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Climategate: Fraud in Global Warming Research Climate Director Steps Down, Another Under Investigation

The Climatic Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia in England is considered one of the world's leading institutions on human induced global warming research. CRU was a key contributor to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) last four global warming assessment reports. Their latest assessment report claimed, "*The warming of the climate system is unequivocal.*" The Climategate scandal raises serious questions about those claims. [The IPCC is an entity of the United Nations, they are the facilitating element for Kyoto Treaty]

Recently, unknown hackers obtained and distributed over 1,000 emails and 2,000 documents from top CRU scientists. The emails have now been verified as authentic and show a pattern of deceit and unethical conduct. Here are some of activities leading climate scientists engaged in:

- Deleting raw temperature data used for global warming predictions.
- Using "tricks" to alter data, making temperatures appear warmer than they really were.
- Planning to keep competing research out of the IPCC reports.
- Rigging the peer review process to keep skeptics from publishing research.
- Discussing the destruction of e-mails that would have been subject to open records requests.
- Expressing disappointment the weather wasn't warmer so their theories would look better.
- Expressing amazement a respected journal published one of their studies with sparse data.
- Recommending not responding to inquiries that may have embarrassed themselves.

Phil Jones, Director of CRU, has announced he will step down until the University of East Anglia completes its probe of the scandal. In the U.S., Penn State will open an investigation into one of its own researchers, Professor Michael Mann, to see if wrongdoing occurred. It would not be surprising to see other investigations in the coming weeks.

IPCC findings are considered by advocates to be the holy grail of global warming research. The IPCC has played the facilitator role in convincing nations, states and local governments to pass or consider extensive legislation. From the Kyoto Protocol and the upcoming Copenhagen Summit, President Obama's cap and trade, or Governor Doyle's Global Warming Task Force recommendations, IPCC's role was to make the United Nations the dominate force in the global warming movement. IPCC credibility is now open to question.

Even as Climategate unfolds, our leaders forge ahead. President Obama will reportedly announce plans in Copenhagen to reduce U.S. emissions 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. During Wisconsin's worst recession in many years, Governor Doyle will fly to Copenhagen next week. Even worse, legislation based on his Global Warming Task Force recommendations is expected to be introduced next week.

For Democrats in the State Legislature to even consider oppressive and expensive global warming legislation is ridiculous even without the revelations of Climategate. In light of what we have learned so far, it is absolutely outrageous! Remember that Governor Doyle told his Global Warming Task Force to accept "*the substantial scientific consensus that exists that climate change is occurring and human activity, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, is a major contributor to such change.*"

That scientific consensus is based on a foundation of shifting sand and questionable science. Stay tuned.

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