COVER LETTER

The key objection to the merger is that HydroOne, as demonstrated by their actions in Ontario, is unfit for this purpose and incompatible with customers of the Avista territory.

Attached are the subject articles that explain the problems with Avista becoming a Hydro One subsidiary. Another representative of our organization (local rep. for eastern Washington, Citizens Alliance for Property Rights) and I talked with the Avista government affairs executives on January 6, 2018 and became even more alarmed that they know nothing about the ghastly happenings with electric power in Ontario or the reasons that Ontarians' are suffering as a result, a subject which is well documented in that Canadian province, but unknown outside Ontario, so Ontarians are suffering in "isolation".

The attached two page document is an "Executive Summary" is appended to a longer (35-page) fully referenced document (175 footnoted references), which I include also. The executive summary highlights all key concerns.

The events occurring in Ontario that concern HydroOne need to be known and examined so that Avista customers might confront Avista Corp. or the Commission. Furthermore, the acquisition of Avista must be approved by the Utility Commissions in states they operate, so the commission members must be informed of circumstances by disinterested parties other than Avista and events about HydroOne's history that concern its ownership of Avista Corp., Avista's hydroelectric dams, HydroOne's re-fashioning of dams as carbon credits, access in the future to hydropower from dams and other issues.

Of great concern is that customers of HydroOne in Ontario, especially rural customers without benefit of natural gas, paid (in Canadian currency) CN48.9 cents per kilowatt-hour for electricity in 2017 (an amount determined by dividing the total invoice by the electricity use), a rate which in 2018 increased again by $141 per month per customer to equivalent of CN66.2 cents per kwhr. Hydro One says it will increase rates again in 2019 by $144/mo. so electricity in Ontario will cost equivalent CN83.9 cents per kwhr next year. This compares with 5.9 cents per kwhr for Kootenai Electric and 6.97 cents per kwhr for Northern Lights. As I explain the bulk (75% or more) of the invoiced charges in Ontario are for *"global adjustment fees*", a fee unique to Ontario, a fee without upper limit, while the electric use charge repre-esents 25% or less of the customer invoice. The extraordinary global adjustment fees are defined later.

Another concern is that Ontario rates have been driven by Ontario's government's fear of carbon dioxide that it might affect climate, that Ontario can do its share to change climate because they believe that carbon dioxide (CO_2) controls temperature, so their actions taken include scuttling their coal plants, once the best fleet in North America, for replacements by wind turbines and sweetheart contracts with wind providers which adds 10-fold to the going electric costs, the *global adjustment fees* increasing in the main. Because most people have been climate brainwashed, they accept the "fear of carbon dioxide exerting a profound effect on climate" as truthful while this effect is impossible. Carbon dioxide is a plant fertilizer, required for plant photosynthesis . It's proven that carbon dioxide is unrelated to temperature or climate, a conclusion which is easily drawn based on information submitted here. So, the concern (perhaps it should be concern #1) is that HydroOne and Avista, both unaware that the carbon dioxide-related climate scare is a lie, in concert, will introduce, reinforce, and enforce Ontario's fear of CO2 to scuttle Avista's thermal electric power sources, introduce wind turbines in the Avista territory as main power sources and consider scuttling hydroelectric dams, which will greatly impact river trade from or to Idaho and Montana. Again, such is based on the false assumption that wind turbines are clean energy sources, but they are just the opposite. Taken together, there is possibility that if these courses of action are followed that costs will be passed on to customers. There is concern that Avista management will be overtaken by the concern for climate change, in the false belief that such is a true event, that Avista management will enforce actions to mitigate climate. This is a view to which HydroOne subscribes, but no proof for climate change has ever been advanced, so any mitigation action taken is without merit, and senseless. It is the expending money and resources needlessly and adding costs that will directly impact customers that is also a key concern.

Another concern is the introduction of *cap and trade* and *taxation* of carbon dioxide in Canada and Ontario. Washington has renewable portfolio standards for purpose of mitigating carbon dioxide but Idaho does not. Thank goodness for Idaho. Both of these practices are favored by democrats, Washington's Gov. Inslee, Calif. Gov. Brown, Ontario's Premier Kathleen Wynne, and Oregon's Gov. Brown. Each of these people want to use the Paris Agreement on climate and Obama's Clean Power Plan as pathways to make electricity unaffordable within their respective states. Ontario's calamity-inviting goals have for more than a decade proved themselves as failed social experiments in Europe, UK, Australia, and U.S. as shown here: Ontario-Wind-Resistance.org, StopTheseThings.com and EPAW.org. So, Ontario's, Washington's and other lawmakers aren't historically- or scientifically-knowledgeable. The greatest threat remains the (1) Avista acquisition and (2) any action to enforce a reduction in CO2 gas because both clearly deceives the public and defies the best scientific knowledge. Many concerns persist. There is reason to be concerned also that HydroOne's responsibilities in Ontario about cap and trade, Ontario's Green Energy Act, Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan, Avista's loss of ownership of its hydroelectric dams, Avista's loss of rights to the Columbia River as a hydropower resource, Ontario's carbon taxes, and these mandates taken collectively handed down from HydroOne will be translated cross-border to Avista Corp. and impact Avista's customers.

Organization of written materials:

1. Cover letter
2. The two page article is entitled "Should Avista Corp. become HydroOne". This article represents an Executive Summary to the following 35-page article.
3. The 35-page article more fully explains why to "Cancel the Sale of Avista......" and well referenced.
4. YouTube video..."The Avista Utilities...."

Mr. Boleneus' experience. He practices professionally as a geologist/geophysicist and holds Master's Degrees in geology and Business with 45 years of experience, holds professional registrations with the State of Washington, SME and DOI, is retired as a research geologist from the U.S. Dept. of Interior in 2007. For 10 years he has operated a wheat growing operation on the family farm in its 104th operating year. Also during those last ten years he collects and analyzes data on electric power and many other subjects related to natural resource business. He regularly follows the scientifically literature on climate change and lectured at several venues in eastern Washington on "Climate Change: Why Its Not Happening—How the Public Has Been Deceived". He has presented his views about the Avista acquisition before public audiences on three occasions. Carbon dioxide was a related topic of his graduate thesis, and in doing so makes him very familiar with its effects and benefits.

Should AVISTA CORP. become HYDRO ONE?

Hydro One, a provider of electric power in Ontario, Canada wants to acquire Avista Corp., headquartered in Spokane, in a CN$6.7 billion deal and approved by shareholders in November. The deal exposes Avista electric customers to nightmarish effects of foreign practices, policies and impacts that Avista seems unaware. Following is what we have learned of possible impacts upon Avista's 377,000 customers that stretch across a 30,000 square mile area in five states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. Customers without say in this deal must confront the companies about these issues.

- Utility commissions in these five states must approve the merger with *HydroOne*, a review process that will begin in February 2018. A yet-to-be-named Canadian holding company will take ownership of Avista but it's unclear how this shields Avista customers from human hardships and job-killing[1] experiences by Ontarians caused by Ontario's **Green Energy Act, 2009**[2].
- *Hydro One's* electric costs rocketed to North America's highest cost electricity in 2015 at 29.9 cents/kilowatt-hour (low density urban), a direct result of green energy laws. *Hydro One* promised to add $285 more in 2018-2019, increasing customer billings to 12 times larger than Avista's 2016 small business rate of 7.1 cents per kilowatt-hour and 35 times larger than Chelan and Douglas County PUDs 2.36 cents/kwhr rate[3].
- Ontario's seniors cannot afford *HydroOne's* electricity. One in 20 businesses closed, including grocers. Ruralites now rely on backyard generators and families must weigh paying electric bills against feeding children[4]. 58,000 households were cut off that couldn't pay bills. Just before Christmas families had to decide whether to eat or heat. Disconnects grew 19% to 392,963, with arrears debt growing 40% in one year to $134,886,000[5].
- *HydroOne's* service is poor. It charges ratepayers more for deteriorating service yet ignored 10,000 complaints about high costs. Its outages are 30% longer, 24% more frequent. Their transmission system is in considerable disrepair, the least reliable of Canada's distribution companies[6][7]. Economists and company CEO's say rates cause Ontario 'serious harm.
- Just 27% of billing is electricity used. Ontario's Auditor General repeatedly slams its electricity sector as dysfunctional as customers over-paid $37 billion for electricity because 73% of billings are for *green mandates, global adjustments and delivery fees.*
- *HydroOne* is a two-year old quasi-private/public company, a monopoly, exempt from public oversight, FOIA requests, customer complaints and its Sunshine list. The Province's still owns 70% of HydroOne.
- Avista customers may share responsibility in *HydroOne's* carbon emissions mandates that become increasingly cost-prohibitive in 2020, 2035 & 2050. This *Act* and the *Canada-wide* $50 per ton tax on carbon are not Avista's best interest. The *Act* will add another 1230% in costs from **Cap and Trade** (C&T) mandates beginning now. Consumers also share carbon tax pass-through costs as they purchase Canadian products from suppliers, i.e., a B.C. company paid $55 million in carbon taxes in 2016.
- *HydroOne* now owns Avista's 13 hydro-electric dams (with 1,024 MW of capacity) on the Columbia River and Alaska. In *Cap and Trade* terms, *HydroOne* will refashion Avista's hydro dams into "clean energy credits", a maneuver enabling it to avoid paying California's (or Ontario's) $8 billion climate exchange fee to satisfy the *Act's C&T* 2020 mandate. The transfer of dams mostly guarantees customer's preferential loss of Avista's electricity on the Columbia River system[8].
- Ontario's *Green Energy Act* prohibits its use of coal-fired plants, once its cheapest electricity, but *Hydro One* has given Avista a pass for a time on retaining its 233 megawatts of thermal-coal generation in Montana which supplies 33% of Avista's thermal electricity. The *Act* mandates that wind turbines generate electricity in Ontario, an experience found to be highly inefficient with very high costs in both Ontario[9] and Washington and widely opposed in Ontario, several European countries, U.S. states, & Australia[10]. Wind turbines are wasteful. They provide 0.6% of world energy at a cost of $5.45 trillion that could have provided a five times larger supply from natural gas or CCS coal plants.[11][12]
- In a sprint to avoid the *Green Energy Act's* 2020 enforced *Cap and Trade* carbon emission fees, Canadian utilities purchased $74 million of U.S. hydroelectric assets in 2016 and $28.7 billion more by February 2017[13] to feed an insatiable need for cheap, reliable green power assets. Forbes listed 11 other U.S. utilities targeted.
- Ontario advertises its *Green Energy Act* plan as "virtuous", but effects on people, jobs and economy are the exact opposite. Ontario makes energy arbitrarily scarce as its electricity powers energy poverty[14]. It penalizes emissions and masks negative consequences behind rhetorical benefits of new government programs.
- The *Green Energy Act,* like *Washington's Energy Independence Act* (I-937) represents a *grand social*

experiment conducted population-wide on a whim, without forethought, without pilot testing, without scientific proof, to satisfy a hasty policy—a policy that runs counter to best economic choices[15], a policy to reduce a substance proved to provide humongous monetary, human, and food producing benefit[16]: *carbon dioxide*—with illusion of reducing greenhouse emissions that will never occur, with consequences known to be unprovable, but at extraordinary high cost while failing to consider enforced *human suffering.* Such rhetorical *goals* have for a decade proved themselves as hurried failed experiments in Europe, UK, Australia, and U.S.[17]

- Ontario's and Washington's **Cap and Trade** (C&T) harms people and needlessly risks economies, e.g.:
  - ✓ In Washington by 2030, annual costs to reduce emissions will soar to $8,200 per household, with job losses rising to 82,000 per year, with gross domestic product down by $14.7 billion each year but without scoring a savings in temperature or sea level rise[18].
  - ✓ According to U.S. Senate Conference report[19], *C&T* artificially increases annual household electricity cost $5,429 by 2035 so renewables can compete; Inflicts economic pain disproportionately on poor families and lower quartile income earners, including college graduates with loans; Reduces gross domestic product $393 billion annually, making U.S. $9.4 trillion poorer by 2035; Reduces net jobs by 1.14 million annually, including green jobs; Discourages domestic energy intensity, the lifeblood of business and U.S. economy-wide; Forces industries to exit; Cloaks *C&T* fees as inflated prices on consumer goods, essentially removing control away from utility commissions; Impacts farms hardest due to their 58% larger need for fuel; Farm profits plummet by 57%; Food costs surge upward; and like European and California's *C&T*, with pretense of mitigating climate, exposes unsustainable state-sponsored Ponzi-schemes.
- Almost all *Cap and Trade* practices run counter to the purpose of mitigating climate, as they are *not market-based*[20] but incorporate major elements of centrally-planned economies, for example: Co-opting for *green energy* guarantees energy poverty[21]; Since carbon emissions are unrelated to climate, any action to mitigate emissions becomes an expensive, useless exercise; European experiences show they do not reduce emissions but invite more corporate welfare programs[22]; German anti-renewable citizen petitions have grown to over 1,000 and its Minister says energy subsidies are now at unsustainable levels and inducing de-industrialization[23][24]; It's a massive energy tax in disguise[25]; It forces peoples to conform, is oppressive on all but the rich[26]; It transfers important economic decisions from private to government hands, with loss of private property rights and overall net loss of gross domestic product, thus subordinating to elements of USSR- or Chinese-like central planning of economies.

