

Forum on Climate Change- Noosa, July 2015

Speaking Notes by Professor Bob Carter

FACTUAL CONSTRAINTS ON THE DAGW HYPOTHESIS

1. The issue is NOT about climate change. Nor is about global warming.

Rather, it is about DANGEROUS global warming caused by HUMAN-related carbon dioxide emissions. This is conventionally referred to as the Dangerous Anthropogenic Global Warming (DAGW) hypothesis.

2. The geological record tells us that climate always changes (to the degree that the phrase "climate change" is a tautology). And our own life experience tells us that weather always changes also: daily, weekly, seasonally and annually.

3. Science proceeds by testing hypotheses, in particular the null hypothesis – which is the simplest interpretation of a matter that is in accord with all the facts.

4. The null hypothesis regarding the climate system is that: "The ceaseless changes we observe around us in the physical world, and in the biosphere's response, result from natural variation".

Despite the avalanche of new research on climate-related issues in the last 25 years, the null hypothesis remains valid.

5. Three key facts that are relevant to any discussion of the DAGW issue are (ONE SLIDE/HANDOUT GRAPH EACH):

A. That modern temperatures are NOT unusually warm.

B. That, even allowing for industrial emissions, planet Earth is currently undergoing carbon dioxide starvation.

C. That as industrial emissions are added to the atmosphere, the less the "greenhouse" warming effect of each increment of carbon dioxide; dangerous warming of this causation will therefore not occur.

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