

Gen Ed Exercise for Geology

Fall, 2009

Grift of global warming still marching on

I wish I had dreamed up the grift known as global warming.

That's right, grift. Global warming — now more often called "climate change" — is little more than three-card Monte with trillions at stake.

At some point someone somewhere must become a voice for reason. Someone needs to be a voice for truth.

Since 1989, roughly since the fall of the Berlin Wall, we've been assaulted worldwide with the threat of fools: The sky is falling!

The fall of Soviet Communism seemed to give rise to a new threat: global warming. We, you and me and probably our spouses, were heating up the environment, and, as a result, we're all going to die. You know the sources: cars, lawnmowers, flatulence, etc.

According to the scientists who support this theory, the earth's rapid rise in temperature — though temperature charts from stations around the world don't bear this out — is due to the amount of carbon dioxide we're pumping into the air.

They say the world's out of balance. Sure. Well, keep the word balance in mind.

Polar climates are changing, melting, they say, and to prove it they generally provide video of icebergs calving (breaking off) in areas of Antarctica or Greenland. Come to find out these areas have historically calved large icebergs.



RIGHT FOR A REASON

By JEFFRY GARDNER
New Mexico News Services

Oddly enough, though, many of these same scientists will admit the earth's been warming for thousands of years — not just the last 400 years or, more specifically, the alleged rapidly warming of the last 20 years.

Antarctica has recently experienced one of the coldest, if not the coldest, winters in earth's history.

But I don't want to get wrapped up in all the disinformation. My intent (and columnists can have intent) is to spur a little outrage from people who, like those living in areas in New Mexico long reliant on oil, gas, and coal to fuel, sorry,

their economies.

These families' livelihoods are at stake based on the premise that the earth can be put into balance. It's absurd. Nature has never been in balance. Species by the millions have died out. Species by the millions have been discovered. The earth itself has been through at least three massive climate changes.

Yet that is what we're told over and over — we, mortals, must bring the world back into balance. And, they say, if we end our reliance on fossil fuels we can have Utopia. We can't. The legendary Kyoto Accord — that the George W. Bush administration wouldn't sign — admitted as much. By 2050 the goal would be to reduce environmental temperature by .04 degrees Celsius.

No real change, but trillions of dollars for those working for "change." And power. Let's not forget the power that would come with controlling the money and the agenda.

Right now there isn't a single "renewable" technology on the market or in the labs (not theory) that doesn't create some type of new ecological problem.

Is the world running en masse to renewable fuels? Not hardly. Coal and nuclear power are overwhelmingly the choice of world nations today.

So, while our president and his congressional elves are driving a stake in our coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear industries, countries like France, Germany and Italy are building cleaner, safer burners and reactors.

No one needs to be against recycling or conserving energy to decry the global-warming con. Conservation has always made sense. More fuel-efficient cars are not a bad objective. But do lives have to be ruined to get there?

The next time an eco-Marxist proclaims all the horror that civilized man has wrought upon the world, ask them how the whole DDT ban worked out for mankind.

DDT, a pesticide so safe you could play in it, had nearly eradicated malaria. Yet, a single eco-Marxist, EPA Director William Ruckelshaus, ignored all of the evidence and whimsically banned it in 1972. Estimates are that more than 100 million people have died since.

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8/7/09 TJ

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Physical Geology

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“Grift of global warming still marching on” (Trinidad Times Independent article, 8/7/09)

The purpose of this exercise is to use your critical thinking skills as scientists to analyze this editorial and decide what is opinion, fact or fallacy. Read the article carefully and then answer these questions: (You may use the back of the page if you need more space.)

- 1.) What do you consider to be the author's main point? What is his purpose in writing the editorial? **1a, 3d**
- 2.) Give an example where he makes an opinion sound like a fact. **3a, 3c**
- 3.) Give an example where you think he makes a factual statement (you could easily find facts to back him up). **3a, 3c**

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4.) Give an example where you think he makes a false statement. 3a, 3c

5.) Identify the strengths and weaknesses of one of his arguments. 3e

6.) Can you suggest a positive action that a reader might make in response to one of his arguments? 3c, 3e

7.) Do you find any of his arguments to be risky, that is, if someone believed it, could they make a harmful decision? 3c, 3e

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
1	Faculty:	Krumm, D															
2	Course:	GEY 111-H01															
3	Date:	8/16/2010															
4			Quest # 1		Quest # 2		Quest # 3		Quest # 4		Qu5	Quest # 6		Quest # 7			
5	S#		1a	3d	3a	3c	3a	3c	3a	3c	3e	3c	3e	3c	3e		
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7	S0776		2	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2		2.5
8	S0742		3	3	3	2	3	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	2		2.2
9	S0759		2	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	2		2.5
10	S0718		2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	2		2.2
11	S0771		3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	2		2.5
12	S0790		3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	1		2.3
13	S0728		3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3		2.7
14	S0735		3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3		2.7
15	S0752		2	3	1	1	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	2		2.4
16	S0777		2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	2		2.5
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20	S0727		3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2		2.6
21	S0720		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2		2.9