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[2] Ontario Climate Action Plan – www.applications.ene.gov.on.ca/ccap/products/CCAP
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[5] Ontario's Wind Power Obsession Punishing Thousands-390,000 Families Struggling to Pay Power Bills and 58,000 Disconnected https://stopthesethings.com/2018/01/17/ontarios-wind-power-obsession-punishing-thousands-390000-families-struggling-to-pay-power-bills-58000-disconnected/
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Cancel the Sale of Avista Corp. to Hydro One

By David Boleneus[1]

Contents

[1] Mr. Boleneus is a geologist and geophysicist and holds a Master's Degree in geology and MBA with 45 years of experience. He holds professional registrations with State of Washington, SME and DOI. He retired as a research geologist from the U.S. Dept. of Interior in 2007. For 10 years he has operated a wheat growing operation on the family farm in its 104th operating year.

Part 1. Cancel the Sale of Avista Corp. to Hydro One

THE ISSUE: Why it's a terrible idea. What's the impact on Avista Customers?

This is what is happening? Avista Corp., an electric and natural gas utility based in Spokane, with 374,000 customers in four states, formerly known as Washington Water Power Co. has agreed to be acquired by Hydro One of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The sale price is C$6.7 billion in cash. Hydro One is a two year old quasi-public/private company re-organized from Ontario Hydro who will control decision-and rate-making, as confirmed by GemStatePatriot[1]. What's wrong with this deal? Hydro One is 70% owned by the Province and owes duty to Ontario, its climate laws, and its Premier Kathleen Wynne who is under fire for selling out Ontario's once-public utility and ignoring soaring electric cost. Hydro One's rates are the highest in North America, soon to rocket to highest in the world while Avista's rates are nearly the lowest. Furthermore, Hydro One covets Avista's 1136 MW in 13 hydro dams as a contrivance to honor Ontario's Green Energy Act, its Climate Change Action Plan and U.N. Sustainability goals requiring closing of the finest coal-electric generating fleet on the continent and re-tooling power with low-carbon energy, principally incapable and inefficient wind turbines to stop greenhouse gas emissions. But the wind turbines contribute to the electric rate disaster because they cannot provide full time electricity and obscure shores of three Great Lakes with thousands of wind turbines and because Ontario locked in 20 year sweetheart deals with wind generator companies, 82% of whom are foreign companies, at excessive rates five times the electricity market for wind and ten times the market for solar.

SUMMARY

Avista electric customers must heed climate laws in Ontario and corporate responsibilities that Hydro One mistakes for representing the public's best interest. Ontario policies translated through Hydro One will likely increase Avista customer's monthly electric charges by hundreds to a thousand dollars or more in the next decade or more. Ontario's Green Energy Act (local citizens call it *"Round 1"*) with purpose to battle climate change became law in Ontario in 2009 and immediately caused Ontario's power costs to skyrocket to highest in North America today[2,3,4]. Monthly electric charges increased 500% or more from \$100 to \$800 in eight years, said Joanna[5] in Timmins, Ont. The increase is due mainly to building renewable power systems, paying sweetheart signing bonuses and subsidies[6,7,8] to renewable providers[9], guaranteeing above-market feed-in tariffs to renewable companies whether or not they generate power and closing power plants that formerly produced the most reliable and least expensive power on the continent[10,11]. Ontario mandates these actions to avert the effects of greenhouse gas emissions.

Costs are not the only problem as wind turbines also invite serious health problems[12,13,14,15,16] and economic and social disasters[17,18,19,20] and death to wildlife and crop dusters. The health and cost experiences are similar those in Germany[21,22] and Australia[23,24,25] whose electric charges increased 610% and 670% respectively in the last decade [26,27,28]. Today, Ontario families must choose between paying for electricity and feeding children, others say electric bills require one-half a month's wages, while exorbitant costs forced families "off-grid" because of inability to pay and rely on generator power as Hydro One disconnected 10,000 customers in 2015 that didn't pay[29,30,31,32,33,34,35]. Hydro One's fiduciary duty to the Province and Ontario climate law will become more onerous in coming years and a decidedly high impact to customers in the Avista service territory seems unavoidable.

Round 2 of the Act, its Climate Change Action Plan became effective in 2017 and requires Hydro One to press harder against climate change by obtaining clean energy resources outside Ontario by the 2020 initial deadline of its Plan. Hydro One must begin trading of carbon emission credits (by cap and trade) on Ontario's, California's climate exchanges to satisfy initial "*Round 2*" requirements. The first clean energy resources going on the climate market are Avista's 12 hydro-electric dams on the Spokane River Clark Fork River sold and in Alaska (1,146 megawatts) as Hydro One refashions dams into carbon credits according to the recent deal announced in July 2017. Dams are offered as clean energy credits to satisfy the 2020 goal, the first of three goals. Avista customers will be impacted by Ontario's climate laws as Hydro One must make larger expenditures and larger demands on customers in the future to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions that will accelerate compliance costs by 520% by 2030 and 1280% in the two decades. The serious problems with cap and trade of emissions are: its Marxist (Chinese or USSR) element of centrally-planned economies; its failure to reduce carbon emissions contrary to stated designs[36]; the very high and unpredictable cost heaped onto electric users; and its identity as a government-sponsored fraud[37,38,39] and Ponzi-scheme[40,41]. Those most severely affected by the high costs are high-risk individuals, low- to middle-income families, newly graduated students with loan debt and businesses with especially high use of fuels, such as farming[42], manufacturing, and transportation.

INTRODUCTION - AN AVISTA WARNING

The Board and shareholders of Avista Corp., an electric and natural utility based in Spokane, with 374,000 customers in four states, formerly known as Washington Water Power Co. have agreed to be acquired by Hydro One Ltd. of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The sale price is CN$6.7 billion in cash. Hydro One is a two year old quasi-private/public company re-organized from Ontario Hydro and will control Avista's decision-making.

This article warns Avista customers of a critical issue and a gathering storm not revealed. This likely is Hydro One's underlying motivation of the acquisition. This deal will likely expose Avista customers to risk of electric rates ballooning to unaffordable levels within a decade. The cause of the rising electric rates that Hydro One must address are Ontario's (1) the Green Energy Act (2009) and (2)

Climate Change Action Plan (CCA Plan) in Ontario and (3) Canada's nation-wide carbon tax obsession. Avista customers will bear the costs of these useless measures now that Avista became subject to Hydro One policies and Canadian and Ontario laws. Hydro One's Ontario electric customers have experienced the highest electric costs in the hemisphere unleashed by Ontario's Green Energy Act. Canada and Ontario intend to stiffen their green energy resolve upon its population by forcing carbon taxation in 2018 and cap and trade beginning in 2017 to confront climate change a state of climate that these governments falsely attribute to greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore these laws are Canada's answer to battle climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a worthless effort to address on a swindle[43] of global scale.

At the root of the *Avista warning* is this (self-inflicted and totally unnecessary) chain of events (1) induced by Canadian political belief in the false claims of catastrophic climate change said due to carbon dioxide emissions that (2) spawned the useless green energy laws that force Ontario utilities to address greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. These beliefs led to the (3) Green Energy Act in 2009, the (4) explosive expansion of inefficient renewable energy facilities, and and explosive increase in electricity costs, (5) the beginning of cap and trade in 2017 that brings insatiable demands on the public as a method to end carbon-based fuels (6) likely explains the interest by Hydro One in Avista Corp's hydroelectric resources and for their sacrifice of Avista's dams for refashioning into carbon credits on the California Climate Exchange. Adding to the catastrophe is the (7) unleashing of the Canadian purchases of unwary small public utilities in the U.S., in an apparent sprint to forfeit control of America's abundant hydropower and affordable electricity, including Avista's hydroelectric dams, as evidenced by Canadians purchasing $74 million of U.S. hydroelectric assets in 2016 and $28.7 billion more by February 2017[44]. Forbes lists several other targeted utilities.

The bowl of evidence to support catastrophe and existence of climate change caused by carbon dioxide emissions is *empty*--a result of hasty generalization, mere anecdotal (or non-)evidence, and ad hominem and logical fallacies--while the evidence opposing climate change/global warming and benefit of carbon dioxide is *enormous, overwhelming, and factual*. We provide a sample of the overwhelming evidence to confront the false claims against climate change to explain: why green energy promises energy poverty[45], how to protect our freedoms from climate deception[46], and why[47] [48] [49] [50] [51] [52] global warming/climate change is a fraud, a deliberate corruption of science, an admitted lie, is not occurring, is not supported by 97% of climate scientists[53] and is denounced by 31,487 American scientists including 1,536 scientists in the Avista service territory[54].

Ontario is undertaking these Herculean measures for the following reasons: Promoters say that carbon dioxide from human emissions have warmed the atmosphere and altered climate patterns. They claim that climate change will cause the melting of the polar ice caps, rising sea levels and an increased number of extreme weather events and the community is concerned for the urgent and irreversible threat to the environment[55].

But these claims of alarm are false. Plenty of scientific evidence supports this view that human caused climate change does not exist. What goes unreported in the media is that none of these control measures is necessary and reasons to create a carbon free economy and new laws made to avoid carbon dioxide are themselves deception and fraud. Furthermore, there is no evidence that any of these deleterious effects are occurring, including melting of ice polar ice caps, rising sea level, increased number of extreme weather events and certainly there is no reason to take urgent action. For more information see ***Why Climate Change is Not Occurring*** *for explanation later in this article*

To summarize, the political motives to serve its climate change illusion poisons Ontario's goodwill to unleash a Green Energy Act with a result that its "green" taint contaminates any Avista-Hydro One relationship.

RENEWABLES AND ONTARIO'S USELESS CLIMATE BATTLE

Presently, Avista Corp's hydroelectric resources provide the *relief valve* to Hydro One for its use of cap and trade of emission credits—Avista's hydro resources—to satisfy Ontario law. That is, Avista's hydro resources are the *prize sacrificed* to this purpose. The use of cap and trade is an immoral non-solution to a non-problem—the reason politicians love it. They can claim credit for a pointless action at high cost to the public yet devoid of benefit.

The green energy inducements are quite unsettling to utilities and their customers continent-wide. Green energy laws passed to mitigate climate in Canada with a view of eminent emissions trading on the horizon and a rush to gobble up scant green energy prizes for tradable *clean energy assets* have forced Canadian utilities hungry for regulatory relief to look beyond its borders. To date mergers accounted for a wave of Canadian power and utility acquisitions of U.S. utilities amounting to $74 million in two transactions in 2016 and $28.7 billion in five acquisitions by February 2017 according to Forbes[56] not counting the CN$6.7 billion acquisition of Avista Corp. Other US-based utilities with market caps under $10 billion include Allete; Alliant Energy; CMS Energy; Great Plains Energy; IDACORP; MDU Resources; NorthWestern; Pinnacle West; Portland General Electric; Vectren; and Westar Energy, are *targets to feed the insatiable need* to meet Canada's cap and trade and its climate targets by 2020. But identifying "clean energy" utilities to satisfy Ontario's climate targets still remains unfilled for 2030 and beyond.

Ontario's electricity mayhem has added $billions to Ontario utility customer billings caused by its Green Energy Act (2009), its newly unveiled Climate Change Action Plan 2016-2020, unpopular decisions by its Premier and a Canada-wide love-fest with renewable energy to avoid carbon dioxide emissions. Ontario intends to press harder toward new forms of energy, such as renewable wind and solar power to meet the 2009 Act and embarks on a program to use cap and trade starting with the CCA Plan in 2017 it claims will avoid carbon dioxide emissions. An added burden, and separate issue, is the Canada-wide $50 per tonne tax on carbon dioxide that begins in 2018. Such a tax rate could add hundreds of millions to billions of dollars per year in new taxes as a means to penalize use of carbon-based fuels by energy intensive business. One company subject to British Columbia's $30 per tonne carbon tax paid $48 million and $55 million in carbon tax in 2015 and 2016 respectively. Taxes on carbon dioxide are straight-forward or *explicit* cost charged on a dollar per tonne basis. Costs of cap and trade to reduce carbon dioxide as *implicit* taxes force higher costs on consumer goods and camouflages costs by invisible actions on carbon/climate exchanges.

> Why is Avista being sold? Motivation to buy/sell Avista to Hydro One remains clouded behind celebration of the high share price paid, but the impact upon Avista customers remains in the fog? The utility promises that service will remain unchanged for two years after the sale to be concluded in late 2018, but what comes afterward, in 2020? Hint: The year 2020 is a key year in the CCA Plan. Events in Ontario, in Canada and history of Hydro One paint a somewhat clearer picture. What is the Green Energy Act (2009), its purpose and why would Avista's US customers be subject to these laws?

