

## **Under 2 MOU is an economic suicide pact**

By Joseph D'Aleo

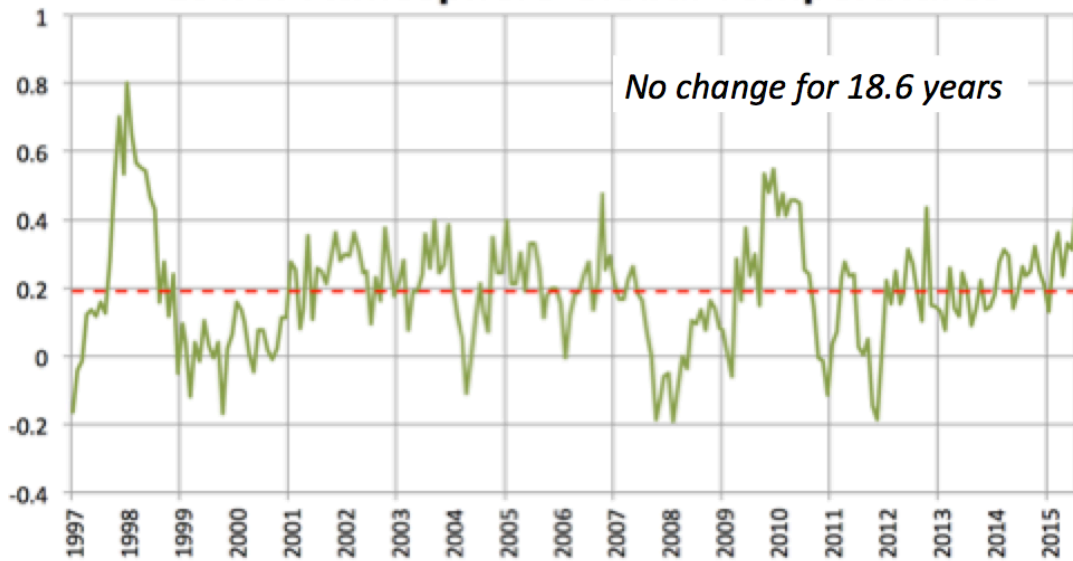
Governor Maggie Hassan announced that on behalf of New Hampshire, she signed the Under 2 MOU, a global compact to limit the increase in global average temperature to below two degrees Celsius. New Hampshire joins California, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Vermont and Washington as the only American states to sign the agreement. Hassan said *"The science is clear that greenhouse gas emissions and other man-made pollutants are the key contributors to climate change, which threatens our environment, our economy and our way of life."*

Signatories to the Under 2 MOU agree to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions 80 to 95 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

The reality is, the Under2MOU can be better described as an economic suicide pact ensuring signatory governments forfeit future economic growth by destroying the advantages low cost energy provides to small and large businesses.

There is NO evidence that climate change, which has been going on since the planet first had life, is now being affected by the burning of fossil fuel with the release of CO<sub>2</sub>. US weather satellites and weather balloon data show us there has been no global warming over the last 18.6 years. None. If you have child entering college, there has been no warming in their entire life even as CO<sub>2</sub> has increased 10.5%.

## Lower Atmosphere Global Temperatures



And despite claims to the contrary, winters have been growing colder here in the north. In the 10 northeast states, winters have cooled at a rate of 1.5F per decade over the last 20 years. This past January to March was the coldest in the northeast U.S. in the entire record. Winter snow, which the environmental scientists at UNH have promised our state government would become so low it would endanger our ski and maple sugar industries, is running at all time highs. The 16 major impact snow storms we have had in the first half of this decade is higher than any other full decade since the 1950s (the former record was 10 in the 1960s and 2000s).

There is also no trend in drought or flood globally. The last four years have been the quietest in a quarter century in terms of strong tornadoes in the US and there is no long-term tornado trend. We have smashed the record for the time between landfalls of major hurricanes (Category 3 or greater) in the United States (now over 10 years). The Fort Point Tide Gauge in New Castle, NH shows no change in sea-level from 2007 to 2015 and the Portland Maine Tide Gauge at the end of 2014 showed the same sea-level - to the millimeter - as it read 66 years ago in 1947!!!

That is not to say droughts or floods or major hurricanes have not occurred in some places globally, nor that with El Nino's help some are not stronger than average this year. But it is clear that the trends

and events are part of the natural cyclical variability of our weather and not the result of our energy choices.

The fears being generated by the administration, the UN and our state governments are based on failing climate models and driven by perverse ideology. But what about the economic impacts of the policy cures the alarmists demand?

Europe went through the green scare first and should provide lessons for us. Wind and solar subsidies have caused electricity and fuel prices to skyrocket and forced industries in Europe to outsource, moving jobs and businesses to other regions of the world. It has forced millions, mostly pensioners, into fuel poverty having to choose between heating and eating.

Here in New England, as we have raced towards more renewables and forced traditional base load power out of the region, we now have some of the highest electricity costs in the country. We have lost hundreds of thousands of good paying manufacturing jobs. Our youth are moving away from New Hampshire and New England to find opportunities where there is real economic growth.

In just the winter of 2013/14, the cost of electricity in New Hampshire was more than cost over the entire year of 2012. President Obama promised in 2008 that electricity prices would skyrocket and his Energy Secretary Chu predicted gasoline prices would reach \$8/gallon. Their hope was that this would spur sales of electric cars and cause an explosion in the use of solar and wind. Those plans fell apart due to fracking, which yielded a huge amount of less expensive oil and gas from private lands not controlled by the government. To overcome this, President Obama and the EPA have chosen to bypass Congress to regulate fracking and fossil fuel usage. The administration banned the Keystone Pipeline, which would have ensured low energy prices and provided our country a real competitive advantage.

Gov. Hassan's pen committing the state of New Hampshire to the Under2MOU, Obama's pen killing Keystone, the EPA's regulatory assault on business and the mischief afoot at the upcoming United Nations' COP 21 summit all threaten the tremendous potential and

even the economic survival of the west, and our Live Free or Die state.

*Joseph D'Aleo, a former college professor of Meteorology, was a co-founder of The Weather Channel and Chief Meteorologist the last 27 years for 3 weather companies. He is a CCM and Fellow of the American Meteorological Society.*