

Global Warming: Methane Could Be Far Worse Than Carbon Dioxide -
Health Supreme by Sepp Hasslberger

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Global Warming: Methane Could Be Far
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Methane gas, abundantly trapped as a half frozen slush in the northern hemisphere's tundra permafrost regions and at the bottom of the sea may well be a ticking time bomb, says geologist John Acheson in an article published by the Baltimore Sun in December last year. Methane is about twenty times stronger as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Since arctic warming seems to proceed faster than expected, there is a real danger that deposits of methane and similar gases trapped in normally frozen ground, may thaw out and "belch" into the atmosphere, wreaking havoc with our computer simulations of global warming. According to Gregory Ryskin, associate professor of chemical engineering at Northwestern University, "explosive clouds of methane gas, initially trapped in stagnant bodies of water and suddenly released, could have killed off the majority of marine life and land animals and plants at the end of the Permian era, long before dinosaurs lived and died. Ryskin believes that methane may have been the driving force in previous catastrophic changes of the earth's climate, where 95 percent of marine species and 70 percent of land species were lost in - geologically speaking - the blink of an eye. You may ask "what can I do about this?". There are some suggestions in an article posted on the ZPEnergy site. Perhaps we should do everything possible to reverse the current trend towards global warming by burning less fossil fuels. The first target would be to go "carbon neutral", after which we should be figuring out ways to trap some of the excess carbon in the atmosphere and use it or store it in a non-gaseous form. Using hydrogen instead of petroleum-derived fuels would be a first step, although we must find a way to produce the gas without burning more of the black stuff. Options range from the relatively inefficient direct-current electrolysis, solar hydrogen production at sea, the use of metal catalysts, high frequency electric currents, ultraviolet light, and the action of bacteria which naturally

produce hydrogen. It seems none of the technologies are quite ready to use, but there is no room for complacency. Comes to mind the methane atmosphere that was recently found to be prevalent on Saturn's moon Titan. Could there be a point of break in the equilibrium of atmospheric composition where a celestial body's gas cover can switch from a predominantly nitrogen/oxygen composition to predominantly methane? If so, we better watch our steps because human bodies as well as most known animal species do not run on methane. We might be in for an unpleasant surprise.

John Acheson asks: "How likely is it that humans will cause methane burps by burning fossil fuels? No one knows. But it is somewhere between possible and likely at this point, and it becomes more likely with each passing year that we fail to act. So forget rising sea levels, melting ice caps, more intense storms, more floods, destruction of habitats and the extinction of polar bears. Forget warnings that global warming might turn some of the world's major agricultural areas into deserts and increase the range of tropical diseases, even though this is the stuff we're pretty sure will happen." In what might have been an early warning, in 1986, lake Nyos in Cameroon "burped" an amount of gases killing 1800 people, following a much smaller scale disaster on neighboring lake Monoun two years earlier, which killed 37 people. While carbon dioxide has been fingered as the main culprit, there seems to have been a "fiery" component to the eruption indicating possible presence of combustible methane: "Skin discoloration found on some victims were tentatively interpreted as burns, but this diagnosis is still controversial. Witnesses on topographic highs report a loud noise originating from the lake and, in the case of lake Nyos, flashes of light visible over the lake". Apparently, three dissolved gasses, carbon dioxide, hydrogen sulphide and methane come together and indeed, a project to recover the methane from the waters of Lake Kivu, on Rwanda's north-western border, is in advanced stage of engineering. A similar project is underway to de-gas lakes Nyos and Monoun in Cameroon. While such isolated cases as the lakes in Africa may be amenable to direct engineering solutions, capturing the gasses and putting the methane to use as a fuel, we may not have such an easy solution ready for widespread methane out gassing from the warming of larger bodies of water and huge stretches of half-frozen tundra.

The only possible solution to stem the steady increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide would seem to satisfy our energy needs without burning hydrocarbons.