One can easily forecast a troubled future for Ontario, and then translated to Avista, by comparing its intended green energy path against identical actions began by the European Union more than a decade ago. The EU uses above-market electric rate payments to favor green energies (feed-in tariffs) and cap and trade of carbon credits to end use of coal, natural gas, and nuclear fuels and to expand renewables. The rush to convert to renewable energies brings costs beyond what the public can bear, by employing methods that remain mere social experiments based on benefit forecasts shown as illusions.

The UK a year ago decided to reverse direction by adding another large nuclear plant in Wales at Hinckley Point[57] to avoid building more wind turbines mainly because wind power required generous subsidy, required immense land areas, and above-market tariffs for it to survive and big utilities expected big profits[58]. Germany today questions its once ambitious Energiewende (Energy Transition) that it realizes is close to death as "green energies have failed", and it's time to end subsidies and feed-in tariffs paid to renewables[59]. Today Germany and Denmark pay the highest prices of electricity in the world, 43.4 and 44.8 cents /kilowatt-hour (kwhr) respectively [60] [61] but led by South Australia at 47.1 cents /kwhr with Spain, Ireland and UK close behind them. Its choice of electricity supplied from wind turbines is clearly shown as inadequate that recently forced Germany to add 10 gigawatts of new coal energy[62], about 18 new coal plants of average size fueled from brown coal. So its emissions continue to rise along with electricity rates and the climate protections anticipated have not materialized. The Energy Minister referred to Germany's current path of renewables and energy subsidies as "unsustainable" and continuing them "risks de-industrialization[63]". The German public now recognizes this brewing wind calamity that if carried to an end means total destruction of its landscape as the number of citizen petitions against wind power, as in Ontario, has grown beyond 1,000[64]. Hundreds of examples show that wind turbines near residences in Europe and US invite serious adverse health consequences and wreak destruction on the rural communities[65] [66] [67] and identical complaints also coming from Ontario are ignored[68].

Other countries, Denmark, Sweden, UK, Australia, and Spain have experienced similar negative consequences. President Obama said Spain was to model to follow, but $36 billion in renewable subsidies caused the loss of 2.2 jobs elsewhere in the Spanish economy for each renewable job created and raised its debt. Each green job in Spain cost $770,000 and each renewable megawatt destroyed 5.39 jobs elsewhere in the economy. Nine out of 10 construction jobs ended when renewable construction ended (G.C. Alvarez[69 70]).

Washington State's poor experience with wind turbines is consistent with renewable failures in Europe and the IER 's assessment that wind power in the U.S. is not a reliable energy source or worthwhile investment of tax dollars[71]. Washington's wind turbine failure appears as an apparent success only due to the highly efficient back-up supply provided by the natural gas and hydroelectric systems operated on the Columbia-Snake Rivers by Bonneville Power Administration, Corps of Engineers, Avista and others. A closer look reveals that *all of Washington's 46 wind turbine farms* produced no usable power supply for 37 days in the first four months of 2015, a record similar to 2014. These intermittency and inefficiency shortcomings go unnoticed because its reliable, full-time power sources from coal, nuclear, gas or hydroelectric immediately fills in the gaps. The paltry 26% reliability of Washington's 46 wind farms translates to a 74% inefficiency that the regions' other plants and BPA's transmission assets seamlessly obscures from public view[72].

> Since Washington's wind turbines will never replace the Snake River dams and since the U.S. has tentatively promised U.S. hydropower to Canada[73], will Avista customers continue to benefit from Avista's current hydro capacity of 1,136 megawatts once the Avista hydro is offered on the trading block of Ontario's Climate Exchange?

On a cost and performance basis, renewable energy is clearly inferior. Still, Canada intends to blindly duplicate the mistakes experienced elsewhere by constructing renewable technologies—wind and solar PV—that up to 2017 provided a paltry six-tenths of one percent (0.6%) of the worlds' energy supply[74] (illustration, Figure 1). The capital cost to date to build these wind and solar PV systems for major economies (US, India, China, and 28 European countries) required Euro4.54 trillion[75 76] which is more than five times larger than the cost to build conventional natural gas or CCS coal plants when compared on a Euro per GW basis.

The natural gas and CCS coal plants are also at least five times more efficient and have useful lives four times longer than wind or solar PV. This clearly demonstrates that based on cost and performance standards that wind and solar PV are a poor choice and clearly inferior for generating electrical power compared to the best sources of conventional power generation available today.

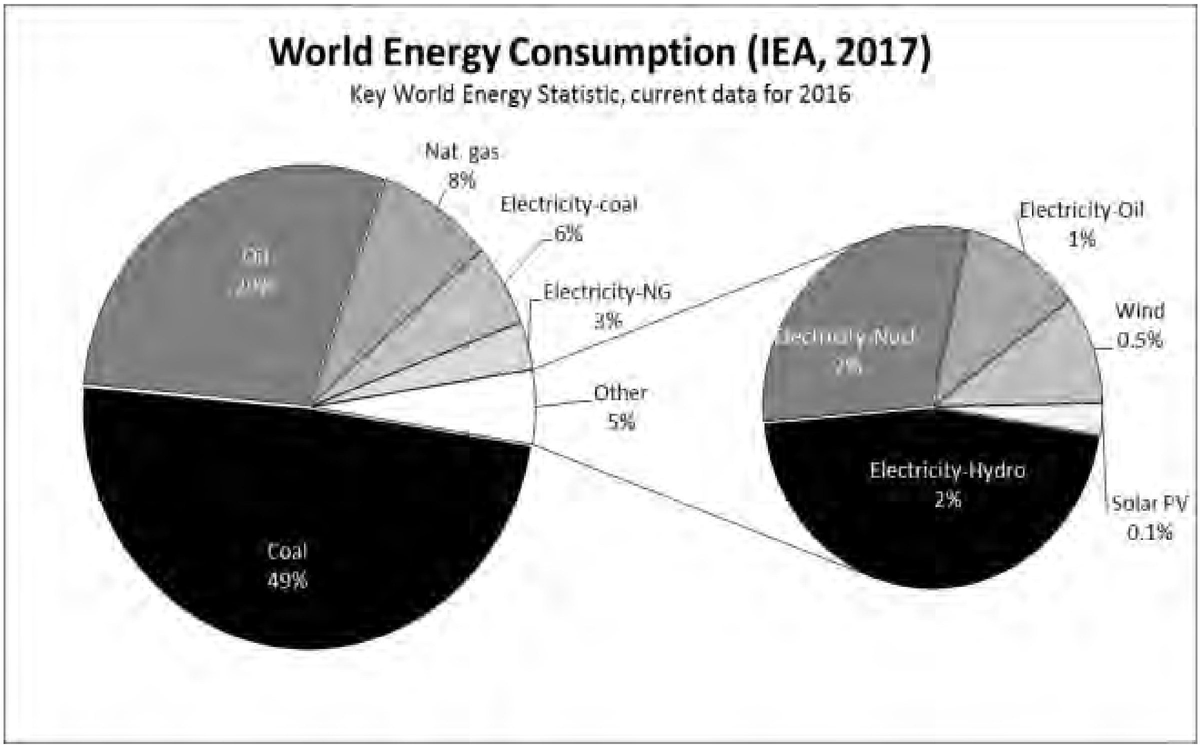


Figure 1. World energy consumption.

Note that wind power and solar PV power add to six-tenths percent of world energy consumed.

Does this mean that histories and experiences of high cost electric supply are irrelevant?

Will Hydro One's operating problems and electricity mayhem transfer to or impact Avista customers for several reasons? Will you guarantee they will not transfer to Avista customers?

Part 2. Cancel the Sale of Avista Corp. to Hydro One

2712 words

IMPACT OF GREEN ENERGY ACT (2009)

Unwise energy policies have moved Ontario nearer to a human and financial precipice because planning for energy in Ontario is broken, critics are ignored or silenced by monopolies[77], and the promise-them-anything-to-get-reelected government leaders circumvent the market to pay electric producers 20 times the market rate for electricity[78 79]. Ontario's actions raise its risk of bankruptcy to 43% and threaten its financial stability.

The two-year old privatized **Hydro One** owes fiduciary duty to Ontario since the Province still **owns 70%** (May 2017) of Hydro One[80] . Privatizing is also problematic because this moves Hydro One beyond reach of the Province Auditor allowing Hydro One to operate outside public oversight, shields the company from FOIA requests, bars plus-$100,000-paid employees from the Sunshine Law and public's ability to resolve complaints with its energy supply[81].

Consumer Policy Institute reports that Ontario is headed for a fatal future and only by ending renewable contracts can prevent it[82]. Ontario signed 20 year sweetheart deals with foreign wind turbine providers which guarantees generators such as Samsung at four times the existing electricity market rates for wind and ten times existing rates for solar. At least $1.7 billion in subsidies have been paid for subsidies from 2006 to 2014 with another $13 billion due over the next 20 years[83].

The Green Energy Act resulted in building 237 wind turbine farms[84] that now span all shorelines of the three Great Lakes that border the Province, including some off-shore wind sites, while at the same time forced the closure of the finest fleet of coal-electric generating stations in North America. Wind turbines provide 4.4% of Ontario's wind capacity but about 1% of supply[85]. Several Green Energy Act programs are increasing the cost of electricity in Ontario, including Cap and Trade to begin in Ontario in 2017, uneconomic expansion and $700 million conservation programs of the natural gas system, $2.6 billion electricity conservation programs[86], use of electric customers to fund social programs, a 70% hike in payments to nuclear generators, and adding another 1,385 megawatts of new wind generation post-2016[87]. Ontario's green energy policy provides sobering lessons. Bank of Montreal's chief economist warns that electric rates will bring serious harm to its economy[88]. The province's electric power systems is essentially broken, the province goes against advice of its planners, the provinces expensive taste for renewables paid generators $339 million not to produce power and renewable tariffs cost $9.2 billion above the market price for electricity[89].

IMPACT ON CUSTOMERS

Power costs have reached the breaking point because Ontario charges its electric customers 400% to 500% more [90] for the same quantity of electricity they used in 1997 yet it "*spills"* more than 1,000 megawatts of Ontario grown power at a loss to New England, Quebec and Manitoba because renewable power is not available when the electricity demand is high. Ontario's Auditor General reports that *Ontarians* have been over-billed for electricity by $37 billion[91] for *global adjustment fees* with another $133 billion due before 2032[92]. A most serious problem is its convoluted billings. Electric billings consist of 27% for electric use, the commodity charge, and *70% for global adjustment fees*[93]*, an extraordinary item*[94] that triples electric billings; the latter is the sum of bonuses and premiums paid to renewable generators, building of wind turbines, providing $2.6 billion in conservation measures, $285 million in electric car subsidies[95], shutting of coal-fired power plants, and $2 billion to install smart meters that remain problematic[96].

Hydro One charges customers for service that has deteriorated since 2010 with outages that are 30% longer and 24% more frequent. Hydro One spent $3 billion on capital projects without benchmarking cost against other like costs at other utilities, builds in cost overruns, charges ratepayers more money for deteriorating service as its transmission systems are in a state of steady decline, is the least reliable among Canadian distribution companies, and Hydro One is gaming the Ontario Energy Board for funding by saying its assets are in poor condition[97][98].

Residences cannot use their oven or microwave due to load limiters installed on smart meters by *Hydro One*. Other customers say they spend one-half their income for electricity. Families had to choose between heating their homes and feeding the kids[99] . Mayor Watson says rural Echo Bay Ontario seniors and fixed income residents can no longer afford electricity[100], Joanna in Timmins says electricity costs $800 a month for her trailer home and many neighbors get disconnect notices[101]. Carol and her husband east of Toronto couldn't pay late fees of $10,000 because their electric bill increased 20-fold so *Hydro One* disconnected their power[102]. They cannot get water from their tap, must cook on the BBQ, must rely on their own generator power and a neighbor contacted child protective services over concern for their children. *Hydro One* cut off electricity to 59,000 households in 2015 that didn't pay and continues disconnects even as winter approaches. Rates are killing small businesses as one in twenty close, including food stores. Citizen groups, the Ontario Wind Resistance.org, Stop These Things[103], EPAW.org, and BrokenHydro.ca regularly demonstrate against excessive electric billing charges and the invasion by wind turbines along with the health problems wind turbines bring to a once peaceful rural Ontario.

Electric rates for Ontario ranked highest in North America and this hemisphere because of its policies. Ontario's off-peak electric rates have skyrocketed in the last decade through 2015 by 144% or 9-and-one-half times faster than the 17.8% rise in its gross domestic product and three times faster than wages in the same period [104] [105] [106]. *Hydro One* continues to increase rates faster than any place in North America. Rates increased 18% in 2015, increased 25%, or 19 cents per kwhr in 2016 and Hydro One promises to add another $141 per month in 2018 and $144 per month in 2019 (total $285[107]) to the average electric bill.

Hydro One's low density urban electric rate stood at 29.9 cents(C) per kwhr in 2015; it is not known if this amount includes or excludes *the global adjustment charge*[108].

