

# DOWNLOAD PDF OVERSIGHT HEARING ON THE KYOTO PROTOCOL: THE UNDERMINING OF AMERICAN PROSPERITY

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*Oversight hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: the undermining of American prosperity: hearing before the Committee on Small Business, House of Representatives, One Hundred Fifth Congress, second session, Washington, DC, June 4,*

Testimony of James L. Finally, I will address the specific allegations made regarding the integrity of the inter-agency review that was provided for drafts of an Environmental Protection Agency report know as the Draft Report on the Environment. Even as we solidify our understanding of many aspects of climate change, this funding enables scientists at home and abroad to further their investigation of some of the most pressing and challenging research questions. Their efforts are significantly advancing our understanding of climate change and informing policymaking at the highest levels. Their peer-reviewed research and other scientific information are widely available to, and disseminated among, experts and the public. Our Federal agency websites provide the public access to tens of thousands of pages related to climate change, including advancements in science. These webavailable documents are a reflection of the substantial public and professional work, discourse, lectures, and other communications that take place every day of the year on this important subject. Over the last six years, this Administration has sought the advice and counsel of scientists from thirteen government agencies and departments, from the authoritative, non-partisan National Academies of Sciences, and in developing a strategic plan received comments from scientists from 36 countries, all in an effort to guide Federal climate change science and technology research and policymaking with the best available scientific advice. That advice and counsel has been reflected in comments on draft documents and in final agency policy and budget documents, as well as reports, speeches, and communications materials developed using the interagency policy review process that has been a routine part of executive branch decision-making in both Democratic and Republican Administrations. The Administration will continue to support and elicit such outside advice and counsel, as well as take full advantage of executive branch expertise and viewpoints to guide policy development from the highly accomplished political and career staff whose job it is to coordinate and participate in such processes. These individuals bring an important diversity of professional experience and skills important to policymaking, including the many scientific disciplines related to the mechanics of the climate system, biology, transportation, chemistry, engineering, economics, energy, agriculture, construction, law, accounting, and communications among others. Over the last six years, this laudable record of ongoing support, publication, and communication of world-class climate change research, has at times been overshadowed because of misunderstandings, and in some cases misrepresentations, about the deliberative processes of developing and communicating policies related to climate science, and its interface with policy, management, and budgeting. The questions this Committee is examining are not new. Most in fact are several years old. Prior Congresses and Members of both parties have looked at them closely in the context of hearings, letter inquiries and oversight. On those past occasions, as now, the Administration worked cooperatively with Congress to address questions about climate change science, policy, and management. I have attached to this testimony copies of representative documents the Administration previously provided to Congress in response to many of the same matters once again being explored by this Committee. See also July 11, Testimony of J. Of particular focus today is the interagency review process concerning several Administration climate change documents, and the role played in reviewing those documents by my former chief of staff, Phil Cooney. Questions surfaced nearly two years ago about proposed changes and edits made by Mr. Cooney to those documents. James Mahoney, a Ph. The most pertinent for our purposes today is the letter Dr. Mahoney sent responding to Sen. In that letter, Dr. Mahoney outlined the interagency process that governed review of documents produced for the CCSP. The referenced reports were produced through a customary interagency review process. The comments and suggested revisions were considered by CCSPO scientific staff working under my supervision or by me, and revised drafts were prepared. These drafts were again circulated for final clearance and release. Mahoney also stated explicitly

