RENOWNED AMERICAN PROFESSORS:
GHGS ARE NOT THE CAUSE OF EXTREME WEATHER

Yoshiro Muronaka
International Environment and Economy Institute (IEEI)
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Introduction

The report titled 'Physics Demonstrates That Increasing Greenhouse Gases Cannot Cause Dangerous Warming, Extreme Weather or Any Harm' (June 7, 2025), authored by Professor Emeritus Richard Lindzen of MIT and Professor Emeritus William Happer of Princeton University, questions the scientific basis and economic consequences of modern 'Net Zero' climate policies.

1. Summary and Purpose

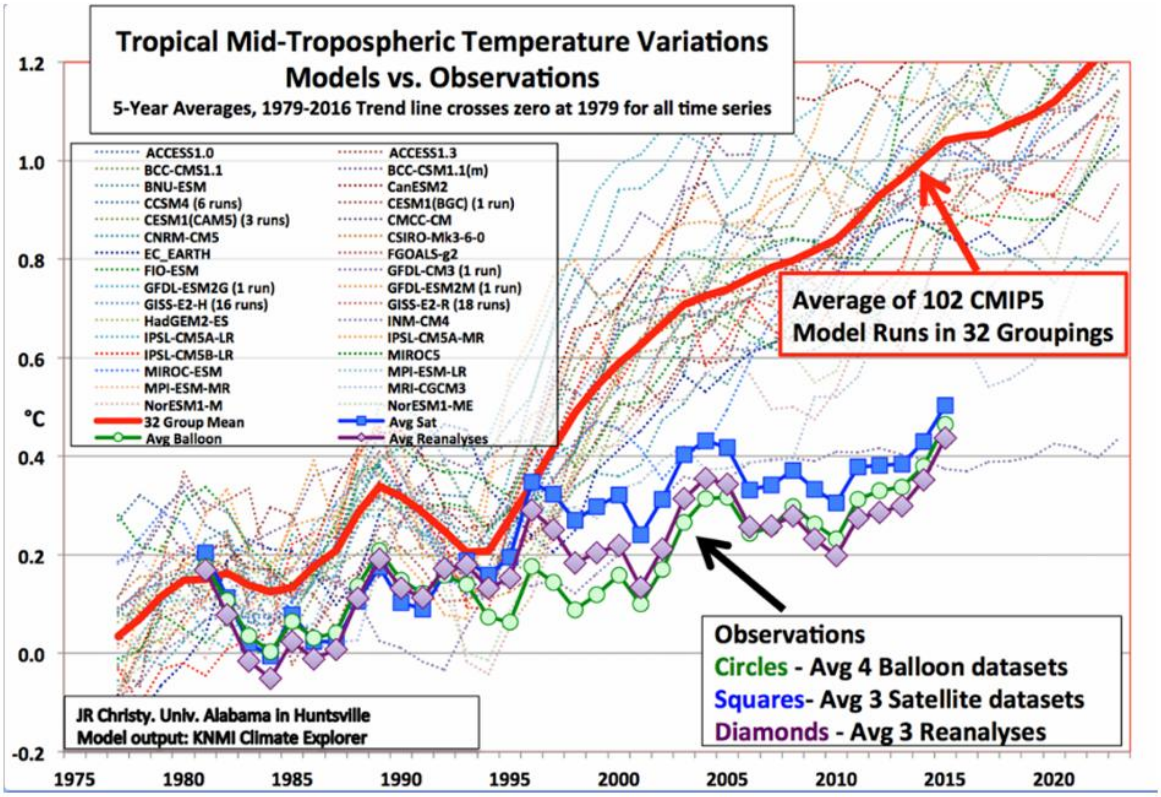
At the beginning of the report, the authors emphasize that CO_2 is essential for photosynthesis, and doubling its concentration (from 420 ppm to 840 ppm) could increase crop and forest yields by about 40%, while the temperature rise would remain minimal—no more than 0.28 to 0.56°C.

They criticize the claims by the IPCC and EPA that 'CO_2 is the main driver of climate warming' as being based merely on governmental consensus and climate models, lacking the core scientific principle of hypothesis testing. They argue that policies like the EPA's endangerment finding rely excessively on 'selective generalization of evidence' and ignore actual physical observations. Against this backdrop, they question the scientific and social validity of Net Zero policies and call for their redesign based on empirical measurements.

2. On the Scientific Method

The authors assert that scientific claims must be validated through consistency between observation and theory—not through models or consensus. They argue that believing IPCC reports or EPA assessments are 'true because peer-reviewed' strays from the scientific method.

For instance, they point out that climate models (like CMIP5) fail to replicate historical observational data (e.g., post-1979 temperature trends and extreme weather forecasts), concluding that such models are not scientifically valid.



3. Limits of the CO_2 Greenhouse Effect

3.1 Saturation Effect

CO_2's infrared absorption is already saturated at high concentrations, and further increases produce only marginal effects. Water vapor and clouds account for over 90% of infrared absorption, with CO_2's contribution being less than 10%.

In geophysics, the radiative forcing from CO_2 doubling (e.g., from 280 ppm to 560 ppm) results in about a +3.7 W/m^2 shift in Earth's energy balance. This would theoretically raise global average temperature by about 1°C—considering the greenhouse effect alone.

However, in reality, initial warming due to CO_2 may trigger responses in water vapor, clouds, and ice sheets, creating feedbacks. These feedbacks raise the expected warming to 1.5–4.5°C, with a median of around 3°C.

Even so, this figure is more restrained than the IPCC's sensitivity estimates, suggesting CO_2's impact on temperature is slow and limited.