The price of $6.7 billion Hydro One paid for Avista is cheap and it gains assets compared to the $8 billion it must pay for carbon credits on California's or Quebec climate exchanges between 2017 and 2020[109]. So far Ontario and the exchanges have not agreed as to how to count the carbon reductions, which ensures there will be ample "double-counting" on both sides.

A counter-argument can claim that Ontario's problems are largely caused by regulatory agencies and not Hydro One's and that the UTC from the four states it serves will shield Avista customers from these problems.

> But can these commissions be effective if a logical rate adjustment is lodged by Hydro One based on high cost operations though these requirements come from Ontario?
>
> How much leverage is wielded by the Province of Ontario by its majority 70% ownership over Hydro One operations and financial condition?
>
> If the climate change argument are accepted by Washington's liberal west coast then the likelihood increases that an Ontario high cost argument would prevail.
>
> Given these demands in Ontario, can Hydro One maintain financial stability and reliable service under financial demand of the Green Energy Act, the Climate Change Action Plan, and Canada's $50 per tonne carbon tax while shielding Avista customers from these demands and still avert risk to re-sell Avista if financial conditions deteriorate in the future?

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN, 2020 AS A CAUSE OF SOCIETAL UPHEAVAL

The Climate Change Action Plan (CCA Plan) is a second part in the second decade of the Green Energy Act. Clearly, part one of the Green Energy Act, as experienced to date, and as described above has had serious negative societal impacts. The CCA Plan is round 2.

Is the Green Energy Act a *grand social experiment* conducted population-wide without forethought, without *pilot testing*, without *scientific proof*, and without considering *human consequences* within a parliamentary democracy? Does the Act represent beginnings of the Crown's centrally-planned economy? Could the introduction, operation and impacts of a cap and trade program as a requirement of the CCA Plan will bring more serious and long-lasting deleterious effect on an already bruised society? Could Canada's climate mishap bring continent-wide electric power calamity upon utility systems across Canada and the U.S.? It appears the answer is YES to all questions.

Operating under the Climate Change Action Plan requires the use of cap-and-trade to trade emission credits (or emissions credit trading) to meet Ontario's greenhouse gas reduction targets starting in 2020. As it begins in 2017, the Plan mandates the Province to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by 15% below 1990 levels by 2020[110] which translates to a reduction of 180% below the level today. The 15% reduction translates to a cost increase of 180% from the 2014 level. In 30 years by 2050 Ontario must reduce carbon dioxide emissions to 80% below the 1990 level which translates to a reduction of 1230% below today's level with a forecasted cost increase of 1,230% above that of 2014.

> Is the "emissions by 15% below 1990 levels by 2020" the force that motivates an Ontario utility to acquire Avista Corp.?

Cap-and-trade requires companies to buy or sell permits to allow a certain level of carbon dioxide emissions. Each permit, allowance or carbon credit, valued at one tonne each of carbon dioxide can be bought and sold at government auctions, or bought and sold between emitters at climate exchanges—the "trade" in cap and trade. "Cap" refers to the limited total number of allowances the government releases into the market annually with the caveat that once a permit is purchased its *emissions are excused.* Those who emit carbon dioxide must obtain allowances equal to annual emissions—effectively a license to emit. If Hydro One buys Avista along with its hydroelectric assets Hydro One will sell (trade) the emission credits of the 1,136 megawatts of hydro and wind power that previously served Avista's customers. Avista's hydro and wind assets is the *prize* that Hydro One covets most and perhaps is the key driving force in the proposed acquisition.

See section 4 (Appendix) -- More Details on Cap-and-Trade.
See section 3 -- Why Climate Change is Not Occurring

Ontario says it may join either the California or Quebec climate exchanges although it plans to start its own cap and trade exchange. Three reasons reveal why the plan for cap and trade *cannot* alter climate, so any use to mitigate climate is illogical. First, cap-and-trade is ill-suited to reduce carbon dioxide emissions so *its use as an agent to effect climate is impossible*. Second, the key, unrealized principle is that ALL CAP AND TRADE practices *run counter to the purpose* of mitigating climate, because the carbon offsets rely on an illusion of reduced emissions of carbon dioxide, and third, emission reductions are ineffective because carbon dioxide is unrelated to controlling climate or temperature. These reasons render cap and trade a foolhardy and purposeless exercise[111]. Political advisor to UK's PM Margaret Thatcher, C. Monckton's thesis addresses this *key principle*: Why cap and trade of carbon--the trading of hot air--is an immoral non-solution to a non-problem[112].

Cap-and-trade methods can be divided into one of three general categories that describes their effect on people and economies (a more lengthy explanation is found in the Appendix):

- Cap-and-trade *is not market-based*[113] but incorporates major *elements of centrally-planned economies* (i.e. North Korea, Venezuela, China, Cuba, USSR) that transfers decisions from private hands to government. It's also a massive energy tax[114][115] that forces all to conform and places the most severe impacts on the low income to upper middle income taxpayers.

- A main objective for cap-and-trade is to *collapse industrial civilization*[116], as the only demonstrated purpose for cutting emissions is to accelerate economic collapse[117], the purpose stated by the U.N. Environment Programme[118 119 120]. Tax penalties on cap and trade are so enormous that domestic energy businesses must shut which shifts supply from local to imported energy sources[121].
- Weakly regulated carbon markets have begun to reveal their real identities—*as Ponzi schemes*[122]*.* True to its name, the California cap and trade market, like Europe's now-imploding market, and the market proposed in 2015 by Gov. Inslee (that he intends to begin by executive order in Washington[123 124]). California's Gov. Brown had hopes to sell credits for $600 million, but they garnered only $2.5 million anticipated, so the State is looking for other monies such as property taxes, income and sales taxes to make up the difference to fund projects promised in legislation.

However Bezdek and others argue[125] to oppose cap and trade, to maintain use of fossil fuels for their massive social benefits and their enormous monetary benefits of emissions of carbon dioxide that benefits plant and plant photosynthesis[126 127 128].

A suitable economic analysis and result of a cap and trade law is not available for the Ontario law, so the following describes the economic impact of the *American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009* in the U.S. that did not become law. The text of this bill combines elements of cap and trade methods 1 and 2 outlined above. Its economic impacts are described as follows[129]:

- As an energy tax in disguise, it's a very convoluted system of central planning whose chief *purpose is to inflict economic pain* on individuals and businesses.
- Only large energy users will pay the tax on CO2 *but the costs will be camouflaged* as costs added to inflate prices of consumer goods
- *Direct energy costs* for a household of four starts at $436 per year and grows to $829 per year in 2035.
- *Indirect energy costs* begin at $2979 per year and increase to $4600 annually by 2035 so all energy, direct and indirect would cost a family of four $5,429 per year.
- Additionally, electricity cost will increase by 90%, gasoline by 58% and natural gas by 55% with the cumulative cost on a family of four of $20,000.
- Net job losses would be 1.14 million per year to 2035 after including the much-touted green jobs.
- Farming and farm profits would be particularly hard hit since agriculture uses 58% more energy for fuel and fertilizer. Farm profits would plummet by 57% through 2035 which puts American farmers at a global disadvantage and likely many will quit or face bankruptcy. Food-related industries would exit the state.

- It reduces gross domestic product by nearly $393 billion annually and $9.4 trillion cumulatively to 2035 so the nation would be $9.4 trillion poorer.
- In EPA's valuation of statistical life or mortality rate (VSL or VMR) studies[130] [131], EPA values one statistical life in the range of $50,000 up to $10 million in lost income. The usual implied value is in terms GDP lost. Accordingly the $393 billion in annual lost income from the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 translates to a minimum death rate of 39,300 deaths per year or minimum approaching 1 million deaths over the period 2012 to 2035. The rate would be much higher among the high risk group (i.e. young, elderly, infirmed, disadvantaged, and low income individuals) with value less than $10 million.
- Low and middle income taxpayers (the high risk group) would be particularly hardest hit; each 1% reduction in emissions would cost the high risk group 1% of their incomes; accordingly, the target of 85% reduction (Obama's EPA Clean Power Plan and Paris Agreement) in emissions by 2050 or the 80% reduction (Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan) promises hardship and widespread death among low and middle income families. (see Economic Impacts of Paris Climate Agreement[132], on left below and EPA's Clean Power Plan[133], below, right)
- Midwest and South would lose a substantial number of manufacturing jobs and rural America would be particularly hard hit compared to urban counterparts in the Northeast and West

Part 3. Cancel the Sale of Avista Corp. to Hydro One

1037 words

WHY CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT OCCURRING

The usual claim is that carbon dioxide (symbol: CO2) from human emissions has warmed the atmosphere and altered climate patterns but no proof has been offered for this claim. The unproven effects repeated by those who wish to spread false alarm is to melt the polar ice caps, cause sea levels to rise, cause extreme weather events and we should be concerned for these urgent and irreversible threats to the environment[134].

> This is Al Gore's claim, but Gore and his company, Generation Investment Management planned to be a carbon credit aggregator on the Chicago Climate Exchange, where he with Maurice Strong served on its board of directors[135]. Sen. Barack Obama was a board member of the Joyce Foundation when Joyce provided $1 million startup capital for the Chicago Climate Exchange.[136] Both were followers of Maurice Strong, *the fabricator-in-chief of the climate scare*[137]

The evidence is the exact opposite. CO2 cannot alter temperature. It is temperature that controls CO2. Sea level rise is not extraordinary and extreme weather events have been absent.

Evidence is overwhelming that carbon dioxide (symbol: CO2) has no effect on climate or temperature[138], a fact easily proven [139] [140] [141] which condemns claims of climate change as the worst scientific fraud and anti-human political scandal ever[142] [143]. Evidence proving CO2 has no control on temperature or upon climate comes from hundreds of peer-reviewed, paleo-climate studies carried out in Greenland and Antarctica and published before 2000 in key scientific journals[144] [145]. Materials collected during research are stored at laboratories at U.S. Geological Survey at Denver Federal Center and data results are archived at NOAA/paleoclimatology website of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Because these scientific results go unreported governments now enforce empty measures upon the public to control CO2 emissions by use of carbon taxes or cap-and-trade of emission credits because efforts to promote catastrophe have successfully deceived the world due to more than $1.8 trillion[146] expended while, intentionally, no funds support opposing views. The great travesty in scientific circles is that academics and government scientists are held to support the alarmist view and conduct research to support this view, the only view that garners government scientific grant money, lest they sacrifice their jobs, while those with skeptical views who work without pay are retired scientists or persons having non-academic means of support.

Sea levels are not rising worldwide. In fact sea levels are falling at many locations along the coast of North America, along Vancouver Island, at Astoria, Oregon, at Crescent City, Calif., at Ketchikan, Sitka, Kodiak Island and Valdez in Alaska[147]. Sea level appears to be rising at Houston Texas, but the rise is only apparent because the land has sunk more than 10 feet due to withdrawal of groundwater, so the sea level rise is artificial. Worldwide the rate of sea level rise has been maintained at steady rate of three inches per century, despite rise of CO2, since about 1800, at the end of the Little Ice Age which lasted 600 years and ended about 1800. Before 1200 AD, the temperature had fallen 6°F over a period of 2,300 years, since the Middle Kingdom of Egypt and Time of Tutankhamun, Akhenaten, and Ramesses II, as shown on Figure 5.

Placing a cost on carbon dioxide to force command and control measures to control CO2 is a useless measure and severely harms people and the economy. Claims that promote global warming or climate change caused by CO2 are wrong for several reasons because:

- The impact of water vapor upon climate and weather is at minimum 2500-times to 5,000 times larger than CO2 from all human emissions[148].
- 97% to 98% of CO2 comes from natural sources that easily overwhelm any human contributions[149], so climate protectors are *controlling the wrong carbon and deceiving the public by claiming carbon, including the naturally-formed carbon, is a danger*. (see figure 4)
- Carbon dioxide provided enormous benefits to field crop production worldwide in the past and with anticipated monetary returns of $13 trillion dollars from 1965 to 2035[150].
- The amount of CO2 emitted from all human sources in a year is consumed by the photosynthetic processes of earth's plant life (on land and at sea) in two weeks.
- The climate sensitivity due to a doubling of CO2 have been reduced in scientific literature to less than one degree Celsius rise in temperature[151] with that increase having already occurred over the 200 year period since the end of the Little Ice Age in 1800 to today.
- The ice caps on Greenland[152] and Antarctica are expanding annually while the Arctic sea ice remains stable, with normal melt and re-freeze seasonal cycles; the increase in the volume of continental ice in Greenland in 2017 reached extremely high levels.
- Tropical cyclone activity is decreasing and solar activity readily explains the up and down cyclical changes in climate[153].
- The Antarctic ice cores recovered from sites at Vostok and Dome C sites in Antarctica and GISP ice core sites in Greenland show that carbon dioxide responses (whether increases or decreases) lag 800 years behind temperature rise (or fall), and disprove the link of carbon dioxide to global warming and climate change[154]
- Radiation transmitted by the atmosphere shows that water vapor blocks absorption of carbon dioxide proving that a greenhouse effect is impossible[155]
- CO2 is a plant fertilizer necessary for photosynthesis in plants and required to sustain life on this planet[156] and decrease of carbon dioxide below 180 parts per million, less than one-half of its level *means the end of all life on earth*.

