

False Alarm: Global Warming – Facts Versus Fears

By Paul MacRae

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PAUL MACRAE'S BOOK ABOUT ANTHROPOGENIC (HUMAN-CAUSED) global warming (AGW), *False Alarm*, raises some serious and valid questions about the AGW hypothesis at a time when it is increasingly being questioned. The author spent two and a half years researching historical, geological, scientific, psychological and other disciplines associated with the AGW hypothesis. The AGW alarmists basically state that human's increased use of fossil fuels, and the subsequent release of CO₂ into the atmosphere, is the main driver of increased global temperatures for most of the slight warming trend seen since the Little Ice Age, and that if these carbon emissions are left unchecked catastrophic consequences will result.

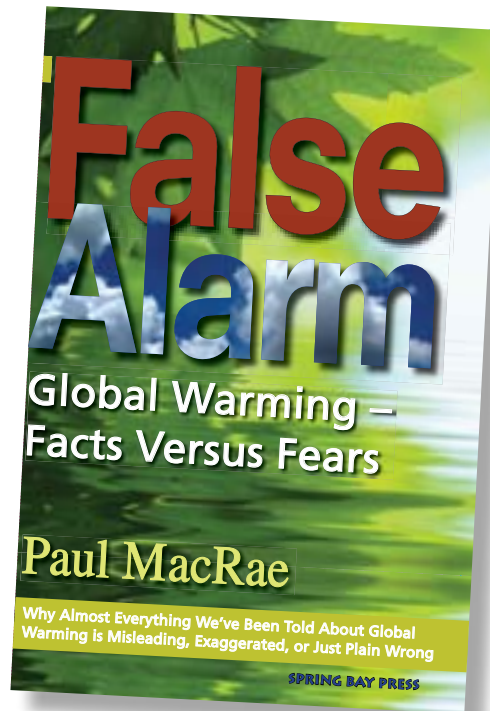
MacRae is not a proponent of the AGW hypothesis, and using his journalism background and well-honed research skills, he has logically developed and presented information supporting his belief that humans are not the main cause of global warming. MacRae believes that political, psychological and economic factors are driving climate alarmist's fears more than pure science.

MacRae shows evidence that the earth's temperature and CO₂ concentrations are continually changing and we are now in an interglacial period. Although CO₂ levels have been rising since the turn of the century, the earth has gone through periods of global temperature increases and decreases. He further says that, since the mid-90s, average global temperatures have not risen and have, in fact, fallen slightly

MacRae also addresses the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the main proponent of AGW hypothesis, who, according to MacRae, is driven by political ideology, rather than scientific principles, which

taint's the science associated with global warming research. For example, MacRae says, the IPCC's mission is to find human-caused global warming and not to dwell on natural

causes and what the relative impact of each might be. As well, the IPCC implies that there is consensus among scientists about AGW. MacRae shows that there is no consensus, and that, in fact, scientific data about global warming is often suppressed, falsified (climategate), and dissenting views are discouraged by the IPCC and climate alarmists. He uses the example of how individuals with dissenting views, such as Bjorn Lomborg and Rex Murphy, were dealt with.



MacRae also reviews the AGW bible, *An Inconvenient Truth* by Al Gore, and identifies several 'convenient' errors that he feels play to a political agenda, such as the idea that CO₂ has driven temperatures upward; that there is 100 percent scientific consensus on human-causing global warming; that polar bears are becoming endangered; and that 40,000 species are going extinct every year.

As well, he looks at the psychological and philosophical aspects of AGW hypothesis and suggests that it is based less on science and more on ideology, belief and moral conviction, which he compares to religious beliefs. In MacRae's opinion, religion and science should be kept separate, and in the case of AGW hypothesis this has not happened. From a scientific point of view, says MacRae, this has resulted in eight basic scientific principles not being adhered to. He also discusses how 'groupthink' has affected how scientists exercise their critical powers and willingness to openly express their doubts. *False Alarm* also touches on the economics of the AGW hypothesis including the inequitable (five billion dollars annually in the USA alone) funding research into human causes of global warming, the economic and environmental impacts of reducing CO₂ emissions, personal gains and the benefits of increased CO₂.

MacRae does not tell the reader what to believe, but offers reasonable explanations and arguments as to why the AGW hypothesis should not be accepted as gospel. As I was reading this book I thought, "Why aren't the media and politicians investigating the climate alarmist's claims when there is so much evidence to the contrary?" The book eventually answers the question—they are up against a multi-billion dollar Goliath and it is easier to ride the Goliath bandwagon and feed off the gravy train than question it.

False Alarm does tend to be a bit long on some issues, there is no index and there aren't many visual aids to guide the reader along. However, it does provide a large source of verifiable references which allows the reader to confirm MacRae's assertions and make up their own mind.

I would recommend this book and think it will appeal to a wide cross-section of people, be they average citizens, professionals, media or, especially, politicians and government officials who may be making bad environmental policies based on the current widely-held perceptions about AGW alarmists claims. 🐼

RANKING: 3.5 OUT OF 5 CONES