Ticking Time Bomb by John Acheson

Baltimore Sun 15 Dec 2004

(sqwalk.com) or (commondreams.org)

The Arctic Council's recent report on the effects of global warming in the far north paints a grim picture: global floods, extinction of polar bears and other marine mammals, collapsed fisheries. But it ignored a ticking time bomb buried in the Arctic tundra. There are enormous quantities of naturally occurring greenhouse gasses trapped in ice-like structures in the cold northern muds and at the bottom of the seas. These ices, called clathrates, contain 3,000 times as much methane as is in the atmosphere. Methane is more than 20 times as strong a greenhouse gas as carbon dioxide.

Now here's the scary part. A temperature increase of merely a few degrees would cause these gases to volatilize and "burp" into the atmosphere, which would further raise temperatures, which would release yet more methane, heating the Earth and seas further, and so on. There's 400 gigatons of methane locked in the frozen arctic tundra - enough to start this chain reaction - and the kind of warming the Arctic Council predicts is sufficient to melt the clathrates and release these greenhouse

gases into the atmosphere.

Once triggered, this cycle could result in runaway global warming the likes of which even the most pessimistic doomsayers aren't talking about.

An apocalyptic fantasy concocted by hysterical environmentalists? Unfortunately, no. Strong geologic evidence suggests something similar has happened at least twice before. The most recent of these catastrophes occurred about 55 million years ago in what geologists call the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM), when methane burps caused rapid warming and massive die-offs, disrupting the climate for more than 100,000 years. The granddaddy of these catastrophes occurred 251 million years ago, at the end of the Permian period, when a series of methane burps came close to wiping out all life on Earth.

More than 94 percent of the marine species present in the fossil record disappeared suddenly as oxygen levels plummeted and life teetered on the verge of extinction. Over the ensuing 500,000 years, a few species struggled to gain a foothold in the hostile environment. It took 20 million to 30 million years for even rudimentary coral reefs to re-establish themselves and for forests to regrow. In some areas, it took more than 100 million years for ecosystems to reach their former healthy diversity.

Geologist Michael J. Benton lays out the scientific evidence for this epochal tragedy in a recent book, *When Life Nearly Died: The Greatest Mass Extinction of All Time*. As with the PETM, greenhouse gases, mostly carbon dioxide from increased volcanic activity, warmed the earth and seas enough to release massive amounts of methane from these sensitive clathrates, setting off a runaway greenhouse effect.

The cause of all this havoc? In both cases, a temperature increase of about 10.8 degrees Fahrenheit, about the upper range for the average global increase today's models predict can be expected from burning fossil fuels by 2100. But these models could be the tail wagging the dog since they don't add in the effect of burps from warming gas hydrates. Worse, as the Arctic Council found, the highest temperature increases from human greenhouse gas emissions will occur in the arctic regions - an area rich in these unstable clathrates.

If we trigger this runaway release of methane, there's no turning back. No do-overs. Once it starts, it's likely to play out all the way. Humans appear to be capable of emitting carbon dioxide in quantities comparable to the volcanic activity that started these chain reactions.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, burning fossil fuels releases more than 150 times the amount of carbon dioxide emitted by volcanoes - the equivalent of nearly 17,000 additional volcanoes the size of Hawaii's Kilauea. And that is the time bomb the Arctic Council ignored.

How likely is it that humans will cause methane burps by burning fossil fuels? No one knows. But it is somewhere between possible and likely at this point, and it becomes more likely with each passing year that we fail to act.

So forget rising sea levels, melting ice caps, more intense storms, more floods, destruction of habitats and the extinction of polar bears. Forget warnings that global warming might turn some of the world's major agricultural areas into deserts and increase the range of tropical diseases, even though this is the stuff we're pretty sure will happen. Instead, let's just get with the Bush administration's policy of pre-emption. We can't afford to have the first sign of a failed energy policy be the mass extinction of life on Earth. We have to act now.

John Atcheson, a geologist, has held a variety of policy positions in several federal government

agencies.