- High rates of energy that use carbon based fuels provide a benefit that exceeds its cost by a factor from 50 to 1 to 500 to 1 that[157] drives the US economy to provide the worlds' highest standard of living, facilitated successive industrial revolutions, annually creates \$60 to \$70 trillion in world GDP, creates the world's advanced technologies, doubled life expectancy, and increased incomes 11-fold.

The most stark explanation to show that carbon dioxide does not control temperature comes when comparing satellite temperature records with main El Nino events. We know that El Nino's are natural events related to ocean convection that occur in cycles and within predictable time periods. Figure 6 shows that global temperature as measured by UAH and RSS satellite platforms since 1979 has not increased during the non-El Nino periods of 1980 to1997 and 2001 to 2015. There was a step increase in temperature during the main El Nino of late 1997 to mid-2001, but because El Nino is purely a natural event it is unrelated to CO2 or to human causes. Since the temperature does not increase outside of the El Nino's, then there is no reason to support the idea for CO2 having control of temperature. Figure 6 shows that outside of the late 1997 to mid-2001 El Nino the satellite record shows temperature fluctuated between limits but the average temperature remained stable and did not increased during the periods. This represents the most obvious example to show that CO2 does not control temperature[158].

The lack of a relationship between temperature and the increase in the level of carbon dioxide again confirms that CO2 cannot have control on temperature. Illustrations in figures 7 and 8 show the lack of a relationship between the two factors. Since there is not a correlation between the factors, it is impossible that CO2 can exert a control on temperature.

In figure 7 (upper panel), the temperature from Hadley station (CRUT3v) and UAH MSU satellite records show a decreasing trends while the CO2 levels measured at Mauna Loa are increasing. Lacking a correlation, the CO2 cannot have a control on temperature. In the lower panel of figure 7, the temperature and CO2 records are shown from 1880. Most noticeable in the lower panel of figure 7 is the 1940 to 1970 period when the temperature was decreasing while the CO2 level was increasing. This example again shows that CO2 does not exert a control on temperature.

Figure 8 shows the atmospheric CO2 levels and the satellite temperature record from the South Pole. The CO2 level is increasing consistently throughout the period from December 1978 to 2014 yet the average temperature (heavy purple line) remains nearly constant at near 0^{o} C. Over the short term the temperature fluctuates between $+1^{o}$C and -1^{o}C but shows no relationship with the increasing level of CO2 from 320 ppm (parts per million) in 1978 to 400 ppm in 2014. Again, the lack of relationship shows that CO2 cannot exert control on temperature.

Figure 9 shows the same result when comparing temperature and carbon dioxide over the period of 1900 to 2017. Again, there is not a relationship between CO2 and temperature.

Part 4. Cancel the Sale of Avista Corp. to Hydro One

670 words

Appendix 1. - MORE ON CAP-AND-TRADE

Cap-and-trade requires companies to buy or sell permits to allow a certain level of carbon dioxide emissions. Each permit, allowance or carbon credit, valued at one tonne each of carbon dioxide can be bought and sold at government auctions, or bought and sold between emitters—the "trade" in cap and trade. "Cap" refers to the limited total number of allowances the government releases into the market annually with the caveat that once a permit is purchased its emissions are allowed to continue or excused. Those who emit carbon dioxide must obtain allowances equal to annual emissions—effectively a license to emit.

Ontario says it may join either the California or Quebec climate exchanges although it plans to start its own cap and trade exchange. Cap-and-trade is ill-suited to reduce carbon dioxide emissions as an agent to change climate for the following economic and scientific reasons…

- Almost all cap and trade practices *run counter to the purpose* of mitigating climate, for example....
    - Carbon emissions are completely unrelated to climate change so it's purpose is useless (see Why Climate Change is Not Occurring)
    - The trading of carbon offsets creates and "illusion" of reducing emissions, that continues, and is untrackable to render the purpose worthless.
    - It encourages companies to cheat, to make their own rules, to levy additional costs on ratepayers, and allows both buyer and seller to double-bank the credits[159]
    - Soaring energy costs are pushing Ontario households into energy poverty and cap and trade guarantees to worsen the trend[160].
    - Cap and trade won't reduce emissions as European experience has shown, and they are just more corporate welfare programs[161]
- Cap-and-trade *is not market-based*[162] but incorporates major *elements of centrally-planned economies*, for example….
    - As a massive energy tax in disguise[163], it forces nations to conform and is a death sentence to all but the rich as it intends to de-develop the developing world[164]
    - It transfers important economic decisions from private hands to government with an overall net loss of gross domestic product, thus subordinating to central planning (reminiscent of North Korea, Venezuela, China, Cuba, FSU)
- A main objective for cap-and-trade is to *collapse industrial civilization*[165], for example…
    - The only demonstrated purpose for cutting emissions is economic collapse[166].

- It will assess heavy penalties on the motor and heating fuels, and the high priced shale gas and shale oil in the USA and Canada. The result will be loss of employment, closing of business, regional economic impacts and a need to import more expensive oil from the Middle East or non-conforming counties like China, India, Russia or Africa (and perhaps need to defend these supplies by military force)[167]

- Some carbon markets are beginning to reveal their real identities—*as Ponzi schemes*[168]
  - The California cap and trade market had hopes to sell 40 million credits for $600 million, but they garnered only $10 million, and earned only $2.5 million rather than $150 million anticipated, so the State is looking for other monies such as property taxes, income and sales taxes to make up the difference (1) to fund its most high profile bullet train ($64 billion) and (2) to fund affordable housing and low carbon vehicles.
  - Just like in Europe, whose decade-long carbon market imploded shortly after every regulatory intervention to prop it up, California's and Ontario's cap and trade schemes look increasingly doomed.
  - The new federal carbon tax planned to start across Canada in 2018, like the carbon tax proposed by Gov. Inslee in Washington will use tax proceeds to fund electric vehicles, energy efficiency upgrades, help homeowners reduce their carbon footprint and to support walking and cycling. If the tax is successful in reducing carbon emissions, the program will run short of monies to fund programs promised and will need to look to other sources.

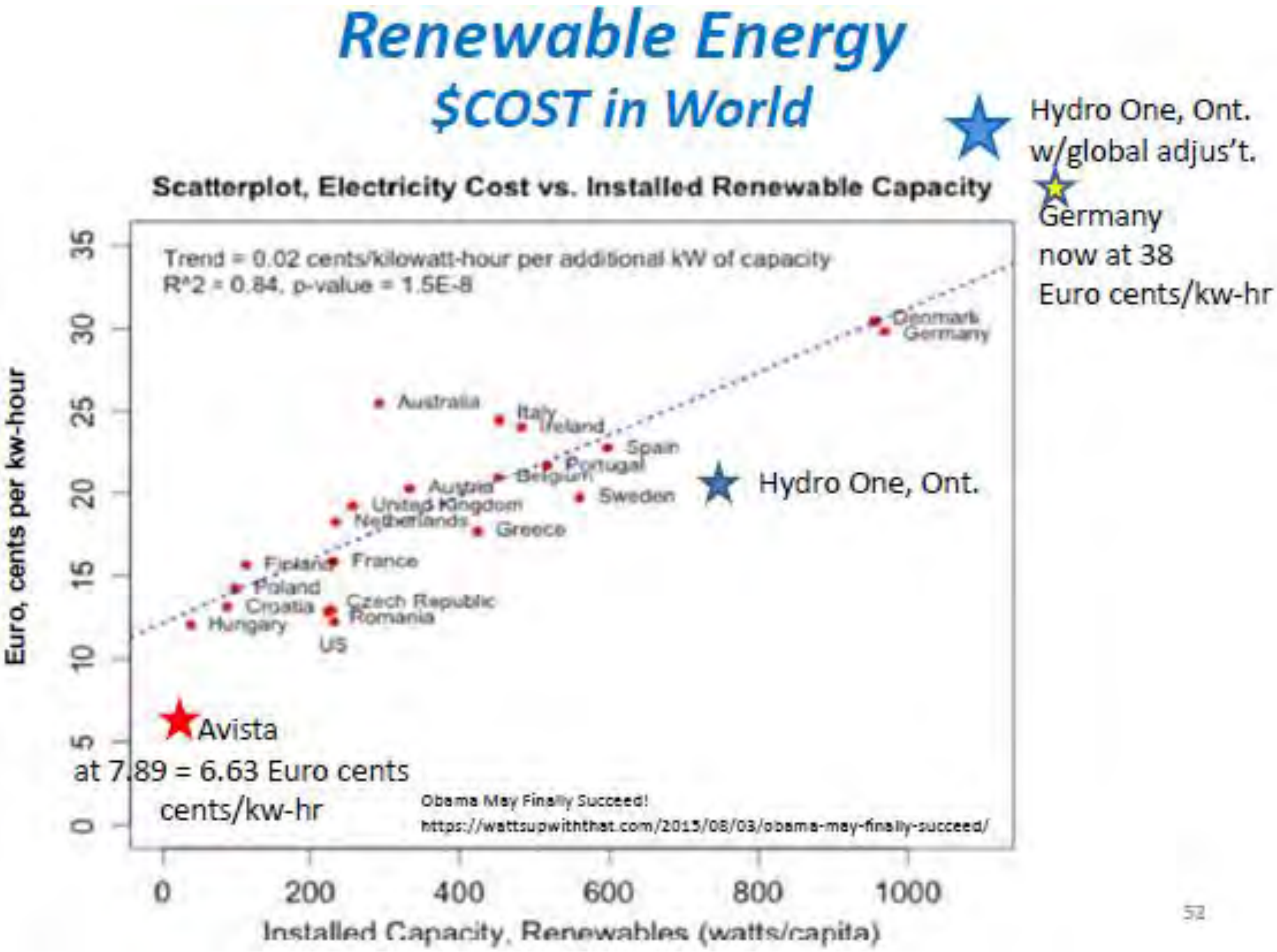


Figure 2. Chart compares the installed capacity of renewables to cost in Euro cents per kilowatt-hour.

Note that Germany is 3rd highest at 38 Euro cents (about 43.3 US cents). South Australia is highest at 47.1 US cents/kwhr. Ontario's Hydro One is climbing fast at 29.9 cents/kwhr in 2015 (Canadian), but with rate increases of 19 cents/kwhr in 2016, and $295 added per month through 2019, the new price for Hydro One's electricity is 85.1 cents/kwhr (Canadian) at end of 2019. This compares to 7.89 cents/kwhr US for Avista power.

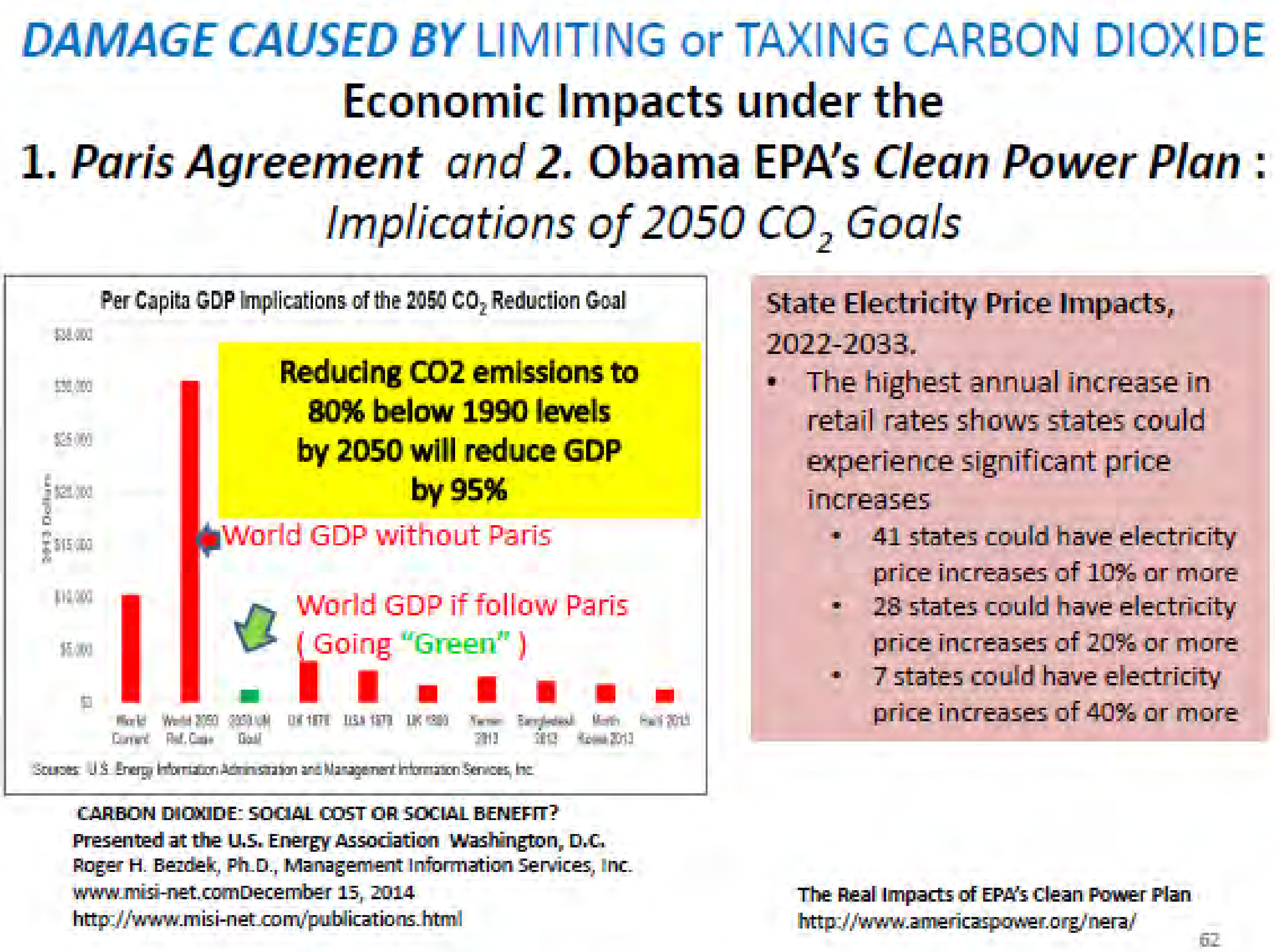


Figure 3. Charts comparing the costs of complying with the Paris Agreement (left) and EPA Clean Power Plan (right).

