</sup>

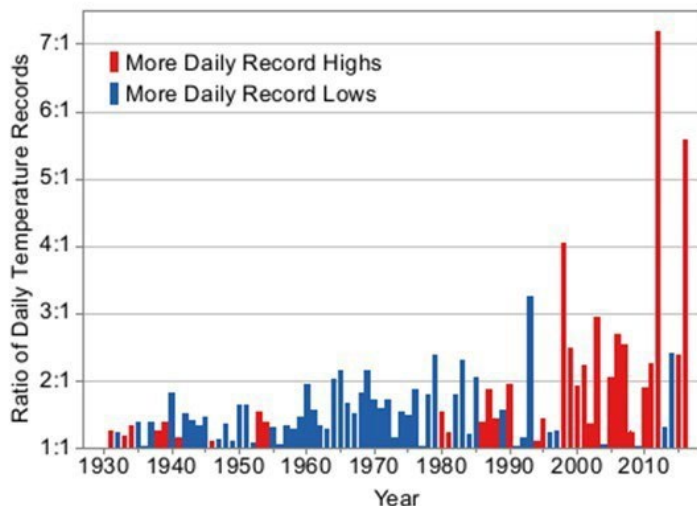
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<sup>68</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,250–51.

<sup>69</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,243, 33,249.

<sup>70</sup> NCA4 CSSR at 19, fig ES.5.

## Record Warm Daily Temperatures Are Occurring More Often

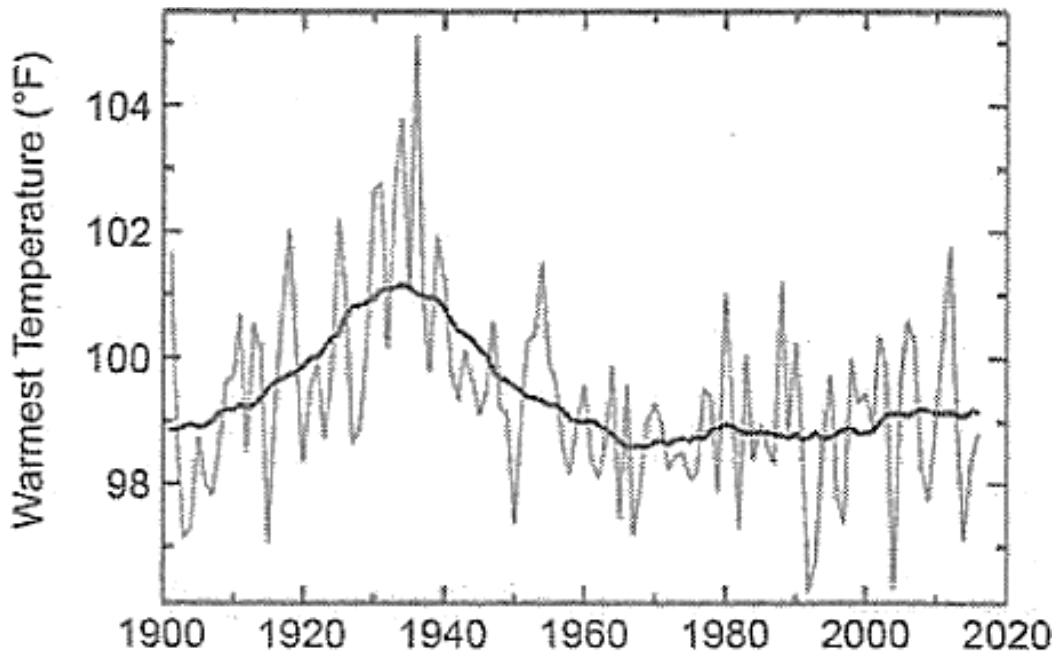


**Figure ES.5:** Observed changes in the occurrence of record-setting daily temperatures in the contiguous United States. Red bars indicate a year with more daily record highs than daily record lows, while blue bars indicate a year with more record lows than highs. The height of the bar indicates the ratio of record highs to lows (red) or of record lows to highs (blue). For example, a ratio of 2:1 for a blue bar means that there were twice as many record daily lows as daily record highs that year. (Figure source: NOAA/NCEI). From Figure 6.5 in Chapter 6.

This chart does not actually show “daily temperatures.” Instead, it shows a “ratio” of daily record highs to lows—a number that appears designed to create the impression that temperatures are steadily rising.

Daily temperatures were buried on page 190 of the CSSR report, in a chart that contradicts the Executive Summary chart. The spiked lines show yearly values, and the dark line shows the daily average temperatures over the last 120 years.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>71</sup> NCA4 CSSR at 190, fig. 6.3.



