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TO: XX, XY, YX & YZ

FROM: Pop Pop

## A FEW ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTS

As you once again head back to high school, college, and graduate school, it seems appropriate to give you a few facts that might help you ward off silly indoctrination that unfortunately sometimes accompanies valid instruction especially in areas concerning Earth's environment and our country's energy production. Accordingly, below is your New Year's gift, a very brief set of fundamental facts that you may find helpful in evaluating comments you may hear in various classrooms concerning energy and our environment. Hopefully these snippets will help stimulate critical thinking in areas that, unfortunately, have become hot beds of unrelenting propaganda in academia.

### CARBON DIOXIDE

Although the media frequently, shrewdly, relentlessly, and falsely portrays "carbon emissions" as environmentally harmful, there is no real-world evidence that man-made carbon dioxide emissions have replaced the sun and other natural forces in our environment. In other words, there exists no valid, replicable, scientific evidence that humans or carbon dioxide have replaced natural forces that have always governed Earth's frequently changing weather and climate system.

First of all, today's electricity plants and automobiles, for the most part, do not produce "carbon omissions" but rather produce the colorless, invisible, odorless, naturally-occurring gas carbon dioxide, the same gas humans exhale after every breath taken. Just as you will not meet any person exhaling carbon, a black sooty substance that soils everything with which it comes in contact, white plumes you see emanating from power plant smoke stacks (mostly water vapor) are neither carbon nor carbon dioxide in spite of what you hear or read in the news. Carbon dioxide and carbon are two completely different substances even though environmental alarmists and the gullible media frequently conflate the two, often intentionally.

No empirical evidence exists showing that humans can control weather and climate by tweaking carbon dioxide concentration or methane molecules that, together, represent only approximately .04 percent (400 parts per million) of Earth's atmosphere. Correlation between carbon dioxide and Earth's temperature the past 100 years equals a scant 19 percent while correlation between sunspots and Earth's temperature equals 79 percent! Separately but noteworthy is the fact that the trace gas carbon dioxide has caused 25 percent to 50 percent of vegetated parts of our planet, from the tropics to the Arctic, to become greener over the past 33 years due to higher concentrations in the atmosphere.

Of note also, over geological history carbon dioxide has been much greater than today's 400 parts per million, a concentration that is very much less than optimum for efficient plant growth.

Under today's extreme definition of carbon dioxide as a pollutant, it is a wonder that oxygen we breathe is not considered a pollutant! In fact, I would not be surprised if history were to show that considering carbon dioxide a pollutant was the greatest delusion of the past century!

### EXTREME WEATHER

Throughout history, people have believed that human actions can change climate and cause extreme weather. During the Little Ice Age for example, thousands of people were executed in Europe for the crime of environmental witchcraft. Today alarmists worry about sea level rise. Yet to this day, you cannot find a scientist that will tell you when natural sea level rise stopped and when man-made sea level rise, if any, began.

Similarly, current temperatures are not extreme. Twentieth century warming was relatively as inconsequential as it has been in the current century, with present temperatures being about the same or slightly lower than they were during the two previous warming periods since the last ice age.

We simply do not know enough about Earth's climate to separate current human influence from the powerful natural forces that have caused minor to major changes throughout history including during more than five ice ages, the Little Ice Age, and the Roman and Medieval Warm Periods.

## GLOBAL WARMING/aka CLIMATE CHANGE

There has been no statistically significant warming of the atmosphere (where the greenhouse effect occurs) since comprehensive measurements began by satellite in 1979. Thus there has been little if any global warming from the major greenhouse gas water vapor, or from the minor trace greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. As a result, there has been no statistically significant rise in atmospheric temperatures for at least the past 20 years in spite of a steady increase in carbon dioxide.

To conclude that man is causing global warming, you have to believe that an increase of one molecule of carbon dioxide, out of every ten thousand molecules of air, is now controlling Earth's climate for the first time in known history.

However, there is no hard evidence showing that carbon dioxide or any other greenhouse gas, including methane, are causing dangerous global warming, sea level rise, or any of the other alarmist concerns about which you may have heard.

Unfortunately, scientists simply do not yet know enough about Earth's climate, or what caused past climate fluctuations, to even separate human influences from natural influences, much less predict future changes that some pseudo scientists would have us believe.

## WIND AND SOLAR

So-called renewables, intermittent and exorbitantly expensive wind and solar, have become the welfare dependents of the alternative energy family. Wind turbine blight and solar sprawl have raised the cost of electricity in every community that has fallen for the charade of trying to live on breezes and sunshine.

Just since 1993, our country has diverted more than \$40 Billion from solving real problems to so-called "climate research" while simultaneously diverting more than \$150 Billion to what is commonly termed "alternative energy", with little to show for these welfare programs enriching various environmental predators and opportunists other than a massive waste of taxpayer funds.

Imagine what could have been done with these funds to solve global poverty such as: providing pure drinking water, sewage sanitation, adequate nutrition, infectious disease control, medical care, safer housing, better transportation and household and workplace electricity to the 1.3 billion persons on Earth that have yet to flip a light switch or power a water pump!

We must have plentiful, reliable, and affordable energy when it is needed not simply when it is available. Nor can we afford outrageously expensive fantasies similar to the “solar roadway” in Idaho that cost \$4.5 Million to build but has returned only \$36.86 in electricity since I last checked, not considering the considerable damage semi-trucks have caused rolling over these vulnerable solar panels.

Harnessing breezes and sunshine, if allowed to continue at public expense, will simply lead our country down a “renewable energy” (dumb energy) path of ruin.

Unfortunately, all of the foregoing is exacerbated by the fact that the media and most politicians do not understand science and technology and thus cannot discern whether or not what “experts” are telling them is truth or exaggeration, manipulation, or fabrication.

Study hard!

Love, Pop-Pop