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that he had reviewed the reports and concluded that the content of those reports was scientifically sound. He further noted that changes and edits suggested by Mr. Cooney were both warranted and factually accurate, and that the final reports contained no errors or misstatements of fact: These 4 proposed edits ranged from corrections of grammatical errors to suggestions for insertions or deletions of text. To the best of my knowledge, the edits proposed by CEQ did not misstate any specific scientific fact, but some of the proposed edits challenged the degree of confidence to be attached to various scientific statements. As is the case for all reports produced through the CCSP interagency process, some of the proposed edits were accepted and others were modified or rejected. To the best of my knowledge, no errors were contained in the two reports. Accordingly, as you carry out your oversight of the strong record of U. Private sector investment in science, technology and other activities related to climate is also massive, backed up increasingly in recent years by initiatives at the state and local level. This percentage increase was lower than that achieved by Japan 2. In March , the President convened a Cabinet-level working group, including the Departments of Treasury, State, Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a comprehensive review of climate change science and policy. In a letter to Dr. Its effects cannot be reined in by an army nor advanced by any ideology. Climate change, with its potential to impact every corner of the world, is an issue that must be addressed by the world. The book contained many separate quotations or references to the NRC report. It also contained several chapters highlighting in detail current domestic actions, an analysis of the Kyoto Protocol, scientific research priorities, ways to promote and advance technology, and efforts to address climate change on an international level. At the time, the Energy Information Administration EIA projected that annual developing country emissions of carbon dioxide would double between and “an increase that represented over twice as many tons as all of the reductions the United States would be required to take under the Kyoto Protocol. Six years later, the situation is even more pronounced: Another major flaw was the severe burden the treaty would have imposed on the U. GDP by as much as four percent. Senate voted 95 to 0 in to approve the Byrd-Hagel resolution. That resolution stated that the United States would not be a signatory to any international climate change treaty that exempted developing country parties e. Because the Kyoto Protocol failed the Byrd-Hagel test, in its remaining three years, the prior Administration never submitted the treaty to the Senate for ratification. To the contrary, my administration is committed to a leadership role on the issue of climate change. We recognize our responsibility and will meet it “at home, in our hemisphere, and in the world. In addition to reaffirming U. We will challenge American businesses to further reduce emissions We will build on these successes with new agreements and greater reductions. Many of these initiatives were summarized in a policy book released the same day. In my testimony before this Committee last summer, I discussed these initiatives and many more that were added since Supporting and Advancing Science A key component of this policy was to strengthen Federal climate change science programs. Here, too, the President endeavored to follow the advice and recommendations of the NRC. In Global Environmental Change: In , the President created the Climate Change Research Initiative CCRI , which focused on near-term research priorities, including advancing understanding of aerosols, carbon sources and sinks, and climate modeling. The CCRI builds on the USGCRP, with a focus on accelerating progress of the most important issues and uncertainties in climate science, enhancing climate observation systems, and improving the integration of scientific knowledge into policy and management decisions and evaluation of management strategies and choices. That organization is the Committee on Climate Change Science and Technology Integration CCSTI , which was designed to improve government-wide management of climate science and climate-related technology research and development. The management structure places accountability and leadership for the science and technology programs at the highest level in each of the relevant cabinet departments and agencies. Ongoing research continues to be coordinated through the National Science and Technology Council in accordance with the Global Change Research Act of It oversees the program, including setting top-level goals for the program and determining what products will be developed and produced to meet those goals. In July , in order to advance the priority research recommendations he

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received from the NRC, the President directed the CCSP to prepare a year strategic 10 plan, a first for the program. About 1, scientists and other participants attended the session, including individuals from 47 states and 36 nations. Written comments on the Discussion Draft Strategic Plan were submitted during a public review period ending in January. The CCSP received comments from hundreds of scientists, interest groups, and other members of the public. In addition, the Administration asked a special committee of the NRC to review the discussion draft plan and reported its detailed recommendations in February. The final Strategic Plan for the U. Climate Change Science Program was released in July after consideration of all of the workshop discussions, the full range of written public review comments, and the NRC review of the discussion draft plan, as well as an extensive internal U. The final product was submitted once more to the NRC for review prior to publication. Advancing science on all fronts identified by the program will be of vital importance to the nation. A Review of the Final U. The Strategic Plan is now guiding research activities sponsored or conducted by the U. Government and serves as an important point of reference for activities undertaken in other countries. It will be modified as warranted by the emergence of key findings and important new scientific questions of public interest. A portion of this work recently was synthesized in a process co-chaired by Dr. Susan Solomon, an internationally renowned U. As noted earlier, in March of , the President commissioned the NRC to conduct a comprehensive survey of the latest climate science. He began with the fact that the earth is warming and that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities contribute: First, we know the surface temperature of the earth is warming. It has risen by. There was a warming trend from the s to the s. Cooling from the s to the s. And then sharply rising temperatures from the s to today. Concentration of greenhouse gases, especially CO<sub>2</sub>, has increased substantially since the beginning of the industrial revolution. And the National Academy of Sciences indicates that the increase is due in large part to human activity. We do not know how much our climate could, or will change in the future. We do not know how fast change will occur, or even how some of our actions could impact it. For example, our useful efforts to reduce sulfur emissions may have actually increased warming, because sulfate particles reflect sunlight, bouncing it back into space. And finally, no one can say with any certainty what constitutes a dangerous level of warming, and therefore what level must be avoided. While scientific uncertainties remain, we can begin now to address the factors that contribute to climate change. Temperatures are, in fact, rising. The changes observed over the last several decades are likely mostly due to human activities, but we cannot rule out that some significant part of these changes is also a reflection of natural variability. For example, the NRC cautioned against relying on estimates of future warming because of uncertainty about the role of natural variability in the climate system:

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## Chapter 2 : The National Anxiety Center:

*Oversight Hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: The Undermining of American Prosperity; and The Kyoto Protocol: The Undermining of American Prosperity Paperback - by U.S. Congress (Author).*

Are the tools for global governance in place? Did our president express the best interest of the United States? What can citizens of the U. While the methods for implementation were vague, the goals for accomplishment were incredibly specific. Everything was promised to everyone. The underlying theme was simple: The world has problems. Give us the power. The most deceptive aspect of all this, is the that U. Dictatorial Powers The most frightening new direction the United Nations is taking after their summit is the change in which authority determines the deployment of peacekeeping missions. Traditionally, this authority has been the U. Security Council, a board consisting of the major heads of state. This allows the major contributing nations to decide whether or not certain deployments are worthy of their contributed resources. Most importantly, it gives the United States the hands-down most generous contributor to the U. Now, peacekeeping decisions will be the sole authority of the U. No more input from the pesky United States. Let President Clinton tell you in his own words, in his address to the U. Security Council at the Millennium Summit. They need to be able to be peacekeepers who can be rapidly deployed, properly trained and equipped, able to project credible force. The United States strongly supports that report. This court would empower the United Nations to enforce its own rule of law. As stated in these pages before, the ICC would reign supreme over every other judicial system in the worldâ€”including that of the United States. At the Summit, the Statute for the ICC was signed by an additional 12 countries and ratified by four. The statute now has a total of signatures and 19 ratifications. This is nearly one third of the 60 total ratifications the ICC must have to enter into force. Also stressed at the Summit, was the need for the United Nations to have its own fighting force for supposed peacekeeping missions. This army would consist of soldiers from varying nationsâ€”who would transform their allegiance to the U. This proposal has been labeled many things, most notably the U. In reality, this is no more than a U. A Turkey in Every Pot The Millennium Summit also served as a stage for the leaders of the United Nations to gain support for their plans of eradicating poverty. Of course, no one likes poverty, however, the U. We must redistribute the wealthâ€”welfare for all. Throughout their own report, the U. Through their grand, socialist redistribution scheme, the U. Much like other totalitarian regimes, the United Nations knows that if they can control the flow of goods and services to the peopleâ€”they can control the people themselves. For his part, President Clinton also made global promises regarding education of all things. Clinton wishes to force our own failed public education system on the entire world. In his speech to the Security Council he declared: We are helping to move toward that goal, in part, with our effort to provide school lunches to 9 million boys and girls in developing nations. Even in the midst of overwhelming scientific evidence that shows manmade global warming to be a myth, in its declaration, the U. I predict that within a decadeâ€”or maybe even a little lessâ€”that will become as big an obstacle to the development of poor nations as disease is today. Clinton is dead wrong in this respect. The biggest obstacle to poor nations would be the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, as it would force developing countries to industrialize within the framework of massive restrictions on the amount of greenhouse gasses they could emit. The World Changed In the end, the leaders of the United Nations left the Millennium Summit with a renewed sense of power and a mandate to implement the policies called for in the Charter for Global Democracy. The Declaration was passed by general consensus, meaning no vote was taken and none of the proposals were debated. No recorded vote was taken. In a sense, the world changed in early Septemberâ€”yet the U. Congress remains in the dark.

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## Chapter 3 : Al Gore - Wikipedia

*Oversight hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: The undermining of American prosperity: hearing before the Committee on Small Business, House of second session, Washington, DC, June 4, Paperback -*