On left, complying with Paris Agreement by reducing CO2 emissions by 80% below 1990 levels will reduce world GDP by 95%. This means death to most of the worlds populations. On right, complying with the Clean Power Plan would increase electricity prices in 7 states by 40% or more.

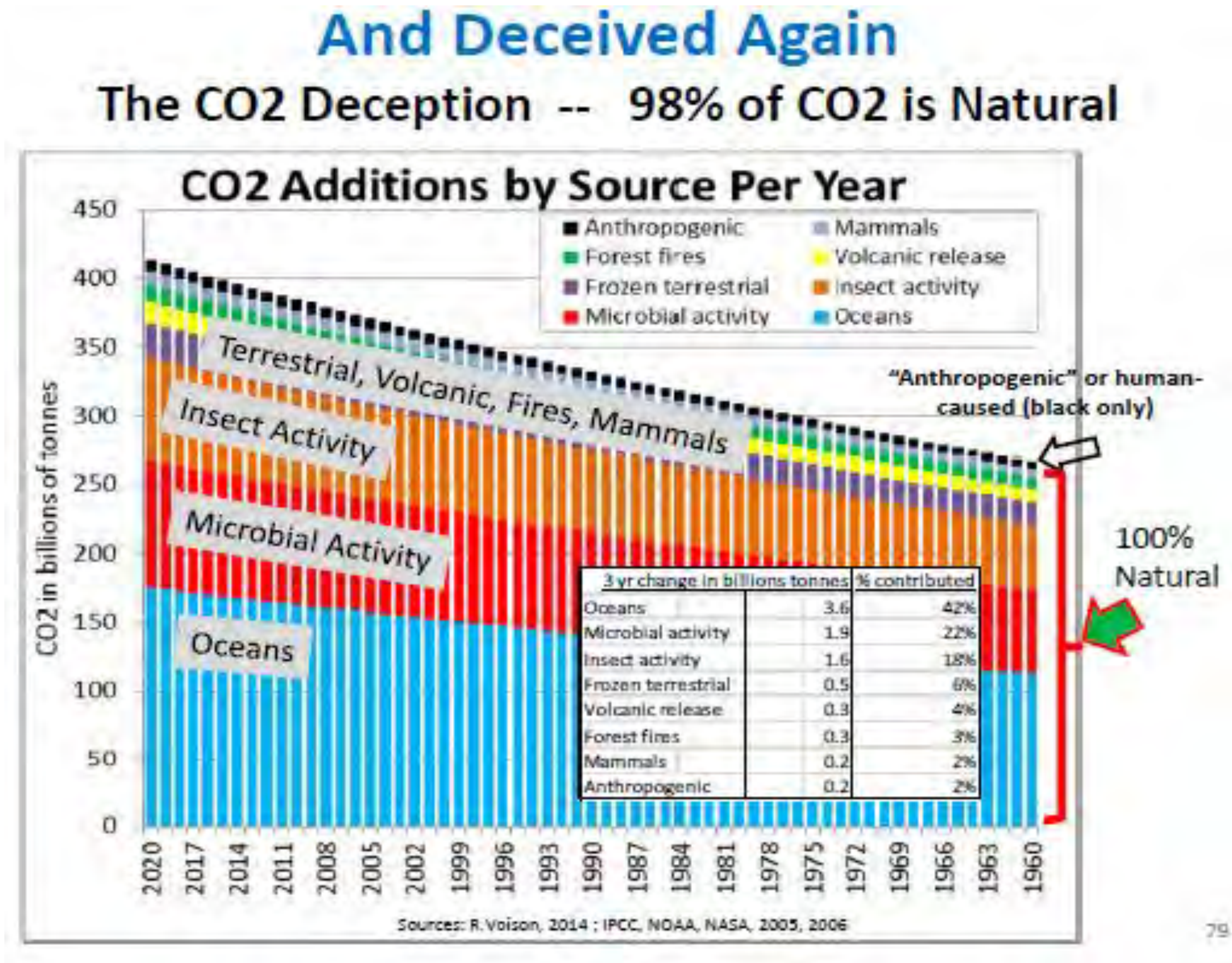


Figure 4. Chart shows source of carbon dioxide by sources by colored blocks.

Blue-CO2 from oceans, about 175 billion tonnes, Red-CO2 from microbial activity, about 80 billion tonnes in 2020, insect activity, terrestrial, volcanic, fires and mammals are all natural sources. Black-CO2 from human activities, about 10 billion tonnes in 2020. What is important is that about 2% of CO2 is human caused compared to 98% that is natural CO2.

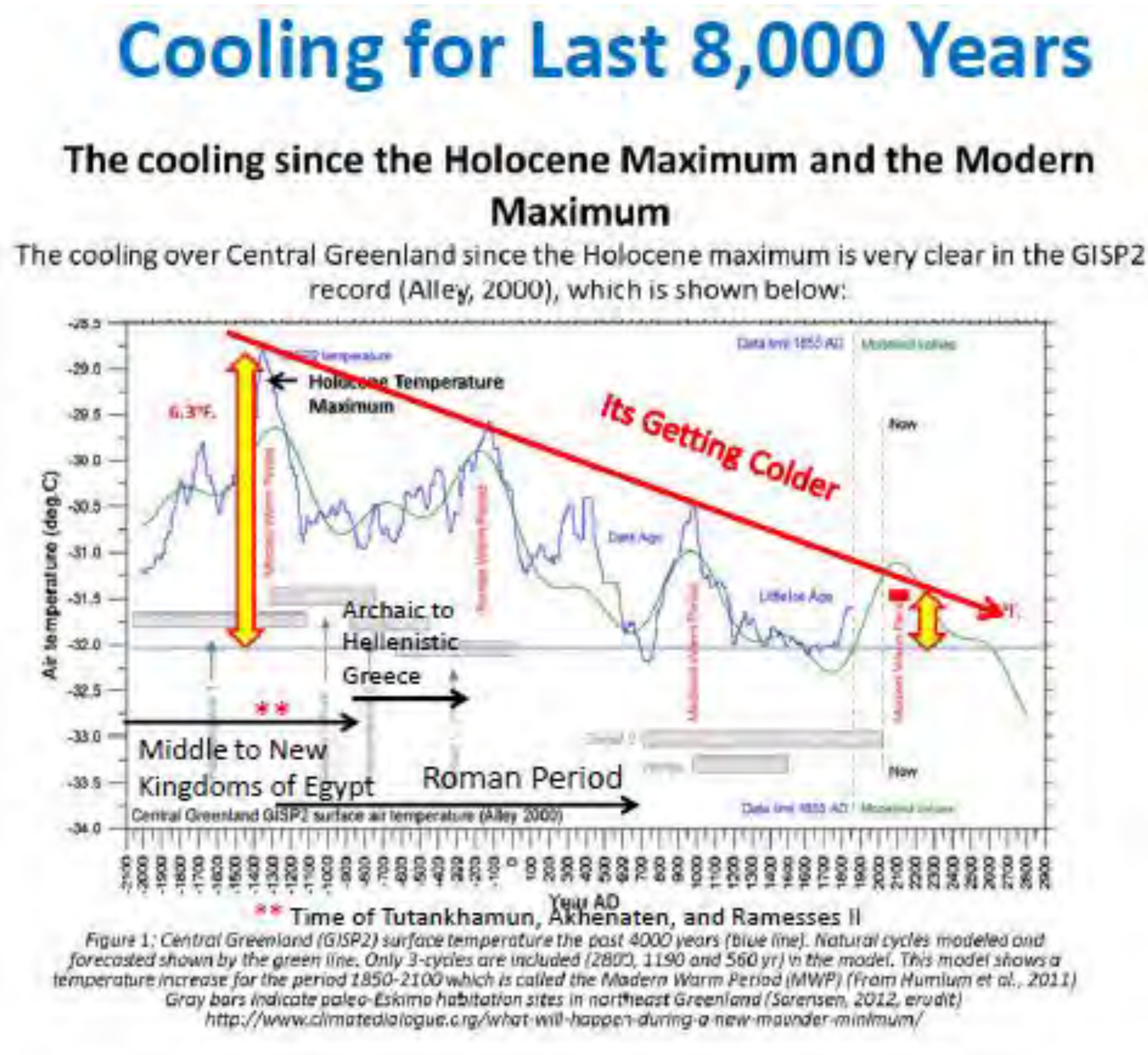
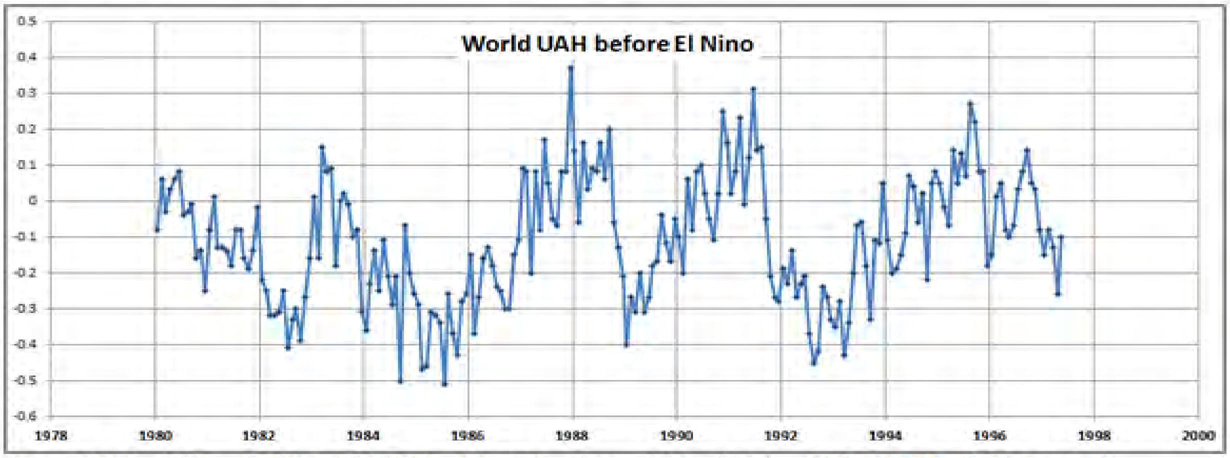


Figure 5. Chart shows the temperature record for the last 4,000 years, since 2,000 BC from Greenland ice core program (GISP2).

Note that the temperature has fallen by 6.3°F since 1500 BC, at time of Middle Kingdom of Egypt to 1750 AD at time of Little Ice Age. Since 1750 the temperature has risen about 1°F, so today we are about 5.3°F cooler than during time of Middle Kingdom. Today, temperature is rising as earth "climbs" out of the Little Ice Age period[169]. Temperature has been cooling since the last temperature maximum about 8,000 years ago (the period 6,000 BC – 2,000 BC not shown)[170].

A. The ONLY warming has come from the main El Nino events.



From 1980-1997… NO WARMING (above). From 2001-2015… NO WARMING (below)

El Nino events have no CO2 or human forcing, they are PURELY NATURAL.

B. After the 97/98 super El Nino, we went right into a positive AMO. That could account for the apparent step caused by the El Nino.

