

Sirs - in re Bill 2020

The idea that reducing CO2 - the 4% that we provide to the atmosphere - will alter global warming, or cooling, or anything that's about to happen, is absurd.

There has never been a temperature reversal in the last 550 million years preceded by a CO2 change. Nor, more recently, did CO2 change precede the emergence from the Last Glacial Maximum, the temperature plunge into the Younger Dryas, the rapid rise to the Holocene Optimum (with its 280 ppm CO2) and the gradual decline since then, punctuated by Minoan, Roman, Medieval and current Warmings, not to ignore the Little Ice Age.

A natural experiment was performed in 1929-1931, when human global CO2 production declined 30% and atmospheric CO2 increase did not change. Temperature kept rising to 1941. And then it declined during the WWII years, when a fair amount of CO2 was produced but CO2 declined/stabilized. This temperature decline produced alarms about the oncoming Ice Age - see the covers of Newsweek and Time and Science News in the early 70s.

It is close to the ultimate of human stupidity and sentimentality to think that a) CO2 is in control of climate and b) we are in control of CO2. There have been worse in the last 4,000 years, but not many.

References on request.

Sincerely yours,  
Jim Whiting  
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