Representative who later served for 18 years as a U. Albans School , an independent college preparatory day and boarding school for boys in Washington, D. Albans senior prom in She was from the nearby St. During his sophomore year, he reportedly spent much of his time watching television, shooting pool , and occasionally smoking marijuana. He was against that war, but he disagreed with the tactics of the student protest movement. He thought that it was silly and juvenile to use a private university as a venue to vent anger at the war. John Tyson, a former roommate, recalled that "We distrusted these movements a lot His father, a vocal anti- Vietnam War critic, was facing a reelection in Gore eventually decided that enlisting in the Army would be the best way that he could contribute to the anti-war effort. Coming face to face with those sentiments expressed by people who did the laundry and ran the restaurants and worked in the fields was something I was naively unprepared for. Still, he felt that his participation in the war was wrong. He later said he went there in order to explore "spiritual issues", [24] and that "he had hoped to make sense of the social injustices that seemed to challenge his religious beliefs. His decision to become an attorney was a partial result of his time as a journalist, as he realized that, while he could expose corruption, he could not change it. Congress at the age of 28 and stayed there for the next 16 years, serving in both the House 85 and the Senate By contrast, Gore asked his father to stay out of his campaign: He was "unopposed in the Democratic Senatorial primary and won the general election going away", despite the fact that Republican President Ronald Reagan swept Tennessee in his reelection campaign the same year. Before computers were comprehensible, let alone sexy, the poker-faced Gore struggled to explain artificial intelligence and fiber-optic networks to sleepy colleagues. He was the first elected official to grasp the potential of computer communications to have a broader impact than just improving the conduct of science and scholarship [ When the Internet was still in the early stages of its deployment, Congressman Gore provided intellectual leadership by helping create the vision of the potential benefits of high speed computing and communication. Albert ran across the street to see his friend and was hit by a car. His eyes were open with the nothingness stare of death, and we prayed, the two of us, there in the gutter, with only my voice. The Gores spent the next month in the hospital with Albert. But I am also a father, and I feel deeply about my responsibility to my children[ Gore carried seven states in the primaries, finishing third overall. Although Gore initially denied that he intended to run, his candidacy was the subject of speculation: Gore a long-shot for the Presidential nomination, but many believe he could provide a natural complement for any of the other candidates: He currently denies any interest, but he carefully does not reject the idea out of hand. Gore thought he would be the only serious Southern contender; he had not counted on Jesse Jackson. Gore then dropped out of the race. Bush administration over global warming issues, he decided to accept the offer. Not with two Southerners from neighboring states. A couple of left-of-center moderates. Gore called the ticket "a new generation of leadership". Clinton and Gore were inaugurated on January 20, At the beginning of the first term, they developed a "two-page agreement outlining their relationship". Clinton involved Gore in decision-making to an unprecedented degree for a Vice President. Besides the record-high surpluses and the record-low poverty rates, the economy could boast the longest economic expansion in history; the lowest unemployment since the early s; and the lowest poverty rates for single mothers, black Americans, and the aged. Also earmarked [were] a raft of basic technologies like digital imaging and data storage. The Clinton-Gore administration also launched the first official White House website in and subsequent versions through March 9, Glenn T. It was a mistake. I was advised there was nothing wrong with that. My counsel tells me there is no controlling legal authority that says that is any violation of any law. In Spring , Conrad asked Reno to appoint an independent counsel to continue the investigation. After looking into the matter, Reno judged that the

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appointment of an independent counsel was unwarranted. In a speech on the Gulf War , Gore stated that he twice attempted to get the U. Gore initially defended Clinton, whom he believed to be innocent, stating, "He is the president of the country! He is my friend [

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## Chapter 4 : Testimony of James L. Connaughton

*President George W. Bush strongly supported the Kyoto Protocol of , which sought to combat global warming. false Prior to Hurricane Katrina, nearly 30 percent of New Orleans's population lived in poverty.*

The National Anxiety Center Founded in by Alan Caruba, a business and science writer, the Center is a clearinghouse for information about "scare campaigns" designed to influence public opinion and policies. The Court is composed of lawyers, not scientists. At this point in the present era, the Court has made rulings that run contrary to the original, clear intent of the U. Constitution and has wrought havoc on our society. In it ruled that the killing of unborn babies was protected and millions since then have been deliberately killed. It extended protection to sodomy and same-sex marriage. In , I wrote a commentary that was published in The Washington Times. The Clean Air Act and revisions passed in the s, s, and s. Carbon monoxide emissions have fallen from million tons to 89 million tons. Nitrogen oxide emissions fell from 27 million tons to 19 million tons. Sulfur dioxide emissions fell from 31 million tons to 15 million tons. The air in the U. In states that are more heavily industrialized and which have a large number of coal-fired plants on which the EPA wants to impose expensive standards that have no basis in fact. A coalition led by Texas of more than a dozen other states brought a case, Environmental Protection Agency v. In August , the D. Circuit only rarely overturns EPA rules, which shows how out of bounds the cross-state regulation is. Stringent domestic laws and regulations, moreover, do not take into consideration the role of many other nations whose emissions are far greater than those produced here. The Earth is in what will likely be a lengthy cycle of cooling based on reduced solar radiation. It recently snowed in Egypt and in Israel where snow has long been a rarity. The Supreme Court has played a role in this threat, ruling without any attention to real science, traditional values, and the clear intent of the Constitution.

## Chapter 5 : Browse subject: Global warming | The Online Books Page

*Oversight Hearing on the Kyoto Protocol: The Undermining of American Prosperity?--The Science Wednesday, July 29, AM Ravburn House Office Building.*