It shows that:

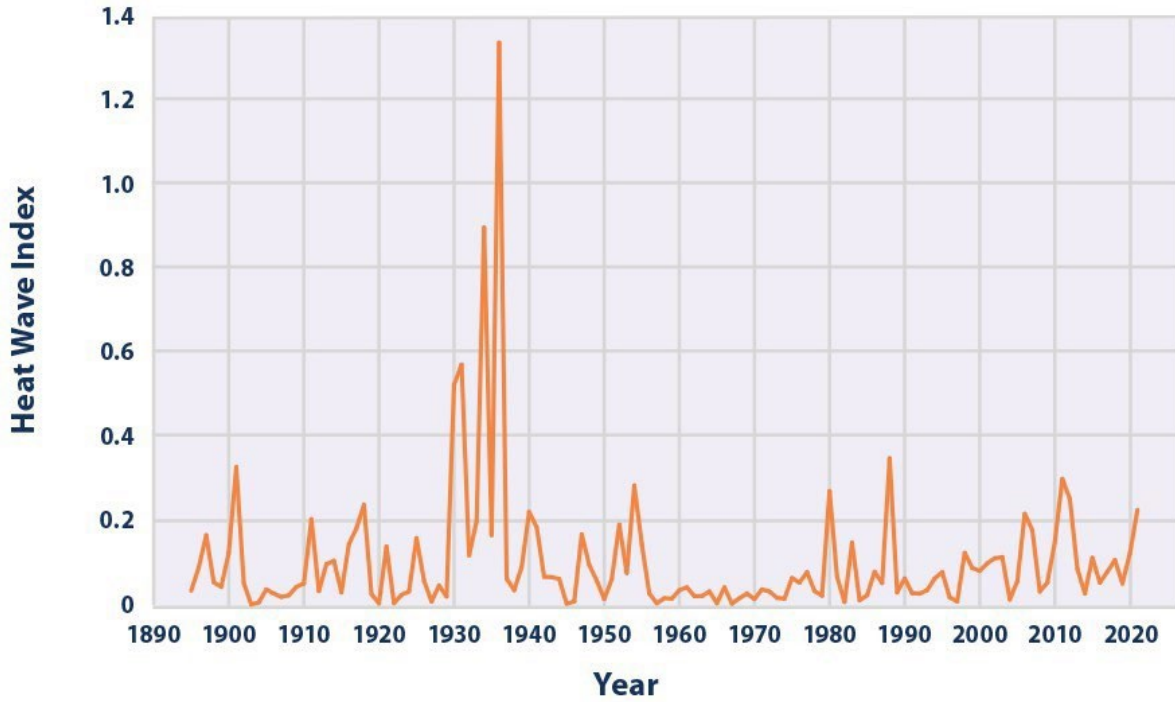
- the average warm temperature today is about the same as it was in 1900;
- the warmest temperatures are not occurring more often; and
- not surprisingly, the hottest temperatures occurred during the Dust Bowl in the 1930s.

The EPA graph below confirms there is nothing out of the ordinary about recent heatwaves, showing an index of heat waves from 1890 to 2020, again showing the hottest temperatures were during the Dust Bowl:<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> EPA, *U.S. Annual Heat Wave Index 1895–2015* (2016), fig. 3, <https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/climate-change-indicators-heat-waves>.

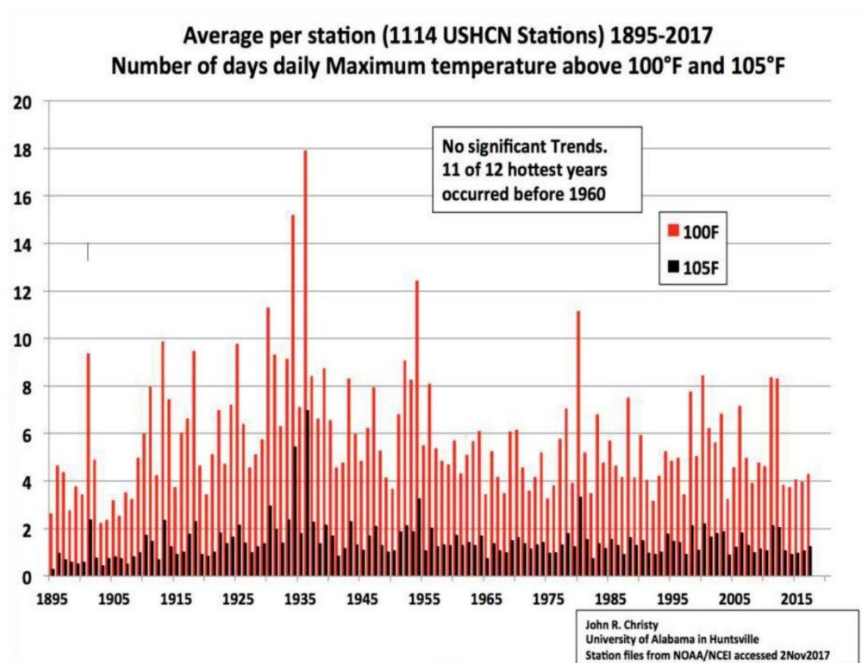




Below is a chart that Dr. John Christy prepared showing the number of days of daily maximum temperatures above 100° F and 105° from 1895 to 2015. Days with temperatures of at least 105° F peaked in the 1920s and 1930s.<sup>73</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> *US Extreme High Temperatures Chart*, DR. ROY SPENCER, US-extreme-high-temperatures-1895-2017.jpg (3000×2250) (drroyspencer.com).



Thus, the NCA4 CSSR’s Executive Summary stating, “Record Warm Daily Temperatures Are Occurring More Often” and its ratio chart are termed fabrications by science.<sup>74</sup> Frankly, it is appalling that the thirteen federal agencies that make up the USGCRP would rely upon and publish such a falsehood in a National Climate Assessment.