3.2 Quantitative Verification via Models

Using the MAGICC model, simulations show that even if the U.S. alone achieves net zero by 2050, the effect on temperature rise would be limited to 0.01–0.03°C. Globally, the impact would be around 0.07–0.27°C. Thus, the report concludes that the benefits of costly Net Zero policies are minimal.

3.3 Paleoclimate Data

Geological records over the past 600 million years frequently show periods where CO_2 and

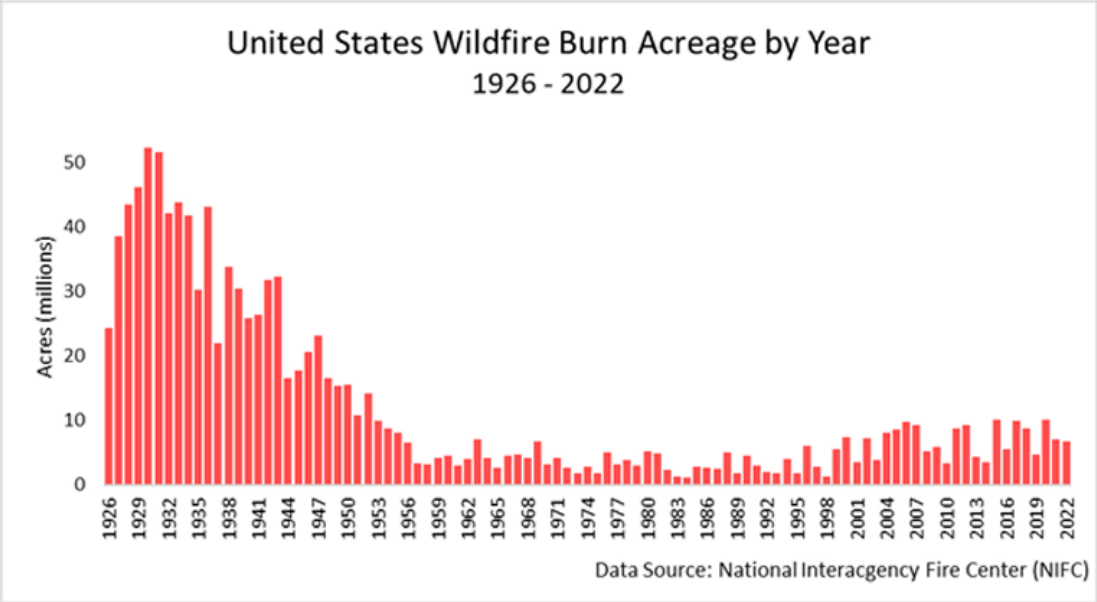
temperature were inversely correlated, indicating that high CO_2 levels do not necessarily coincide with high temperatures. This supports the idea that factors other than CO_2—such as solar activity, continental shifts, and ocean circulation—are primary drivers of Earth's climate.

3.4 Current Context
The current CO_2 concentration (approx. 420 ppm) is, geologically speaking, very low. If this level persists for several generations, the authors argue that Earth would be entering a 'low CO_2 era' in natural terms.

4. Extreme Weather and Observational Data

The authors also refute the common belief that 'global warming increases extreme weather events':

- **Heatwaves**: The U.S. heatwave index shows no significant long-term trend since the 19th century. EPA data confirm that the most extreme period was during the 1930s Dust Bowl.
- **Hurricanes/Tornadoes**: Since 1980, there has been no notable increase in frequency or intensity. In fact, overall trends do not indicate a rise.
- **Floods/Droughts**: Global observational data lack the reliability to show statistically significant trends for either.
- **Wildfires**: Satellite data show that the total area burned from 1998 to 2015 decreased by about 25%. The wildfires of 2020 were actually below the 14-year average.



Based on this, they conclude that 'there is no scientific evidence from observational data to support the claim of increased extreme weather,' and any such claims fall within the bounds of natural variability.

5. Economic and Social Impacts of Net Zero Policies

5.1 Policy Structure
Net Zero policies are accelerating restrictions on fossil fuel use, including car regulations, bans on

gas heating, and shutdowns of thermal power plants. These measures threaten power stability, raise energy costs, shrink industrial activity, and are likely to result in millions of job losses and reduced tax revenues.

5.2 Poverty and Food Security
Doubling CO_2 concentration enhances crop growth by 40%, significantly contributing to food production. Since nitrogen fertilizers derived from fossil fuels and high-efficiency power plants work in tandem, achieving Net Zero may negatively affect both food security and energy poverty.

5.3 Cost-Effectiveness
Achieving Net Zero will require massive financial outlays: $4.7 trillion under the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, and up to $275 trillion globally according to McKinsey. Meanwhile, the potential warming mitigation is just about 0.06°C—clearly not cost-effective. The authors argue that such a policy foundation is economically irrational.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

- CO_2 and GHGs do act as greenhouse gases, but their contribution is 'minimal,' and the temperature reduction effect from cutting them is 'negligible.'
- Net Zero policies are based on 'pseudoscience' rooted in government consensus and modeling, not in the scientific method (hypothesis testing).
- Despite huge expenditures, the actual results are meager, making such policies socially counterproductive from a cost-benefit perspective.

Based on these points, the authors advocate for the fundamental review and immediate repeal of laws and subsidies related to Net Zero.

They emphasize that policy decisions must be based on the scientific method—rooted in observation and hypothesis testing—and call for a shift away from reliance on government consensus.

Closing

The report ends with a quote from Peter Drucker:

As every Net Zero theory demonstrates, *'science in government is often based on “value judgments” that are incompatible with any criteria one could possibly call scientific.'*

References

1. R. Lindzen and W. Happer, “Physics Demonstrates That Increasing Greenhouse Gases Cannot Cause Dangerous Warming, Extreme Weather or Any Harm”, June 7, 2025.
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