See also:

Methane's Impacts on Climate Change May Be Twice Previous Estimates
March 2005: Scientists Create, Study Methane Hydrates in 'Ocean Floor'
Lab

Global temperatures could be set to soar

New Scientist - 29 January 2005:

THE Earth could be even more sensitive to global warming than we imagined. If carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere double, as they are widely expected to do, the planet's temperature could rise by a huge 11.5 Å°C, according to early results from a project that uses home PCs to test climate models.

Runaway Methane Global Warming

Atmospheric Methane - Oceanic Burp Warmed Earth

Researchers have found evidence to support a theory that an abrupt warming of the Earth 55 million years ago was caused by the sudden release from the ocean of frozen deposits of methane.

COINCIDENCE STINKS - by Tom Slattery

Take a look at this "coincidence" of Los Angeles rainfall in 1883-84 and Los Angeles rainfall for the present "water year" of 2004-05...

CBS News: Ancient Global Warming Disaster

Methane may have caused extinction

Search Tuna on Methane Hydrates Global Warming

Global Warming

Scientific documentation and ramifications of global warming from both human as well as natural causes. A number of global warming links on the Free Energy News site.

Suggestions for Urgent Action to Avoid an End to Life on Earth by 2026!

Alternatives to fossil fuel technologies...

Hot and Bothered: An Interview with Ross Gelbspan

Mother Jones - April 18, 2005

For nearly a decade, Ross Gelbspan has watched global warming deniers generate a lot of heat, and little light. "First time around, they said global warming is not happening," he says. "Then after the science became pretty powerful, they said, 'Well it's good for us.' Now they're saying that the impacts will be pretty negligible. They're a moving target." The former Boston Globe editor and veteran journalist first encountered the skeptics when he started writing about climate change in the early 1990s. Their arguments almost convinced him to drop the subject altogether. But he soon came to understand that global warming was not only real, it was perhaps the most important story of the day.

Some Like It Hot

WHEN NOVELIST MICHAEL CRICHTON took the stage before a lunchtime crowd

in Washington, D.C., one Friday in late January, the event might have seemed, at first, like one more unremarkable appearance by a popular author with a book to sell. Indeed, Crichton had just such a book, his new thriller, *State of Fear*. But the content of the novel, the setting of the talk, and the audience who came to listen transformed the Crichton event into something closer to a hybrid of campaign rally and undergraduate seminar...

Mystery Climate Mechanism May Counteract Global Warming

A new study by two physicists at the University of Rochester suggests there is a mechanism at work in the Earth's atmosphere that may blunt the influence of global warming, and that this mechanism is not accounted for in the computer models scientists currently use to predict the future of the world's temperature. The researchers, David H. Douglass and Robert S. Knox, professors of physics, plotted data from satellite measurements of the Earth's atmosphere in the months and years following the volcanic eruption of Mount Pinatubo in 1991. The results, published in an upcoming issue of *Geophysical Research Letters* (and now online), show that global temperatures dropped more and rebounded to normal significantly faster than conventional climate models could have predicted.

Michael Crichton's book *STATE OF FEAR* discusses global warming in the informal setting of a novel. He nevertheless does give documentation and states his conclusions clearly. Perhaps the essential concept he conveys is that "we know astonishingly little about every aspect of the environment, from its past history, to its present state, to how to conserve and protect it."

Weather Wars

Greenland Sea Cold Water Re-Cycling Has Nearly Stopped
Britain Expected to Become Cooler. by Linda Moulton Howe
Will the Threat to Life Cause Vested Interests to Support Energy Breakthroughs?