## 2. Hurricanes.

The USGCRP’s Third National Climate Assessment in 2014 asserts hurricanes are getting worse:

Key Message 8. The intensity, frequency and duration of North Atlantic hurricanes, as well as the frequency of the strongest (Category 4 and 5) hurricanes, have all increased since the early 1980s.<sup>75</sup>

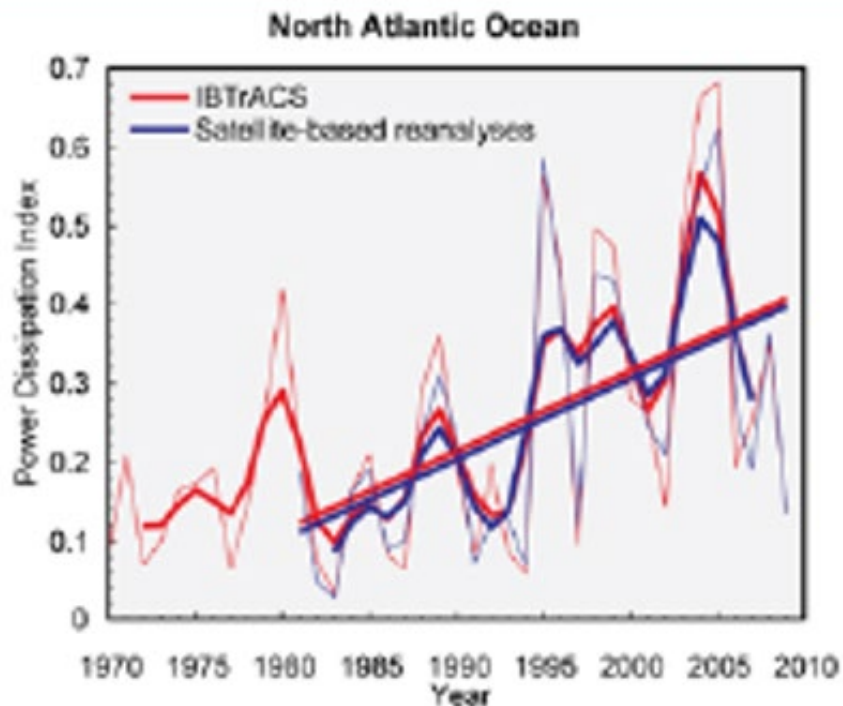
The report supports that statement with the graph below purporting to show an alarming increase in the strength of North Atlantic hurricanes, measured by what is called the Power Dissipation Index (“PDI”). The graph shows two sets of data from 1970 to 2010, with a sharp upward trend in the black line when the two are combined:<sup>76</sup>

<sup>74</sup> DAVID GOODSTEIN, ON FACT AND FRAUD 135 (2010) (“Fabrication is making up data or results.”).

<sup>75</sup> *Id.* at 115 (emphasis added).

<sup>76</sup> *Id.* at 40, fig. 2.23.

## Observed Trends in Hurricanes Power Dissipation



Here again, the USGCRP has created the misleading appearance of a dangerous trend by what science deems falsifying data by cherry-picking data from a very short period of time, here, 1970–2010, and failing to consider volumes of contradictory data.

The USGCRP contradicts itself with data buried deep in the Third NCA, Appendix 3, which states expressly:

There has been no significant trend in the global number of tropical cyclones nor has any trend been identified in the number of U.S. land-falling hurricanes. *Id.* at 769 (footnotes omitted and emphasis added).

The NCA4 CSSR nevertheless repeats the same false science:

Human activities have contributed substantially...to the observed upward trend in North Atlantic hurricane activity since the 1970s.<sup>77</sup>

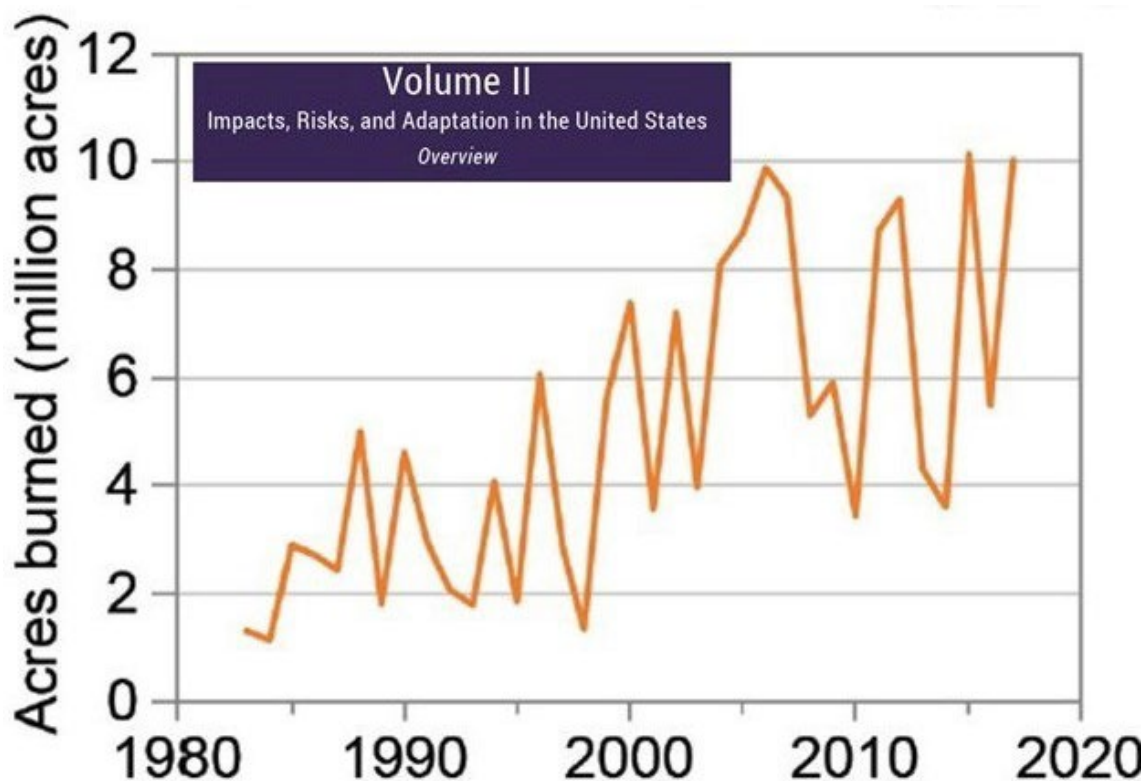
Thus, both the USGCRP's Third and Fourth NCA fabricated, falsified, and omitted and failed to consider contradictory data, which, in science, corrupts them both and means that they should never be cited as science in the Proposed Rule.

