

IT'S GLOBAL WARMING TIME! IT'S GLOBAL WARMING TIME!
– (Sung to the Tune of “It’s Howdy Doody Time”)

Stephen L. Bakke – February 12, 2010

Why Not Talk? Are Ya ‘fraid?

Consistently over many years, prominent global warming expert/skeptics have been denied almost all opportunities to fairly confront and debate the alarmists like Al Gore. These skeptics weren’t even mentioned at Kyoto, and were mostly kept “out in the hallways” in Bali – without being given a fair opportunity for credentials. And last month they were disdained at Copenhagen.

Not long ago, Al Gore was invited to testify in front of a congressional committee. It was much anticipated, but at the last minute he unexpectedly bowed out while submitting a written statement during the “wee hours” of the night preceding his scheduled testimony. It was reasonably argued that he was not secure being challenged on several points in his “preachings and teachings.” Additionally, while his written statement was accepted for the record, the late submission was in violation of the committee rules which safeguard the right of members to adequately review any document before debate.

When our legislators were having hearings in 2009, a prominent British scientist and global warming expert was cancelled by the Democrat committee chair. The man was Lord Christopher Monckton, Chief Policy Advisor to the Science and Public Policy Institute. He was Special Advisor to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher from 1982 to 1986 and is a widely recognized expert on climate sensitivity. He has done significant climate research over many years, and a most capable debater on climate change.

I was recently challenged by a committed global warming alarmist who was, I believe, justifying the lack of any real public debate about the facts and theories of climate change. She wrote in response to one of my articles which appeared on a blog:

*Sadly, spending time defending clear, long-term, scientifically demonstrated trends reinforces the popular view that "we don't yet know." It is true that we don't know many things, in particular details about where the point of no return is to be found, or how rainfall patterns will change in a particular area. However, the data is consistent across many thousands of studies. **Why waste the time?***

My goodness, wasn’t that dismissive?! They won’t debate, supposedly because to do so would give credibility to those who feel the debate should not be over. They are simply too “righteous” to stoop that low. Actually I believe it’s because, while sincere in their beliefs, they (subliminally) know the certainty of their position breaks down under scrutiny. My best rejoinder to that statement is to quote Benjamin Franklin who wrote in his autobiography:

*By the collision of different sentiments, **sparks of truth strike out**, and political light is obtained.*

What's the Rub?

What is the issue I want to continue debating? Do I deny the existence of climate change? No! Do I laugh in the face of any and all environmental enthusiasts? Most certainly not! But I believe we do not yet know the difference between natural and human influences in the very subtle ebbs and flows of our planet's systems. Contrary to the alarmists' claims, there is significant observational science that contradicts their predictions. Remember, their predictions are based on models and thus far their models show little reason for confidence. Contrary to the alarmists' claims, there is NOT a consensus of scientific opinion supporting either their extreme predictions, nor their radical economically ruinous "solutions." Quite simply, **THE DEBATE MOST CERTAINLY IS NOT OVER!**

I will follow this up with reports which reinforce my views and update this topic.

I extend thanks, as always, to the many writers, commentators, researchers, and others, from all political extremes, whose hard work helps me greatly. They gather details and present much information. About all I do is gather, organize, summarize, and attempt to fill in with comments – commonly referred to as my **frequent "RANTS"**.

More comments will follow on important topics and personal thoughts as our President battles through tough territory. I want to join other conservatives in recognizing and respecting our new President – and supporting him when we should. But when we oppose our President's policies, we should act in accordance with values of decency – but that doesn't preclude a healthy dose of sarcasm and satire, which are valuable tools for political commentary.