

Global Warming and Blood on Hands

The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane season (tinyurl.com/AtlanticHurricanes2017) cost at least \$282-billion in the U.S., but even more important was the cost in lives lost, over 3300 deaths.

2018 wildfires in the U.S. have killed over 100 people (tinyurl.com/CalfWildfires2018).

Years 2015-2017 average flash-flood deaths (139) in the U.S. were greatly increased over the previous ten-years' average (69) (tinyurl.com/FlashFloodsUS).

These types of weather events occurred in the past, but not as disastrous as in recent years due to global warming. They will get much worse with many more deaths in the future as global warming increases.

Global warming due to human causes is responsible for increases in Atlantic-Ocean surface temperature, which makes its hurricanes stronger; is responsible for increasing droughts in western U.S. and increases downpours causing flash floods in wet regions of the U.S.

The world is in a dire emergency due to global warming (tinyurl.com/ShrinkingPlanet). It is a much longer emergency than World War I, World War II and the Great Depression, which makes it much harder to manage. It threatens the extinction of human civilization.

Politicians who have declined to enact government policies to reduce global warming for many years after learning from climatologists and all scientific organizations that global warming is occurring are responsible for many of the hurricanes', wildfires' and floods' deaths. They have the blood of those victims on their hands because they were forewarned for many years and did not act on the warnings!

It is not too late for those politicians to get some redemption. Here are actions they need to take:

- Sponsor regular seminars in communities and on television of climatologists explaining global warming to the public (tinyurl.com/GWTempGraph).
- Do yearly inventories of carbon emissions in their jurisdictions.
- Set yearly quotas for reducing carbon emissions in their jurisdictions setting regulations as needed, including greatly reducing methane emissions from crude-oil/natural-gas wells and pipelines.
- Not invest government funds/subsidies in fossil-fuels companies.
- Set rational fees on carbon emissions based on the damages they do and distribute those funds fairly to citizens. (tinyurl.com/CarbonFeeDividend)
- Set near dates for all new energy to be renewable with battery backup as needed and slightly longer dates for all energy to be renewable.
- Encourage businesses that are large users of electricity to locate in areas where solar and wind energy are highest.
- Encourage development of offshore wind farms on all three coasts and the Great Lakes.
- Encourage covering capable parking-lots/roofs with solar panels.
- Quickly convert government motor pools to electric cars.
- Quickly convert local bus systems to electric propulsion.
- Set near dates for requiring all new vehicles to be electric, or fuel-celled for large vehicles, with solar/wind-generated electricity and hydrogen fuel for fuel-celled vehicles.

- Require new housing and company locations to have sufficient level-2 charging stations for charging electric cars.
- Subsidize building public fast charging stations for electric cars and trucks on major highways and in cities/towns.
- Require that all public fast charging stations on major highways and in cities/towns be available for all electric cars to use.
- Build fast electric-train lines between all major cities, intercity electric rail between cities/towns and electric light-rail connecting communities within cities/towns.

These policies will not be enough to stop global warming, but they will reduce the increase. Therefore, some adaptation will be necessary:

- Steadily increase FEMA funds/infrastructure for disaster relief.
- Work toward upgrading the national electric grid to include community micro-grids with battery backup easily and quickly isolated from regional grids for continuity and security.
- Restrict new building within estimated flood plains due to expected global warming.
- Pay national flood insurance only for rebuilding out of estimated flood plains due to expected global warming.
- Plant trees in areas which are expected to have good rainfall due to expected global warming.
- Provide free birth control for women to reduce increase in population.
- Institute a “Marshall Plan” for Central America to improve living conditions there to reduce the urge to move north.
- Encourage citizens living in areas expected to be severely impacted by global warming to move farther inland, north or into higher elevations, perhaps into Canada with its cooperation.

Financing to reduce global warming will stimulate the economy causing the GDP to be dominated by useful spending instead of spending to recover from disasters.

If the U.S. instituted most of the items listed above it could become the leader of the world again.

Note the use of the term “global warming” rather than “climate change” above in order to indicate the direction and area of climate change. The term “global climate warming” would be better than “climate change”.