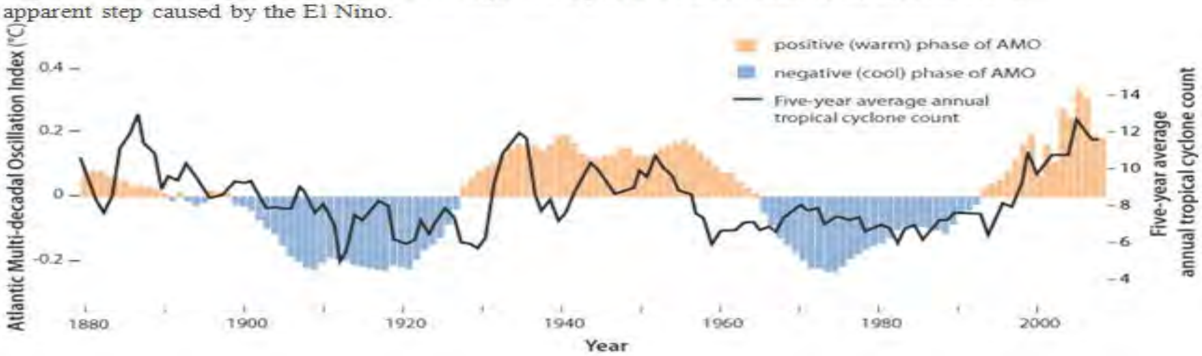
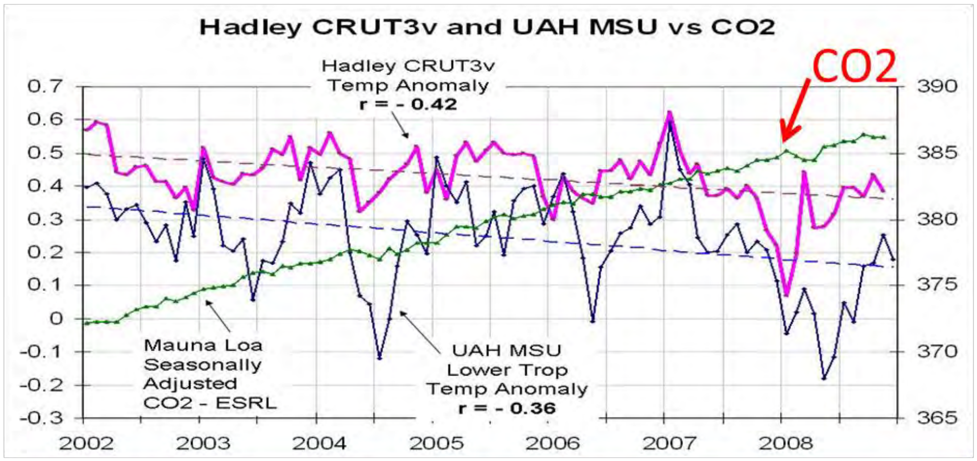


Figure 6. No increase in the temperature record occurs outside of El Nino events, which are purely natural events.

Note that in upper and lower panels of A, which does not include the El Nino years, the temperature fluctuates but does not increase over the period. The most recent positive El Nino main event occurred in 1998-2002. A. Univ. of Alabama Huntsville (UAH) satellite temperature record before (A, upper) and after (A, lower) main El Nino events. B. El Nino warm and cool events since 1880. El Nino events are unrelated to CO2 or to CO2-forcing, but are natural events.[171]

Carbon dioxide does not control temperature



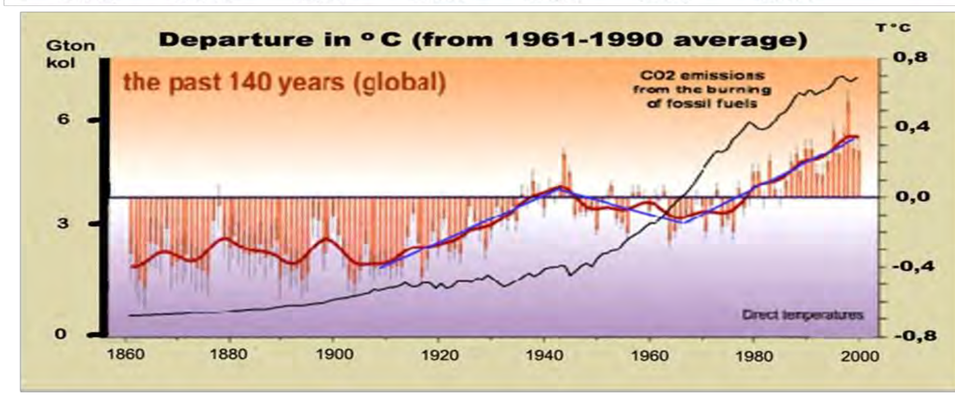


Fig. 1. Changes in mean global temperature 1860–2000 (main graph and right hand scale) and increase in emission of carbon (thin curve and left hand scale).

Does human CO2 emissions change the climate? Faith vs. Facts by Fred Goldberg - London Conference at Conway Hall September 8 and 9, 2016 on C limate Change:Science & Geoethics

Figure 7. Carbon dioxide does not control temperature

Both charts show that temperature falls (upper) or rises and falls (lower) as carbon dioxide continues to increase to show there is not a correlation between temperature and CO2. *Lacking a correlation, CO2 cannot be related to temperature*. **Upper** – Comparing temperature records (purple, Hadley CRUT2v global ground-based; and UAH MSU global satellite in black curve) against carbon dioxide (green curve, Mauna Loa CO2), 2002 to 2009. As the temperature falls the CO2 continues to rise, so there is not a relationship between temperature and CO2 level. **Lower –** Comparing temperature anomaly (red) against carbon dioxide (black), 1880 to 2010[172]. This graph shows there is not correlation between the temperature curve and the CO2 curve. Notice, in particular, that during the 1940 to 1970 period that as temperature is falling that the CO2 is rising. This relationship confirms there is not a relationship between temperature and carbon dioxide.

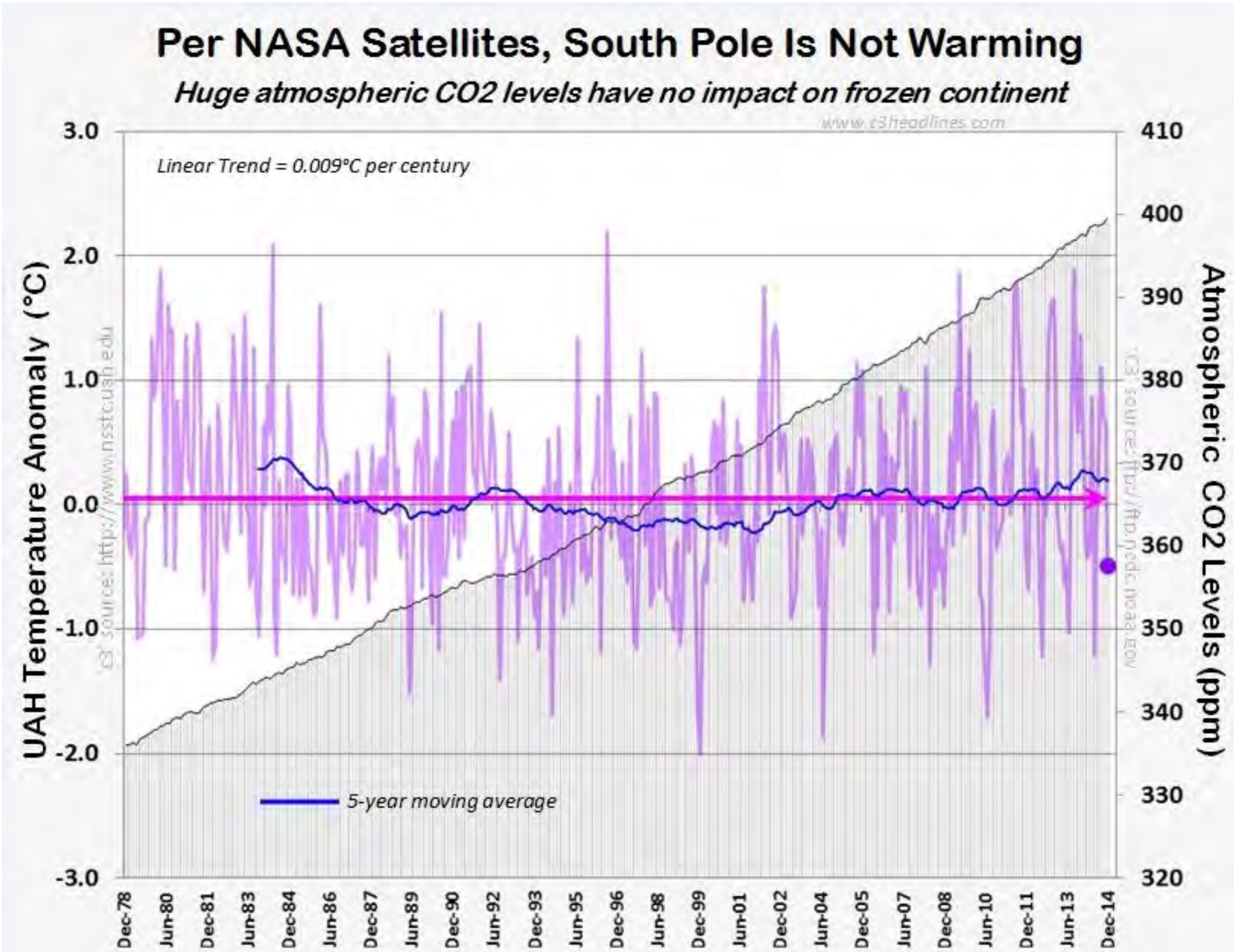


Figure 8. Comparison of satellite temperature record at the South Pole against level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

The atmospheric temperature (purple) shows no relationship to the rise in level of carbon dioxide (gray shading and gray curve) since 1978 to support the conclusion that CO2 cannot exert a control on temperature[173]. This graph proves that CO2 has no effect upon the temperature at the South Pole.

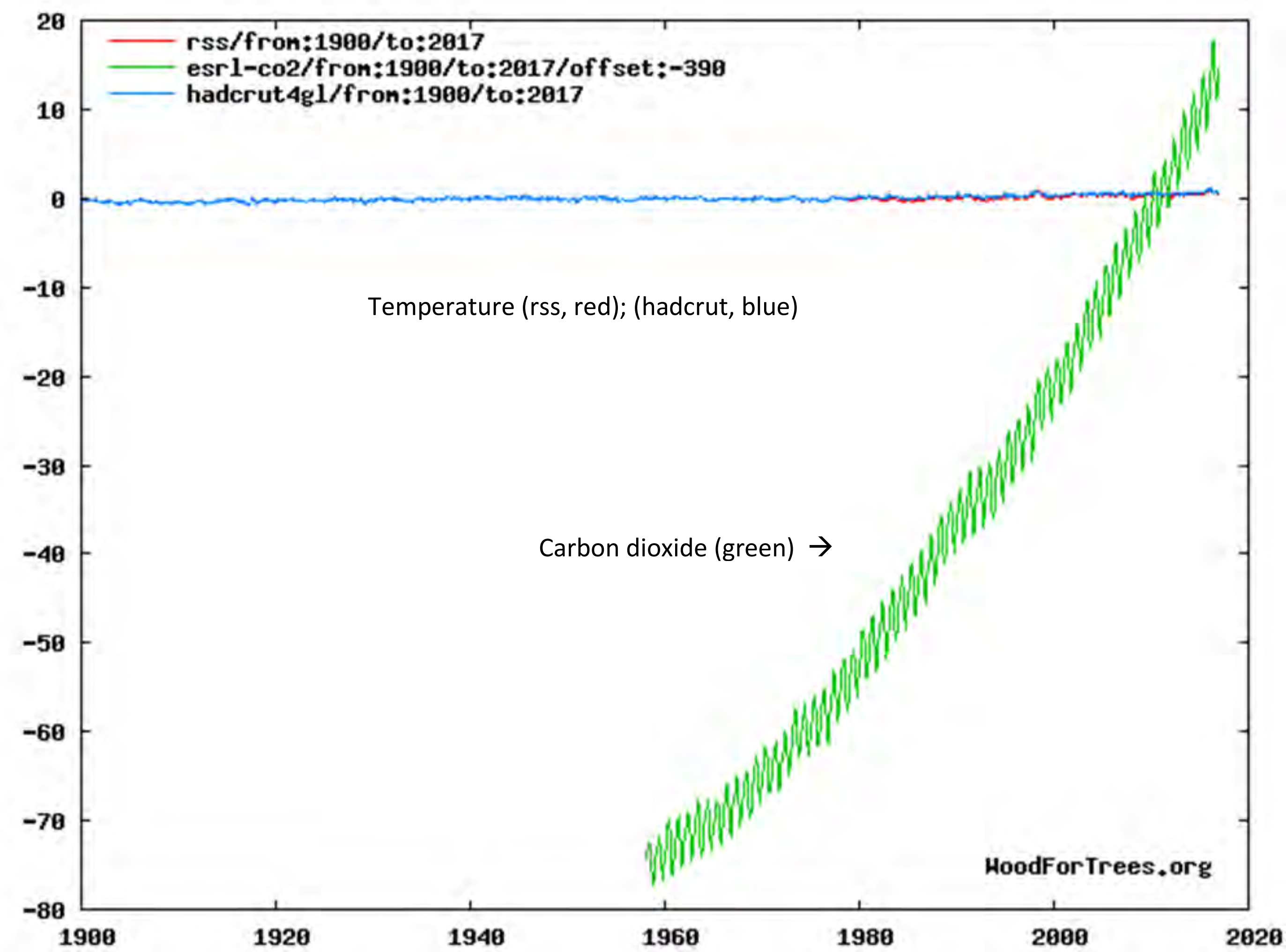


Figure 9. Comparison of carbon dioxide and temperature from 1900 to 2017

The satellite temperature record from Remote Sensing Systems (red line, RSS) from 1979 and surface global temperature record from Hadley (blue line, HADCRUT 4) from 1900 to present are compared with the carbon dioxide record (green) since 1958. Note there is not a response of temperature from increasing level of carbon dioxide which forces us to reject any claim that CO2 has a control on temperature.[174]

Appendix 2. - Calculation of Hydro One Ontario electricity rate in kwhr

CALCULATION OF HYDRO ONE, ONTARIO ELECTRICITY RATE (IN KWHR)

Caution: This spreadsheet is an attemt to estimate the electricity cost in Ontario in dollars and cents (Canadian) in kilowatts per hour. This example I assume that all costs are expressed in cents per kwhr. One is a difficult task but caution is that about 75% of the customer billing is for global adjustment and about 15-25% are fixed charges, but fixed charges are ignored here. In this example we start with the Hydro One R2 low density urban rate of 29.9 cents/kwhr given for 2015 assuming this is the total cost per kwhr and estimate the cost forward. We know that the rate increased 19 cents per kwhr in 2016, $141 per month in 2018 and $144 per month in Jan. 2019. We assume usage is 815 kwhr per month.

