

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON POLLUTION:

Where does the “97% consensus” come from?



By Stephen L. Bakke  June 16, 2014

Here's what provoked me:

We hear that there's a “consensus” among the scientific community. The President proclaims that 97% of scientists agree with the man-made climate change activists. I've dealt several times with the lack of scientific method being applied by these scientists. I decided to look into, and disclose some information about “Where does the 97% statistic come from?”

Here's my response:

Climate Change and Carbon Pollution: Where does the “97% consensus” come from?

What's the basis for Obama's “97% consensus” statistic? That is never explained. Consider:

- In 2008, University of Illinois researchers surveyed a sample of recognized earth scientists – 3,146 responded.
- The researchers used ONLY 79 responses – those whose opinions had been published in peer reviewed journals.
- It's been established that peer reviews are SELDOM offered to skeptics – they are ignored!
- 97% of those 79 agree with the alarmists – hence the claims.
- **BUT 98% of the recognized scientists were ignored!**

A similar proclamation came from the University of Queensland, Australia:

- Almost 12,000 climate articles were examined.
- The conclusion: among the abstracts expressing an opinion, 97.1% endorsed the “consensus.”
- Only 41 of the 12,000 papers (.03%) expressed support that humans cause MOST of the warming since 1950.
- Included in the proclaimed 97.1% are SKEPTICS who agree that humans cause some warming – NOT the consensus view that humans cause the largest part of climate change. Nevertheless, they were included in the 97.1%.
- **In actuality, 99.97% of the sample DID NOT express an opinion that humans cause MOST of the warming.**

“There is no convincing scientific evidence that human release of carbon dioxide, methane or other greenhouse gases is causing or will, in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere and disruption of the Earth's climate.” From a petition signed by more than 31,000 American scientists in climate related and earth science disciplines.

How can Obama possibly proclaim a 97% consensus?