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Another Problem for Global Warming Proponents

In last week's report we noted that there is significant disagreement within the scientific community over whether or not global warming is occurring and if human use of fossil fuel is the cause. This week, we take a look at another major problem that the proponents of human induced global warming are facing: It's not been as warm lately as they said it would be.

The theory of global warming starts with the idea that carbon dioxide (CO₂), a naturally occurring trace gas in the atmosphere, has been slowly but steadily increasing due to human use of fossil fuels. CO₂ is considered a "greenhouse gas," which means it can absorb some of the energy the earth would normally release into space. The theory says that increased CO₂ levels will lead to warmer temperatures.

Besides human activity, however, there are significant natural sources of CO₂, including volcanoes, forest fires and even the oceans. Additionally, temperatures are not on the steady rise that proponents claim. The Earth's climates cooled after the 1930's, showed a warming trend from the early 1980's until the late 90s, and flat-lined for the last decade. Recently temperatures have even shown a downturn. Since CO₂ is increasing, why don't climates continue to warm? It does not seem to matter, as global warming proponents feel the need to "take action now."

This has caused the proponents to change some of their rhetoric. For example, since it hasn't been as warm lately as they thought it would be, they now call global warming "climate change." Since change is a naturally occurring feature of the Earth's climates, we may yet decide to fight other natural events, such as earthquakes, tornadoes or volcanoes.

Proponents also face a contradiction when portraying the urgency of addressing global warming by contending we are at a "tipping point." This is where it will be too late to do anything because CO₂ levels and temperatures will have risen to irreversible levels. Even though they want us to think it may be "too late" on the one hand, they still want us to fight. "Fighting" global warming entails passing laws and regulations that will cost every man, woman and child higher energy bills, taxes, fees and ultimately higher prices for everything. And the goal of this expensive battle is colder winters???

In future Hot Air Reports we will take a detailed look at some of the ideas the proponents have for global warming legislation, including those put forward by Governor Doyle's Global Warming Task Force. The Governor joins other proponents in advocating action at the state level, a costly proposition that will yield no benefits.

Next week we will discuss the high-tech climate computer models that are relied upon so heavily by global warming proponents, but produce questionable results at best.

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