The result: The calculated rate for beginning January 2018 is 66.2 cents/kwhr and the rate for January 2019 is 83.9 cents/kwhr

	Rate	Addition	Addition
	C cents/kwhr	C cents/kwhr	$/month
2015	0.299		
2016	0.489	0.19	
2017	0.489		
2018	0.662	0.173	141
2019	0.839	0.177	144

Table 1: Ontario electricity price increases

	Cents per kilowatt hour 2006	Cents per kilowatt hour 2015	% change
Toronto Hydro	11.75	20.26	72.4%
Hydro Ottawa	11.17	19.11	71.1%
Hydro One R1	13.20	22.52	70.6%
Hydro One R2	17.91	29.90	66.9%
Hydro One UR	12.02	19.99	66.3%

Sources: 1. Hydro One website; 2. Survey of average electric rates from utilities across Canada (D. Boleneus,01-2017)

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Source: Getting zapped: Ontario’s residential hydro prices increasing faster than anywhere in North America: Brady Yauch, economist, Energy Probe, Consumer Policy Institute, http://cpiprobeinternational.org

Source: StatisticsCanada – www.statcan.ca

Source: Why does Ontarios electricity cost so much? A reality check https://beta.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/why-does-electricity-cost-so-much-in-ontario/article33453270/?ref=http://www.theglobeandmail.com&

Exchange rates (Dec. 19, 2017)

US to Canadian 1.29 or 1 CAD = 0.7767 USD
US to German mark 1.72 or 1 DEM – 0.605227 USD
German mark to CN dollar 1 DEM = 0.779334 CAD or 1 CAD = 1.28315 DEM

Calculation of Ontario’s electric rate in 2018 in US dollars
CN$ 0.662 x .7767 = US$ 0.514 / kwhr

Calculation of Ontario’s electric rate in 2019 in US dollars
CN$ 0.839 x .7767 = US$ 0.6517

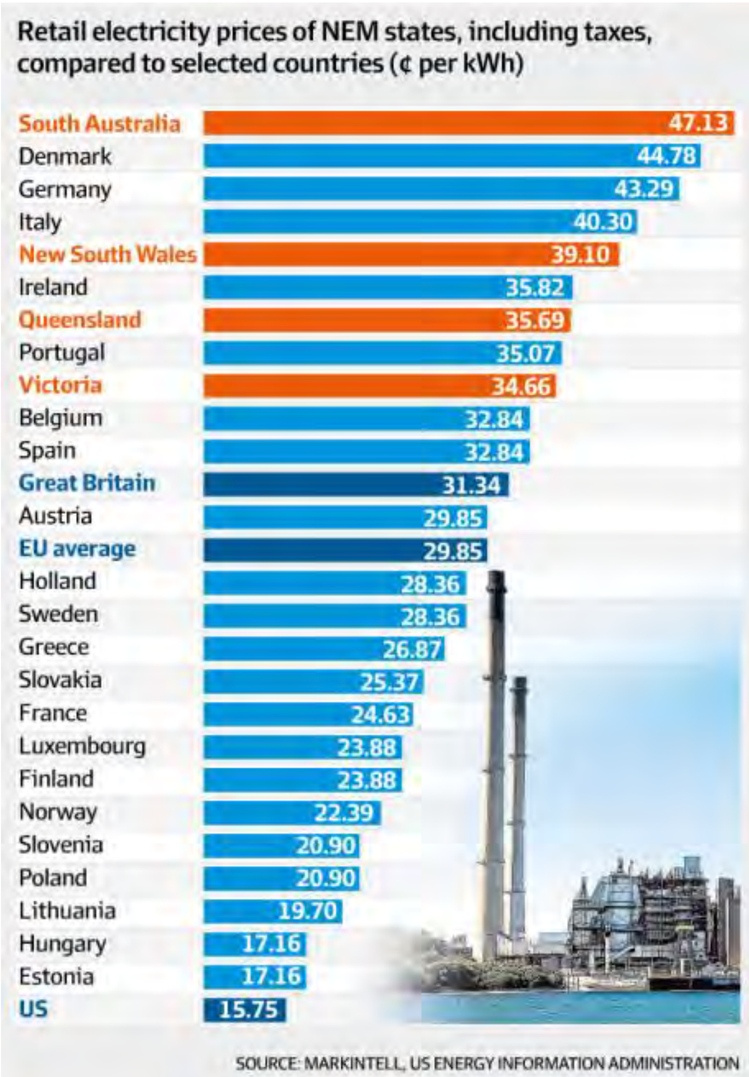

Figure 10. Electricity prices worldwide

See end notes[175][176]

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Youtube video available - "The Avista Utility Sale-What does it mean for our region".

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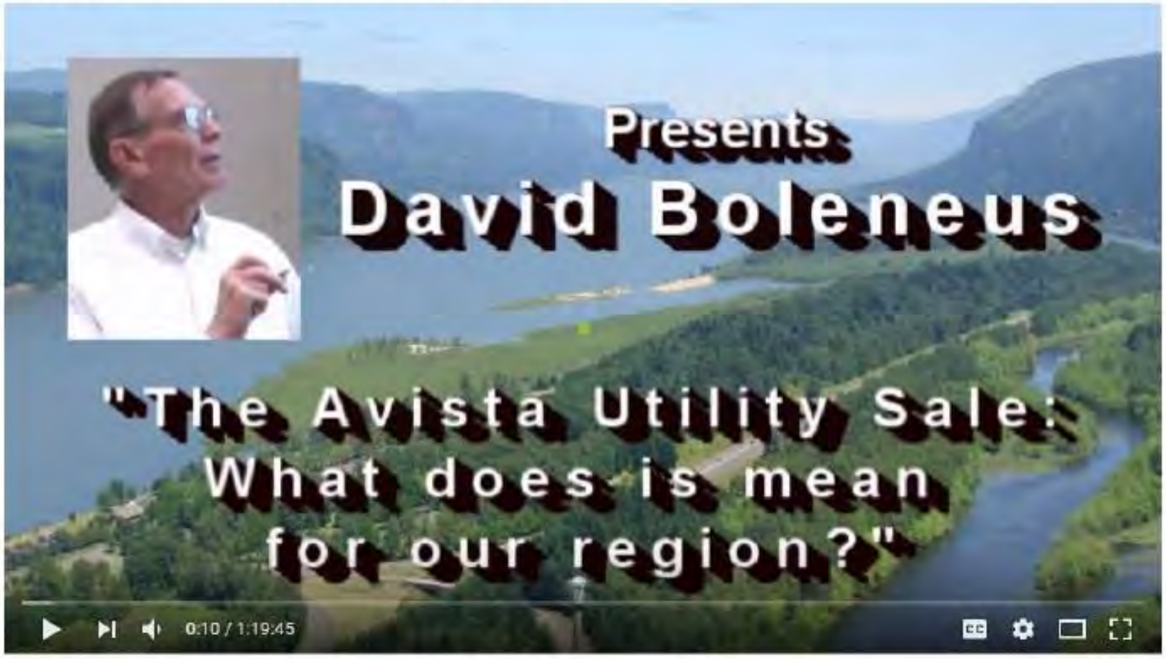

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Mr. Boleneus, a geologist and wheat grower in Eastern Washington, has presented several lectures on the topics of "Avista Utilities Sale to Ontario's HydroOne" and on "Climate Change-Why Its Not Happening".

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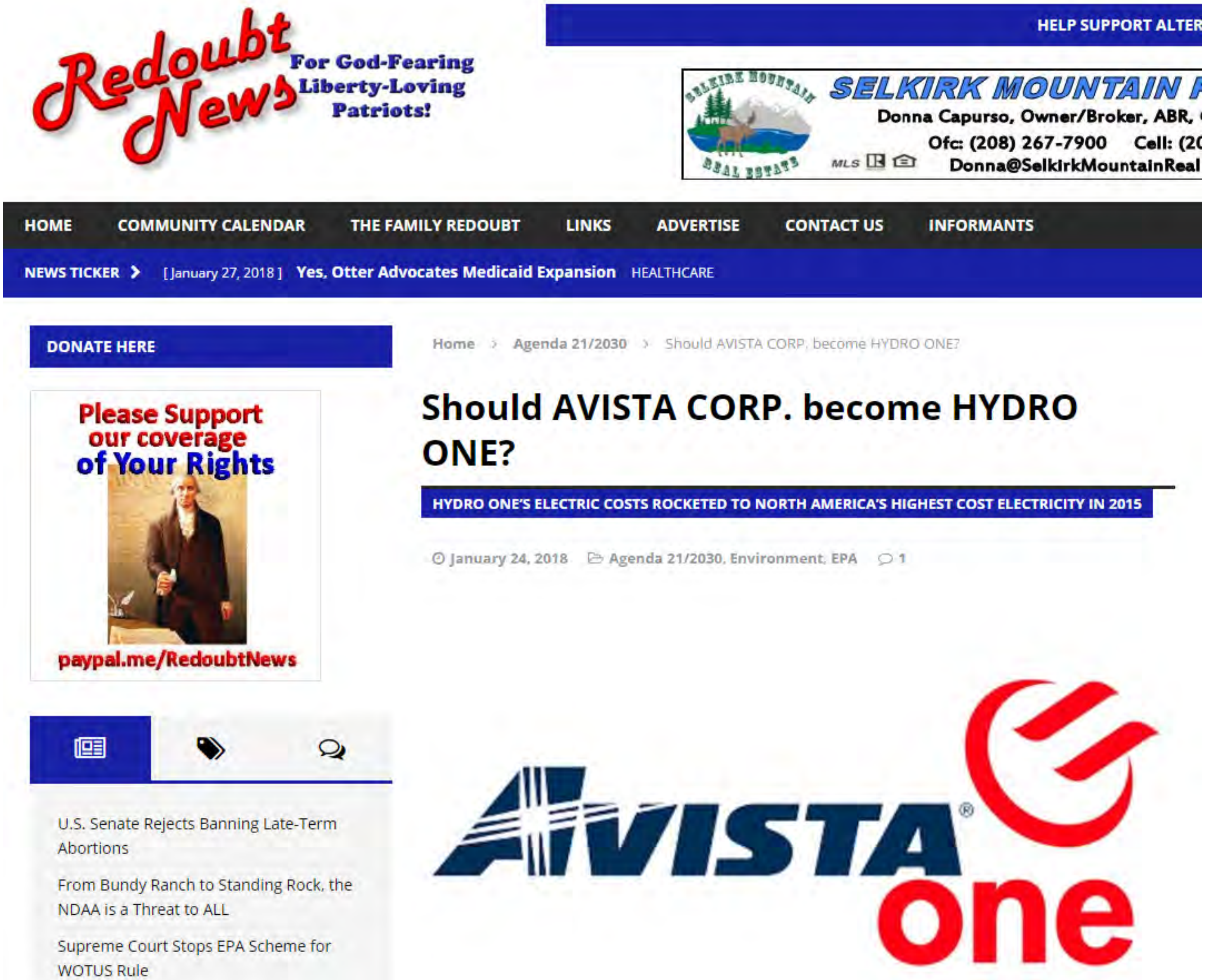

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