Rapid melting of the arctic permafrost is an unrecognized time bomb. Huge deposits of methane, a greenhouse gas twenty times more destructive than carbon dioxide, are locked in the permafrost. Methane, released as "burps", could snuff all mammalian life in the arctic ...

posted by Sepp Hasslberger on Tuesday February 1 2005 updated on Sunday November 6 2005

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http://www.newmediaexplorer.org/sepp/2005/02/01/global_warming_methane_could_be_far_worse_than_carbon_dioxide.htm

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Disclosure Project charges: Energy inventions suppressed A pattern of deliberate suppression of energy related inventions has been found by investigators of the Disclosure Project, a group that promotes government transparency in technology related areas, such as energy technology and extraterrestrial technologies gleaned by governments from UFO finds. They are asking whistle-blowers to come forward to add hard evidence to substantiate the pattern.... [read more]

February 10, 2004 - Sepp Hasslberger

Ocean's Bounty is Gone

As humans we have a duty to ourselves and to future generations to preserve this planet as a sustainable habitat for the human, and by logical extension, for all other species living here. Clearly we are not doing so. As Bill McKibben reports in the Miami Herald, according to a study published in Nature this spring, "the populations of every single species of large wild fish have fallen by 90%..." [read more] June 10, 2003 - Sepp Hasslberger

Global Warming or Ice Age Coming?

We hear about global warming and in fact, the temperatures seem to be slowly inching up. Whether this is a man made effect or depends on solar activity or other environmental factors outside of our control is an open question. What is new to me is that, even in a scenario of global warming, there could be local flips towards a cold climate. A mechanism that could bring about such... [read more]

February 07, 2004 - Sepp Hasslberger

'Oil Shock' Looming - What are the Alternatives?

We like to think that our way of life is "normal", that nothing will happen to force a drastic change in how we live, produce, move around, warm ourselves in the winter and light our streets and houses. Yet, we are using a highly vulnerable energy technology (the burning of fossil fuels) and we have allowed a commercial cartel to monopolize that energy technology while sabotaging any valid alternatives. We... [read more]

June 24, 2004 - Sepp Hasslberger

The Energy Racket

What does energy have to do with us? Are we not able to get electricity from "the grid" and fill our vehicles' tanks with various types of hydrocarbon combustibles - all for a reasonable price? Energy is one of the areas where a potentially disastrous monopoly is controlling what goes and what doesn't. Potentially disastrous because monopolies have the nasty habit of charging whatever the market will bear, and wiping... [read more]

August 24, 2003 - Sepp Hasslberger

Water + Sunlight + Catalyst = Hydrogen - Are We Ready For It?

Recently, I sent out an e-mail message to some people interested in the energy dilemma, linking an article that describes a potentially very significant discovery on how to manufacture hydrogen without input of electricity. The article, which can be found here, says: Australian scientists predict that a revolutionary new way to harness the power of the sun to extract clean and almost unlimited energy supplies from water will be a... [read more]

October 05, 2004 - Sepp Hasslberger

Readers' Comments

JH,

Here is something that could add to methanogens munching in the warming and rotting tundra.

The soliton wave resulting from the Dec 26 quake and its tsunami (+ the effects of the week-earlier giant quake south of Australia) could have released CH₄ from delicate unstable methane hydrate crystals on the ocean floor.

The wave was only an elevation of about 50 cm, but it traveled along the ocean floor at circa 700 kph. I can only guess that some methane would have been released. Some may have "re-crystalized" but crystal growth processes are slow and CH₄ gas would have gone upward and away. In addition, the shock of the 2 quakes could have liberated more CH₄ from these crystals. And in addition to that, both CO₂ and CH₄ might have been liberated from near-shore sediments that contain organic matter.

Moreover, as with a soft-drink can that is shaken, some amount of CO₂ dissolved in the ocean may have been liberated by those huge quakes. Also, ocean flora use CO₂ and sunlight to make organic matter. Less CO₂ means ever so slightly fewer ocean flora. Fewer ocean flora means less sunlight converted into organic matter and more being retained in the ocean as warmer water. So we could see a temporary glitch El Nino somewhere, changing world weather as a result.

All of the above possibilities would suddenly add localized greenhouse gas, as opposed to steady release of greenhouse gas from warming and rotting tundra.

The suddenness and limited area of the release and warming might upset delicate complex climate equilibriums. This would create wilder weather. And wilder weather would lessen agricultural production. Marginal areas could face additional hunger. World economy in general might feel the effects. Tom Slattery

Posted by: Tom Slattery on February 1, 2005 09:30 PM

Thank you for your comment, Tom.

