



This article first released by: Association of British Drivers

In: Nov. 2005

*Due to this article's content, it appears within the Transport section in the following areas:
Government, Industry Comment.*

Environment Secretary Confused About Climate

Speaking at a gathering of energy and environment ministers in London, Environment Secretary Mrs Margaret Beckett asserted that the ultimate goal was for all countries to use any means they can to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide they release and so achieve a stable climate.

The Association of British Drivers suspects that this may well involve the removal of more cash from motorists in pursuit of a futile King Canute strategy that is bound to fail. Meanwhile this government and others sit on their hands, on top of their piles of eco-taxes, while sensible planning for the impact of natural and inevitable climate change is barely noticeable.

In view of the fact that climate has been changing relentlessly for more than 5 billion years, it is risible to suggest that taxes and restrictions will alter the geological, solar system and cosmic forces that cause it. They cannot and will not. In the Medieval Warm Period, our climate was

significantly warmer than now, while in the Little Ice Age which endured from the early seventeenth century to the middle of the eighteenth - contemporaneously with the Maunder Minimum in solar activity - the River Thames repeatedly froze to such a depth that frost festivals were held on it. On longer timescales, temperatures have swung by ten times the current modest hundred year rise of about half a degree, and in the space of a human lifetime. Needless to say, all of this was long before cars and factories existed.

"The desire and aim to achieve a stable climate reveals staggering levels of scientific ignorance amongst ministers and pressure groups" said ABD Chairman, Brian Gregory. "The ocean-atmosphere of our planet is a non-linear, chaotic, coupled system. Ministers apparently fail to understand what this means."

"There is a wealth of evidence in peer-reviewed scientific literature to show that climate has always changed, markedly so (1), and apart from volcanic eruptions and other sporadic events, climate change is linked with variations in solar activity, the earth's rotation and orbit, plus cosmic

ray flux (2). Carbon dioxide shifts appear to match up, but always occur after major temperature shifts, not before (3). Apart from the 'GIGO' output of the IPCC's expensive but flawed computer models there is no credible evidence that mankind is causing the climate change we notice now and in historical records."

Amongst others, Danish meteorologist Dr K Lassen has studied the earth's average temperature over the last four centuries (4) and concludes "70-90 years oscillations in global mean temperature are correlated with corresponding oscillations in solar activity. Whereas the solar influence is obvious in the data from the last four centuries, signatures of human activity are not yet distinguishable in the observations".

The ABD calls for an end to propaganda on climate change and a stop on the disingenuous revenue generation attached to it.