

IPCC SCIENCE MANDATE

By Norm Kalmanovitch

The IPCC was formed to serve a “scientific mandate” to investigate human causes of climate change, but instead followed the political mandate of supporting the AGW premise using the good name of its 2500 scientists but none of the science, because the scientific process would have falsified the AGW premise.

Any scientific investigation into the influence of humans on climate must start with the adoption of common reference data sets, in this case global temperature data sets, in order to clearly define possible influences from humans.

Satellite data has been available since 1978 and it is free of bias from land based sampling that previous data sets suffered from. The study of climate requires long term records and the land based temperature data goes back to 1856 providing some of this important information. Prior to 1856 the temperature data needs to be determined from proxy data supplemented by historical anecdotal verification.

The IPCC arbitrarily chose to only include the proxy data and the land based data as its temperature reference, ignoring the precise measurements from satellites that were in conflict with the rate of increase from the land based data recordings.

Science protocol would dictate that all conflicts in data would need to be fully resolved before a reference data set can be established. This was never done and a data set that was strongly influenced by the position of weather stations close to expanding urban areas, combined with universally accepted proxy data was used as the reference. Since both CO₂ emissions increase and urban area increase are driven by the same factors, this reference provided a more convincing argument for AGW and was therefore used to support the political mandate and at the same time violated the scientific mandate.

A scientific investigation into the influence of humans on climate would first rationalize that energy changes control climate, and then identify possible human influences on the incoming energy that controls climate, but also address the far less significant influences of humans on the outgoing energy, since changes to the outgoing energy have no direct effect on weather and are limited to effecting global temperature but nothing else.

Changes to the land surface, urban development and the ever-increasing micro climates of cities, and even the heat generated from fossil fuels, can affect the incoming energy, but none of these were investigated. Instead the focus was exclusively on CO₂ emissions that have no effect on incoming energy and therefore no effect on climate other than on the temperature.

Instead of investigating the possible influences of humans on climate and attempting to identify these influences according to the significance of their possible effect, the IPCC concentrated only on the so-called “greenhouse gases” which have no effect on climate other than on atmospheric temperature, and went to great lengths to explain why those other influences from humans are not significant, even though these other influences are the only ones that could cause any changes in melting ice and the resulting sea level rises.

The original 1988 predictions of James Hansen that started the IPCC investigation were based on temperature data, contaminated by urban heat effects, and predictions of sea level rises from human sourced changes to the greenhouse effect that caused significant melting of ice. His predictions of global temperature increase were 0.3°C by 2000, and his prediction of sea level rise for that date was “several feet”. 0.3°C in 12 years is 2.5°C/century. As a lead author of the IPCC 2001 report, Hansen never stated that his prediction of sea level rise did not materialize as mandated by science protocol since a false prediction falsifies the hypothesis on which it was based. The IPCC 2001 report explicitly stated that global warming was 0.60°C +/- 0.20°C per century; Hansen’s predictions were over four times greater than what was explicitly stated in the IPCC report, yet he failed to publish this fact as required by science protocol.

When the Kyoto Protocol was signed late in 1997 a graph of the last millennium showing the rise in global temperature coinciding with the increase in observed CO₂ was included, but there was no stated measure of global warming in any of the accompanying scientific documentation supporting the Accord. The temperature graph of the last millennium included the well documented cold period known as the Little Ice Age (LIA).

The globe has been warming since this LIA at about 0.5°C per century. Science protocol would dictate that this factor be subtracted from the current measured increase in order to determine the significance of any human caused changes to climate.

The IPCC once again violated their scientific mandate by not stating that the observed warming was only 0.6°C rendering the limit of human influence to the insignificant amount of just 0.1°C per century. Instead of acting in accordance with science protocol the IPCC attempted political damage control by adopting a temperature proxy of one of its own lead authors that eliminated the LIA allowing the IPCC to demonstrate that the entire 0.60°C +/- 0.20°C of measured warming was likely due to humans.

This single violation of science protocol is the entire basis for any claims about human caused global warming from greenhouse gas emissions.

This temperature proxy known as MBH98 for the initials of the authors, and the year that it was published (coincidentally immediately after Kyoto was signed). The peer review that allowed this temperature proxy into the scientific database did not even address the fact that this study was contrary to all existing temperature proxies as well as anecdotal historical evidence for the LIA.

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