I think the question is not about methanogens munching away, but rather accumulated methane in icy crystal form turning to methane gas.

Whether the tsunami wave might have anything to do with this - frankly I think it unlikely, because waves do not generally travel along the ocean floor like a current might and thus do not unstabilize things at the ocean floor level.

In fact, some divers who were under water at the time of the tsunami

only found out that anything had happened when they emerged and saw signs of destruction such as floating debris.

By the way, no one is saying that this is already happening. It is a possibility that should be investigated. That's all.

Posted by: Sepp on February 1, 2005 10:29 PM

I would urge skepticism with any "official pronouncements" by so-called experts. Many (if not most) times they are simply advocating policy changes to enhance their own lucrative positions. And why should we be over-concerned with the production of CO₂? According to The Weather Channel, a greater surface of the earth is now covered with forests than ever before. So isn't that a blessing? I took a university course in natural resources and environmental quality; one of the things we learned was that agricultural productivity is actually higher next to highways. So while I applaud the efforts to reduce toxic emissions like mercury, let's take a rational and market-based approach to the situation. By inventively adapting to these earth changes, we can learn to live with them and maybe even prevent them from becoming too cataclysmic. And if all else fails, consider a brighter future in underground homes!

Posted by: Visionaerie on February 2, 2005 10:53 PM

The discussion with Tom Slattery continued by email. Here is where we are, so far 23 February 05:

Tom Slattery on 2 February:

Sepp,

Thanks for replying.

On tundra methane: my understanding was that as the tundra warms due to global warming it begins to rot. Various microorganisms, including methanogens, become increasingly active. More CO₂ and more CH₄ is produced as a result.

On the methane hydrate crystals along the deep ocean bottom: I am just wildly guessing that there was some disturbance. These extremely unstable "clathane" crystals only grow where it is ultra-still, ultra-deep, and ultra-cold. The soliton wave that eventually resulted in the tsunamis of December 26 had an elevation of only about 50 cm. This would not mean much of a pressure difference. But the pressure difference did travel along the ocean floor at 700 kph. Alas, I have no

idea what it takes to break up a methane hydrate crystal. But I just have a gut feeling that some of these very delicate unstable crystals "decrystalized" into methane and water, and the former made its way to the surface.

Reports are that as the solitons entered shallower water and became tsunamis they ripped apart coral beds and a lot else on the near-shore ocean floor. Perhaps the divers only drifted along on it and, as you say, experienced almost nothing. But subsequent divers have been going down and reporting damage.

So I have to guess that at least some of the sediment was disturbed and trapped CH₄ and CO₂ was released. How much? I don't know..

Same with the big whacks of the two late-December quakes. These had to have shook out some dissolved CO₂ from ocean water. That would have a twofold effect. First and most obviously, it could have put ever so slightly more greenhouse gas into the atmosphere. But the after that the other effect would have more of a greenhouse impact. Ocean flora live by using sunlight to convert CO₂ into plant organic matter. Less CO₂ will mean less of these ocean flora, which need it to live. Less ocean flora means that more sunlight will heat water instead of being used to make plant organic matter.

So one could imagine that there could be some ocean warming in the region. And we know what El Nino ocean warming does to global weather. But this is all just wild speculation. Who knows? Tom Slattery

Sepp on 2 February:

Thanks Tom,

I see your reasoning. As you say, we can speculate, but I have a feeling it's better to try and collect the facts we know, and base our conclusions on them.

Kind regards

Sepp

Tom, again on 2 February:

Sepp,

Yes. Sad to say, without more facts this speculation comes close to becoming a form of entertainment. Its saving grace is that before any facts can be gotten, intelligent questions have to be asked. I probably lack the mental and physical resources to find answers to these, but in tossing the asking of them out there, I can only hope that someone might dredge up some of the necessary facts. Tom Slattery

Sepp, again, on 2 February:

Good point, Tom.

perhaps just waking someone's interest is quite enough to get a result.

