

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CO₂: THERE'S SURPRISINGLY LITTLE OF IT! THAT FACT SHOULD ENCOURAGE AT LEAST SOME SKEPTICISM!



By Stephen L. Bakke  June 11, 2014

Here's what provoked me:

I read letters and articles, and hear commentary proclaiming that pollution and resistance to solving the climate change problem rests on greed and profit seeking businesses. They bluntly and naively declare that their anti carbon solutions to the environment won't be a drag on the economy, specifically jobs. Their conclusions are so simple and confident so devoid of facts or details and so much wishful thinking!

There seldom is any "what and how" provided by these low information commentators. No solid facts or details. Another thing we are missing from any reports on the dispute is the question: "If CO₂ is the problem, let's have some facts on about how much there is, and where does it come from?" Obviously I have limited space to address this in a letter to the editor, but here is how I made just such an attempt.

Here's my response:

CO₂: There's Surprisingly Little of It! That Fact Should Encourage at Least Some Skepticism!

Much commentary asserts that resistance to "climate change" solutions results from greed and profits. They declare: "Solutions will create jobs and be great for the economy." Or, "EPA standards provide hope for our economy and environment." Simple, confident; devoid of facts and details; just wishful thinking!

Here's important data to consider when evaluating the CO₂ controversy:

Greenhouse gases and the atmosphere:

- Greenhouse gases comprise under 1% of the atmosphere.
- Greenhouse gases include (largest first): water vapor, CO₂, methane, N₂O, and "trace gases."
- CO₂ is under 4% of greenhouse gases.
- 96% of CO₂ comes from Mother Nature.
- **Therefore, less than .16% of greenhouse gases come from humans!**

CO₂ and the atmosphere:

- CO₂ in the atmosphere is only 379 parts per million.
- Thus, CO₂ is only .04% of the atmosphere.
- Using IPCC data, the increase in CO₂ since 1750 is over 35%, but that means it has gone up by only 1 part in ten thousand! That's only one hundredth of a percent.

- Does it automatically follow that this atmospheric increase of only .01% points to catastrophe?

I believe that greenhouse gases have climate implications. But how much can be attributed to humans? Also, there are other influences on climate including solar activity, volcanism, magnetic field shifts, and more. We only have unproven models at this point. **This information invites at least some skepticism of the alarmist projections. If we are to transform our economy, we don't want to be solving the wrong problem!**

These facts DEMAND skepticism and questions!

Mallard Fillmore by Bruce Tinsley

