

“Warm, Watered and Well Fed is Better”

By Viv Forbes, *Chairman, The Carbon Sense Coalition*

INTRODUCTION:

In these strange hysterical times, "Global Warming" gets blamed for everything bad in our world, and carbon gets blamed for all global warming (even when it is getting colder). Both of these beliefs are wrong. There is no unusual global warming, and there is no evidence or sound theory to support the public panic about man's emissions of the harmless (in fact beneficial) plant food, carbon dioxide.

There is a growing disquiet about the many stupidities being done on the basis of flawed reasoning. If we do not pause and reflect where we are going, many people will be hurt by spiralling costs and shortages for all the necessities of life - food, fertiliser, energy, electricity, minerals, petrol, cement, steel. Just think for a moment, which of these you believe we can do without?

Attached below is a bit of Climate History - there is nothing new about Climate Change - it occurs all the time.

We hope you support our proposal (below) to give sheep the vote, thus making the electorate more intelligent.

MEDIA STATEMENT

The Carbon Sense Coalition today claimed that all government efforts to stop global warming and cut carbon dioxide emissions were anti-life and against the interests of all mankind.

The Chairman of “Carbon Sense”, Mr Viv Forbes, said that this generation of foolish politicians are the first in history to complain about the beneficial effects that have always accompanied the periodic but short warm eras that punctuate earth’s history.

“The human story is intimately tied to the grand cycles of climate and the Chicken Littles should study these before squawking.

“Distant climate history is well recorded in rock strata, ice cores, tree rings, ancient shore lines, marine sediments, pollen distribution, fossil occurrences, coral reef growth, distribution of ancient vegetation, stalactite growth rings and carbon isotope ratios. More recent history is abundantly supplemented in clay tablets, cave paintings, rock art, ancient scrolls, inscriptions, historical events and records, monuments and epitaphs, the rise and

fall of empires and direct records of temperature, sun spots, river levels, rainfall, droughts, floods, heat waves and bone chilling blizzards.

“Anyone who studies these records will see that eras warmer than today are periodic but short chapters in the earth story. The most recent major ice age ended a mere 11,500 year ago, when the Modern Interglacial commenced. Since then, earth has experienced five warm eras.

“In the first warm era starting about 4300 BC, the Sahara bloomed with plants, forests spread over Northern Europe and Canada and there was sufficient water for irrigation in Arabia. This era ended when blizzards and ice returned for nearly 1,000 years. Another short warm era started about 1450 BC, but was ended by another bout of cold dry weather that caused depopulation in Greece and Turkey and hardship everywhere.

“In the Roman Warm era, starting about 250 BC, the world smiled again and populations grew. But the warmth was cut short by the return of the snows which forced Vikings and Norsemen out of their frozen North to pillage and then colonise warmer southern lands.

“Then we had the Medieval Warm Period, starting about 800 AD, a time of great achievement and prosperity. Farmers moved back into Scotland and Norway, Greenland was colonised and corn was grown. Vineyards produced wine near Manchester, in East Prussia and Norway. Even Tasmania warmed up. Trade and industry flourished and people had surpluses for culture and education. Cambridge, Oxford and Bologna Universities were founded and cathedrals and temples were built at Westminster Abbey, Notre Dame, Canterbury, Cologne, Florence, Castile and Angkor Wat.

“But Jack Frost returned with the Little Ice Age starting about 1300 AD. Famine, food riots and disease again stalked Europe. Glaciers advanced, ice caps expanded, droughts and blizzards became more common and gales wracked Europe (and destroyed the Spanish Armada). Frosts killed orchards, North Sea cod moved south, food prices soared and farms were abandoned. In Scotland and Norway the capitals moved south and villages were abandoned. The Greenland colony perished. During the frigid years of the Dalton Minimum (1790 – 1820 AD) Napoleon’s Grand Army perished in a bitter Russian winter.

“Then in 1860, with no help from men burning coal or oil, earth started to warm again. This continued until 1942. A cooling spell from 1942 to 1976 had the Alarmists worried that the ice was about to return, but warming resumed from 1976 to 1998. Temperatures have been cooling slightly since then, despite the boom in burning of coal and oil.

“Even a casual glance at climate and human history will show that the warm eras like today are far more beneficial for all life than the cold dry eras.

“People prefer warm climates. They do not flock to Alaska, Archangel or Antarctica for winter – they head for Bermuda, the Black Sea or Bali. All over the world, the human race is migrating towards the sun belts – Florida, the Riviera, and Capricornia – very few

volunteer to live in Siberia or Patagonia. President Putin voiced what many Russians must think – “a bit of warmth would be welcome here”.

“Moreover, a bit of warmth would vastly increase the land suitable for growing food and fibres. On the other hand, a slight cooling would take much of the farmlands of Canada, Northern Eurasia and New Zealand out of production, and parts of Tasmania and Victoria may have to convert from producing wheat and dairy products to farming caribou or reindeer.

“Warm eras also provide more rainfall because of the additional evaporation from oceans, lakes, snow and ice, followed by additional precipitation via rain and snow.

“When warmth and moisture are combined with more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the beneficial effects on plant life are multiplied. A doubling of the CO₂ content of the air would have insignificant effect on global warming but would have marvellous effects on plant (and then animal) life:

1. Growth rate of herbaceous plants would increase 30%
2. Growth rate of forest plants would increase 50%
3. All plants would be more tolerant of drought and heat
4. Food production would need less land and less artificial fertiliser

“All of this magic can be achieved by allowing man’s activities to recycle more CO₂ and water to the atmosphere. Why then are politicians taxing carbon and encouraging people to waste money on foolish schemes such as trying to bury valuable carbon dioxide in artificial and expensive carbon cemeteries?

“The whole animal kingdom, including mankind, relies totally on plants to survive. Without grasses and cereals on land and plankton in the sea, most of mankind would starve.

“All plants need moisture, warmth, and carbon dioxide to grow and flourish. Why then are we having hysterics because the earth is currently blessed with more than average of these three magic life sustainers?

“Even the dumbest sheep in Australia knows that being warm, watered and well fed is better than being cold, thirsty and starving.”

“Maybe we should give sheep a vote?”

Selected References:

Moore, Thomas Gale, 1995: “Global Warming – a Boon to Humans and Other Animals”, Hoover Institution, Stanford University.

Idso, Sherwood, and Idso, Craig, 2007: “Carbon Dioxide & Global Change: Separating Scientific Fact from Personal Opinion”. www.co2science.org

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Disclosure of Interest:

Viv Forbes earns income from three carbon emitting industries, coal, cattle and sheep. He hates frosts, droughts and starving stock. He also uses cement, steel and electricity, buys diesel for his tractor, petrol for his car and gas for his barby. He uses trains and occasionally boards an aeroplane. He eats carbon based foods, pays taxes and uses government services funded by taxes on the carbon industries. All of these industries and services will be harmed by carbon taxes, emissions trading or carbon sequestration. He is also a scientist, investment analyst, computer modeller and political analyst. Like the great majority of Australians, he has a big vested interest in the outcome of this historic debate.

PS We have made a submission to the Garnaut Enquiry into Global Warming. We hope you can spread it around. You can find it:

<http://carbon-sense.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/01/garnaut-submission.pdf>

We have also called for an ANZIG Enquiry into the Science of Global Warming. See:

<http://carbon-sense.com/2008/02/05/time-for-an-australia-new-zealand-royal-commission-on-global-warming/>