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<sup>77</sup> *Id.* at 118 (footnote omitted).

### 3. Wildfires.

The USGCRP’s NCA4 Volume II presents an alarming chart purporting to show a huge increase in the number of acres burned since 1984:<sup>78</sup>



Also, the “Key Finding 6” of NCA4 CSSR states that the incidence of large forest fires in the West has increased since the early 1980s:

The incidence of large forest fires in the western United States and Alaska has increased since the early 1980s (*high confidence*) and is projected to further increase in those regions as the climate warms, with profound changes to certain ecosystems (*medium confidence*). (Emphasis added).<sup>79</sup>

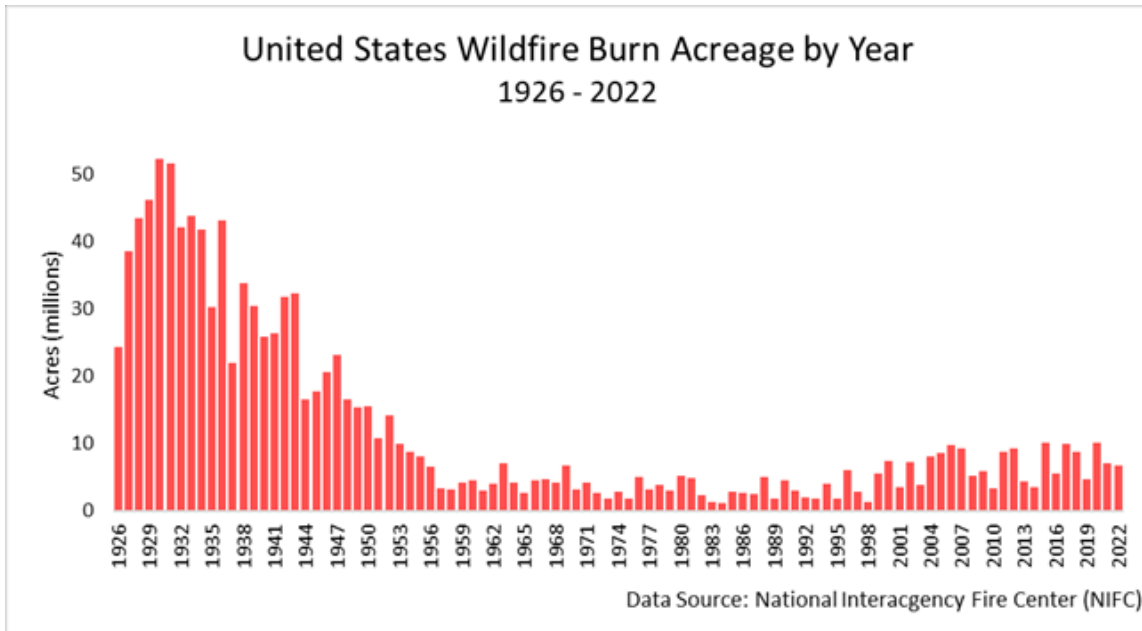
This is another example of the USGCRP doing what science deems as falsifying data by cherry-picking a very short period of time—1980 onward—and not considering and omitting contradictory data from a longer period of relevant time.

The National Interagency Fire Center (“NIFC”) used to provide data going back to 1926. The NIFC removed all the data before 1983 from their website in March 2021. Why? That data showed that the burned area has been declining, with more than a 75% reduction since their peak

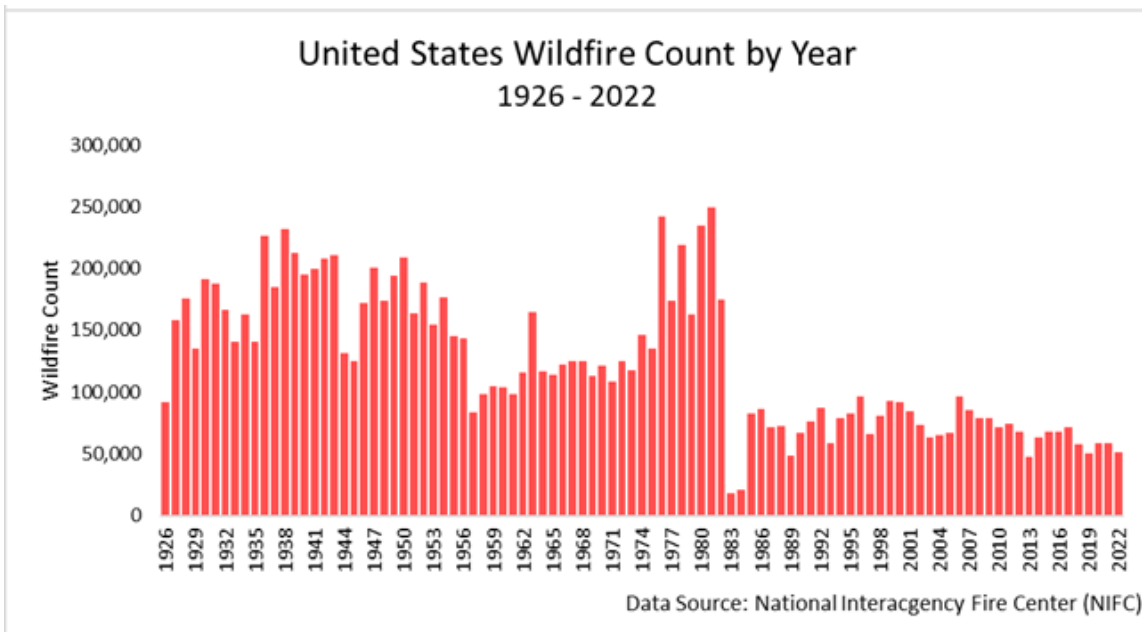
<sup>78</sup> USGCRP, 4TH NATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT, VOL. II, IMPACTS, RISKS, AND ADAPTATION IN THE U.S., at App. 5, 1508 (2018).

<sup>79</sup> *Id.* at 249.

in the 1920s and 1930s—even though CO<sub>2</sub> has been increasing. Looking at contradictory omitted data before 1984, it shows the United States now is faring much better than in the past.<sup>80</sup>



Similarly, the total number of wildfires in the United States has dropped enormously since the 1930s.<sup>81</sup>



<sup>80</sup> *U.S. Wildfires*, CLIMATE AT A GLANCE, <https://climateataglance.com/climate-at-a-glance-u-s-wildfires/>.

<sup>81</sup> *Id.*

Thus, there is no long trend of increased wildfires. Rather, to the contrary, there is a long-term trend of decreasing wildfires when the omitted contradictory data is considered as scientific method requires.

#### **4. Sea Level.**

The Proposed Rule cites the NCA4's assertion, "The rate of sea level rise during the 20th Century was higher than in any other century in at least the last 2,800 years."<sup>82</sup>

We agree with fellow physics professor Steven Koonin's analysis in "A Deceptive New Report On Climate" on sea levels by the NCA4 CSSR in the *Wall Street Journal* (Nov. 2, 2017). He singled out the CSSR for what science deems falsifying data by cherry-picking data on this issue and omitting contradictory data.

The CSSR cited a sea level rise in two recent decades, but omitted data showing a similar sea level rise earlier in the century.

The report ominously notes that while global sea level rose an average 0.05 inch a year during most of the 20th century, it has risen at about twice that rate since 1993. But it fails to mention that the rate fluctuated by comparable amounts several times during the 20th century. The same research papers the report cites show that recent rates are statistically indistinguishable from peak rates earlier in the 20th century, when human influences on the climate were much smaller. The report thus misleads by omission. ... Such data misrepresentations violate basic scientific norms.<sup>83</sup>

Thus, the scientific method shows that there is no risk that CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil fuels will cause increased damage from rising sea levels. Sea levels may rise and cause damage, but if that occurs it will have nothing to do with increases in CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### **C. Reliance on Defective Models.**

NCA4 Volumes I and II use the defective models of climate change demonstrated above more than 300 times.<sup>84</sup> In science, defective models are rejected, not used. This is yet another reason why NCA4 has no scientific value.

#### **D. Reliance on IPCC Government Opinions.**

NCA4 Volumes I and II rely on IPCC findings over 300 times. As demonstrated next, the IPCC findings are merely government opinions and therefore have no scientific value.

The Proposed Rule's reliance on the USGCRP's NCAs and other USGCRP reports corrupts the scientific basis of the Proposed Rule. It would be arbitrary and capricious to use them in the Proposed Rule under *State Farm*.

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<sup>82</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,250.

<sup>83</sup> *Id.*

<sup>84</sup> *See, e.g.*, CSSR Chapter 4, Climate Models, Scenarios, and Projections, at 133–160.

**E. IPCC Studies Are Government Opinions Providing No Scientific Knowledge.**

The Proposed Rule and RIA cite and rely on IPCC findings extensively.<sup>85</sup> Unknown to most, two IPCC rules require that IPCC governments control what IPCC reports as “scientific” findings on CO<sub>2</sub>, fossil fuels and manmade climate change; not scientists. IPCC governments meet behind closed doors and control what is published in its Summaries for Policymakers (“SPMs”) detailed below, which controls what is published in full reports.



The picture above shows government delegates (not scientists) voting on what to include in the Summary for Policymakers, which the Lysenko tragedy underscores should never be considered as science.<sup>86</sup>

Deliberation by politically designated officials is not how scientific knowledge is determined, as the Lysenko experience chillingly underscores.

The two IPCC rules are:

**IPCC SPM Rule No. 1: All Summaries for Policymakers (SPMs) Are Approved Line by Line By Member Governments.**

IPCC Fact Sheet: How does the IPCC approve reports? ‘Approval’ is the process used for IPCC Summaries for Policymakers (SPMs). **Approval signifies that the material has been subject to detailed,**

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<sup>85</sup> Global Warming of 1.5°C (2018), Climate Change and Land (2019), Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (2019), Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis, Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. 88 Fed. Reg. 33,250.

<sup>86</sup> Donna Laframboise, *US Scientific Integrity Rules Repudiate the UN Climate Process*, NOFRAKINGCONSENSUS.COM (Jan. 29, 2017).

**line-by-line discussion, leading to agreement among the IPCC member countries**, in consultation with the scientists responsible for drafting the report.<sup>87</sup>

Since governments control the SPMs, they are merely government opinions. Therefore, they have no value as reliable science.

What about the thousands of pages in the IPCC reports? A second IPCC rule requires that everything in an IPCC published report must be consistent with what the governments agree to in the SPMs about CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil fuels. Any drafts the independent scientists write are rewritten as necessary to be consistent with the SPMs.

**IPCC Reports No. 2: Government SPMs Override Any Inconsistent Conclusion Scientists Write for IPCC Reports**

IPCC Fact Sheet: “‘Acceptance’ is the process used for the full underlying report in a Working Group Assessment Report or a Special Report after its SPM has been approved.... Changes ...are limited to those necessary to ensure consistency with the Summary for Policymakers.”<sup>88</sup>

IPCC governments’ control of full reports using Rule No. 2 is poignantly demonstrated by the IPCC’s rewrite of the scientific conclusions reached by independent scientists in their draft of Chapter 8 of the IPCC report *Climate Change 1995, The Science of Climate Change* (“1995 Science Report”).

The draft by the independent scientists concluded:

No study to date has positively attributed all or part (of the climate warming observed) to (manmade) causes.

None of the studies cited above has shown clear evidence that we can attribute the observed [climate] changes to the specific cause of increases in greenhouse gases.<sup>89</sup>

However, the government-written SPM proclaimed the exact opposite as to human influence:

The balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate.<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Principles Governing IPCC Work, the Procedures for the Preparation, Review, Acceptance, Adoption, Approval and Publication of IPCC Reports, Appendix A Sections 4.4-4.6, [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/FS\\_ipcc\\_approve.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/FS_ipcc_approve.pdf) (emphasis added).

<sup>88</sup> IPCC Fact Sheet, *supra* (emphasis added).

<sup>89</sup> Frederick Seitz, *A Major Deception on Climate Warming*, WALL STREET JOURNAL (June 12, 1996).

<sup>90</sup> 1995 Science Report SPM, at 4 (emphasis added).



What happened to the independent scientists' draft? IPCC Rule No. 2 was applied, and their draft was rewritten to be consistent with the SPM in numerous ways:

- Their draft language was deleted.
- The SPM's opposite language was inserted in the published version of Chapter 8 in the *1995 Science Report*, on page 439: "The body of statistical evidence in chapter 8 . . . now points towards a discernible human influence on global climate."
- The IPCC also changed "more than 15 sections in Chapter 8 of the report ... after the scientists charged with examining this question had accepted the supposedly final text."<sup>91</sup>

As to the full IPCC reports, hundreds of world-class scientists draft some very good science. What to do? Use a presumption that anything in IPCC reports should be presumed to be government opinion with no value as reliable science unless independently verified by the scientific method.

Accordingly, none of the IPCC reports cited in the Proposed Rule and the RIA have any scientific value. It would be arbitrary and capricious to use them in the Proposed Rule under *State Farm*.

**F. RIA Section 4 Benefit Analysis's Reliance on the February 2021 IWG SCC Estimate of the Social Cost of Carbon.**

The RIA is significantly based on the Interagency Working Group's "Technical Support Document: Social Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive Order 13990" (February 26, 2021) ("IWG SCC Estimate"). The RIA states:

We have evaluated the SC-GHG estimates in the February 2021 SC-GHG TSD [IWG SCC Estimate] ... EPA finds that these estimates, while likely an underestimate, are the best currently available SC-GHG estimates until revised estimates have been developed reflecting the latest, peer-reviewed science.<sup>92</sup>

The IWG SCC Estimate computes the Social Cost of Carbon by combining three theoretical models, called DICE, PAGE and FUND. Together, they are called the Integrated Assessment Models (IAMS).<sup>93</sup> It is scientifically invalid for multiple separate reasons and, thus, so is the RIA Section 4 Benefit Analysis.

*First*, the RIA says, "[i]n principle, SC-GHG includes the value of all climate change impacts (both negative and positive), including (but not limited to) changes in net agricultural productivity...."<sup>94</sup>

However, the positive impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> on agricultural productivity are nowhere to be found in the IWG SCC Estimate. Its Executive Summary makes clear that it is totally one-sided: "The

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<sup>91</sup> Seitz, *supra*.

<sup>92</sup> RIA at 4-4.

<sup>93</sup> *Id.* at 22–23.

<sup>94</sup> *Id.* at 4-1.

SC-GHG is the monetary value of the net harm to society associated with adding a small amount of that GHG to the atmosphere in a given year.... The SC-GHG, therefore, should reflect the societal value of reducing emissions of the gas in question by one metric ton.”<sup>95</sup>

Indeed, two of the three models, DICE and PAGE, expressly excluded any positive social benefits of increased CO<sub>2</sub> on agriculture. They only computed the social costs of CO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>96</sup> They failed to consider the voluminous contradictory data on the enormous social benefits of CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil fuels, and the disastrous consequences of Net Zeroing them detailed above. For this reason, the IWG SCC Estimate is scientifically invalid and thus so is the RIA.

*Second*, the IWG SCC Estimate is scientifically invalid and so is the RIA because it relied on the IPCC CMIP and other models that, as demonstrated above, fail to reliably predict temperatures and thus should be scientifically rejected and never used.<sup>97</sup>

*Third*, the IWG SCC Estimate is scientifically invalid and so is the RIA for relying on IPCC government-dictated opinions. It explained at page 32 that key numbers it used in its estimates were based in part on five IPCC reports:

1. IPCC 2007 Synthesis Report, Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fourth Assessment Report
2. IPCC 2014 Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report
3. IPCC 2018 Global Warming of 1.5°C
4. IPCC 2019a Climate Change and Land
5. IPCC 2019b Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate.

*Fourth*, the IWG SCC Estimate is scientifically invalid and so is the RIA for relying on consensus and peer review. It expressly explained it relied on peer review and consensus, not scientific method, to determine its estimates:

In developing the SC-GHG estimates in 2010, 2013, and 2016 the IWG used consensus-based decision making, relied on peer-reviewed literature and models .... Going forward the IWG commits to maintaining a consensus driven process for making evidence-based decisions that are guided by the best available science and input from the public, stakeholders, and peer reviewers.<sup>98</sup>

Accordingly, the IWG SCC Estimate is scientifically invalid and so is the RIA. It would be arbitrary and capricious to use them in the Proposed Rule under *State Farm*.

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<sup>95</sup> *Id.* at 2 (emphasis added).

<sup>96</sup> Kevin D. Dayaratna, Ross McKittrick & Patrick J. Michaels, *Climate Sensitivity, Agricultural Productivity and the Social Cost of Carbon in FUND*, ENV'T'L ECON. & POL'Y STUDIES (2020), at 443.

<sup>97</sup> *Id.* at 32.

<sup>98</sup> *Id.* at 36 (emphasis added).

### G. The EPA Endangerment Findings.

Are the Endangerment Findings,<sup>99</sup> used extensively in the EPA Proposed Rule, scientific knowledge derived by the scientific method? No. They, too, violate scientific method in numerous ways and therefore provide no scientific knowledge that supports the EPA's Proposed Rule.

*First*, the Endangerment Findings (and TSD) “entirely failed to consider” (*State Farm*, 463 U.S. at 29) the four critically important aspects and relevant data concerning CO<sub>2</sub>, fossil fuels and climate change detailed above.

*Second*, the Endangerment Findings (and TSD) emphasized that the opinions of three government organizations were the “primary scientific basis” for the Findings:

The major assessments by the U.S. Global Climate Research Program (USGCRP), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the National Research Council (NRC) serve as the primary scientific basis supporting the Administrator's endangerment finding.<sup>100</sup>

Unintentionally, the EPA Administrator made clear that she chose to use government-determined opinions as “science,” rather than scientific knowledge determined by the scientific method:

The USGCRP, IPCC, and NRC assessments have been reviewed and formally accepted by, commissioned by, or in some cases authored by *U.S. government agencies* and individual *government scientists*. These reports already reflect significant input from *EPA's scientists* and the *scientists of many other government agencies*.<sup>101</sup>

IPCC opinions are the dominant source of the purported “science” underlying the Endangerment Findings, and indeed, all Net Zero policies to eliminate fossil fuel and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the U.S. and worldwide. However, contrary to the vigorous assertions by the IPCC that it provides the best climate science in the world, the IPCC is government-controlled as demonstrated before. Thus, the IPCC issues only government opinions, not scientific knowledge.

Further, the USGCRP National Climate Assessments, as shown, are fatally flawed science and therefore are also merely government opinion. Using these government opinions as the “primary scientific basis” for the Endangerment Findings renders them invalid under scientific method.

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<sup>99</sup> EPA, Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act, 74 Fed. Reg. 66,511 (Dec. 15, 2009). It is supported by the “Technical Support Document for Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases Under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act” (Dec. 7, 2009), <http://epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment.html> (“TSD”).

<sup>100</sup> 74 Fed. Reg. 66,497.

<sup>101</sup> *Id.* at 66511 (emphasis added).

*Third*, by admitting that it used “the scientific assessments of the IPCC, USGCRP, and the NRC” as “best reference” for science,<sup>102</sup> the EPA makes clear that it did not consider the overwhelming contradictory science and evidence that there is no risk that fossil fuels and CO<sub>2</sub> will cause catastrophic global warming. This is an egregious violation of scientific method.

*Fourth*, the Endangerment Findings (and TSD) rely on IPCC theoretical models that have been proven conclusively by observations to fail. *See* Part IV.D.1. They would never be used in science because they do not work.

*Fifth*, the IPCC climate models used by the Endangerment Findings (and TSD) rely frequently on peer review and consensus, which, as noted, does not determine scientific knowledge.

Accordingly, the Proposed Rule’s reliance on the Endangerment Findings corrupts the scientific basis of the Proposed Rule. It would be arbitrary and capricious to use them in the Proposed Rule under *State Farm*.

## H. NAS’s Valuing Climate Damages.

The National Academy of Sciences *Valuing Climate Damages: Updating Estimating the Social Cost of Carbon Dioxide* (2017) is another one of the EPA’s cited “major scientific assessments [that] continue to demonstrate ... the impacts that GHGs have on public health and welfare both for current and future generations.”<sup>103</sup>

The NAS book expressly stated that it was not following the scientific method, but instead was adopting “peer reviewed literature” as the “Scientific basis” for all “modules, their components, their interactions, and their implementation.”

RECOMMENDATION 2-2 The Interagency Working Group should use three criteria to evaluate the overall integrated SC-CO<sub>2</sub> framework and the modules to be used in that framework: scientific basis, uncertainty characterization, and transparency.

- **Scientific basis:** Modules, their components, their interactions, and their implementation should be consistent with **the state of scientific knowledge as reflected in the body of current, peer-reviewed literature.**<sup>104</sup>

With all due respect, this very prestigious scientific group chose not to follow the scientific method. Instead, they based their analysis and thus all recommendations on peer review and consensus, which provide opinions but have no value as scientific evidence. No matter how distinguished the group, groupthink support of theories does not make them reliable science. Theories only become reliable science when their predictions agree with observations.

Accordingly, the NAS book does not provide any scientific support for the Proposed Rule. The Proposed Rule’s reliance on it corrupts the scientific basis of the Proposed Rule. It would be arbitrary and capricious to use them in the Proposed Rule under *State Farm*.

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<sup>102</sup> 74 Fed. Reg. 66,511.

<sup>103</sup> 88 Fed. Reg. 33,249.

<sup>104</sup> *Id.* at 47 (emphasis added).

## VII. Conclusions.

In sum, the EPA has acted arbitrarily and capriciously in what it has *failed* to consider and what it *has* considered as the basis for the Proposed Rule.

EPA has failed to consider critical aspects and data that reflect the enormous social benefits of CO<sub>2</sub>, the enormous social benefits of fossil fuels, the scientific proof that there is no danger of catastrophic global warming from the use of fossil fuels and resulting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and the disastrous consequences of restricting or eliminating them, including eliminating 61% of electricity in the United States provided by fossil fuel electricity plants. Under *State Farm* and its progeny, failing to consider such crucial aspects of the problem that the rule purports to address is the hallmark of arbitrary and capricious agency action.

EPA, by the same token, has erred by relying on data and other unscientific sources that only worsen its failures stated above. Consensus, peer review, government opinion from the IPCC, models that do not work, omission of contradictory data, and fabrication of supporting data do not pass muster under even the basic principles of the scientific method and do not provide scientific knowledge. These flimsy methods of analysis should not provide the foundation for far-reaching national environmental policy.

Taken together, the EPA's proposed Fossil Fuel Power Plant rule is fatally flawed and should not be adopted, or at minimum must be revised from the ground up. As scientists, we urge the EPA to change course from the fraught path it has outlined in the Proposed Rule.

**William Happer, Ph.D.**

I am a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Physics at Princeton University.

I began my professional career in the Physics Department of Columbia University in 1964, where I served as Director of the Columbia Radiation Laboratory from 1976 to 1979. I joined the Physics Department of Princeton University in 1980.

I invented the sodium guidestar that is used in astronomical adaptive optics systems to correct the degrading effects of atmospheric turbulence on imaging resolution. I have published over 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers, am a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

I served as Director of Energy Research in the U.S. Department of Energy from 1991 to 1993. I was a co-founder in 1994 of Magnetic Imaging Technologies Incorporated (MITI), a small company specializing in the use of laser-polarized noble gases for magnetic resonance imaging. I served as Chairman of the Steering Committee of JASON from 1987 to 1990.

I served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Emerging Technologies at The National Security Council in the White House from 2018 to 2019.

I am the Chair of the Board of Directors of the CO2 Coalition, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 2015 to educate thought leaders, policy makers and the public about the vital contribution made by carbon dioxide to our lives and our economy.

**Richard Lindzen, Ph.D.**

I am an Alfred P. Sloan Professor of Atmospheric Science Emeritus at MIT. After completing my doctorate at Harvard in 1964 (with a thesis on the interaction of photochemistry, radiation and dynamics in the stratosphere), I did postdoctoral work at the University of Washington and at the University of Oslo before joining the National Center for Atmospheric Research as a staff scientist. At the end of 1967, I moved to the University of Chicago as a tenured associate professor, and in 1971 I returned to Harvard to assume the Gordon McKay Professorship (and later the Burden Professorship) in Dynamic Meteorology. In 1981 I moved to MIT to assume the Alfred P. Sloan Professorship in Atmospheric Sciences. I have also held visiting professorships at UCLA, Tel Aviv University, and the National Physical Laboratory in Ahmedabad, India, and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, and the Laboratory for Dynamic Meteorology at the University of Paris.

I developed our current understanding of the quasi-biennial oscillation of the tropical stratosphere, the current explanation for dominance of the solar semidiurnal and diurnal tides at various levels of the atmosphere, the role of breaking gravity waves as a major source of friction in the atmosphere, and the role of this friction in reversing the meridional temperature gradient at the tropopause (where the equator is the coldest latitude) and the mesopause (where temperature is a minimum at the summer pole and a maximum at the winter pole). I have also developed the basic description of how surface temperature in the tropics controls the distribution of cumulus convection and led the group that discovered the iris effect where upper-level cirrus contract in response to warmer surface temperatures. I have published approximately 250 papers and books. I am an award recipient of the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union. I am a fellow of the American Meteorological Society, the American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

I have served as the director of the Center for Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard and on numerous panels of the National Research Council. I was also a lead author on the Third Assessment Report of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – the report for which the IPCC shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore. I am currently a member of the CO2 Coalition.