Sepp

Tom Slattery on 23 February:

Sepp,

Here is an addition to my speculation about ocean-bottom methane hydrate being destabilized by the giant December 26, 2004 quake and its tsunamis.

The present destructive near-record rainfall of 34.36 inches (multiply by about 3 for cm) over Los Angeles and southern California is rapidly approaching the record circa 38 inches set in the 1883-84 rainfall season.

What happened in on August 26, 1883? Krakatoa blew up. And it sent tsunamis in about the same areas as the Dec 26, 04 giant quake did.

Here's my guess. The released methane gas caused localized greenhouse warming over the Indian Ocean and south Asia. This pushed the cold Siberian air mass northward. And this, in turn, pushed the Gulf of Alaska and north Pacific air southward.

Normally rainy Seattle has been dry. Southern California has gotten a huge amount of rain, nearing the 1883-84 record. I think that there may be something to it. Tom Slattery

Posted by: Sepp on February 23, 2005 07:56 PM

If we don't burn fossil fuels, then they will accumulate and create the problem you are addressing. Fossil fuels are millions of years in the making while there is a huge amount that has reached that age today and there will be more tomorrow. The energy from the sun is building up on earth like a huge solar collector. We need to use it, not run away from it. We need to use more fossil fuels. We need to have an honest dialogue about energy. Politics is clouding these basic truths.

Posted by: Bobby Fontaine on February 24, 2005 03:10 PM

how accurate is this information?

Posted by: joe benn on May 20, 2005 07:20 PM

I have been working on a project in Africa on Lake Kivu, mentioned in

the original article, to produce methane from the 2tcf of dissolved methane gas (and 10tcf of carbon dioxide.)

The key is to balance the system and look for the ultimate energy cycle that can close the loop on production of methane from the lake, combustion in a power plant to produce CO₂, dissolve much of the CO₂ in lake water, then convert the CO₂ back to methane using the methanogen (archaea) resident in the lake.

After three years of research, development and testing (in the lake) the project is ready to go commercial to produce 150MW of power cheaper than anything else around. The lake can sustain this cycle indefinitely and provide most of the energy needs in the region through electrical power and pipeline gas.

All of this development leads to the expanding possibilities and challenges of doing it in the seas and oceans at some locations I have identified. This can access a far larger resource as well as mitigate the impact(in some cases) of CO₂ release to atmosphere.

I believe we can make significant progress in making more sustainable, renewable energy at the same time as tapping the deep-water methane which is a potentially huge and sustainable resource.

The process is now proven, the will to make it happen is the big challenge to follow.

Posted by: Philip Markel on August 12, 2005 08:09 PM

Dear Sepp

What about methane emitted by cows? As someone from India, you can always accuse me of pushing my religious beliefs on others. But don't you think its time the rest of the world stopped breeding cows only for eating purposes? Nature has given us plenty of other things to eat and as the oldest surviving civilization, India is proof that it makes better sense not to eat beef.

Regards

Ball

Posted by: Ball on November 23, 2005 10:00 AM

Yes Ball,

while methane entrapped in permafrost is a potentially much larger source of the gas, the cow-produced methane is not to be underestimated.

I agree that we should find ways to push our eating habits further down

the food chain, and start eating more vegetables. Perhaps as an abundant protein source we could grow plankton in sea water tanks. Some are already starting with this.

For sure it won't be easy to make the rest of the world follow the Indian example on cows, but it would be a worthwhile target nevertheless. Imagine the shift from violent disposition to a more civilized attitude...

Posted by: Sepp on November 23, 2005 11:47 AM

Let's look at Methane and the concepts surrounding the supposed 'greenhouse' effect.

Lets use for background a familiar quote:-

["Bonds in molecules act like springs. Vibrations can be Symmetrical Asymmetrical, and Bending. In the atmosphere, carbon dioxide, methane, ozone, and water vapor absorb IR by this method (Vibration of Gas Molecules). Atmosphere receives much of its heat this way because the Earth's surface radiates IR. Dominant process for the Greenhouse Effect. Energy in the atmosphere then re-radiates back to the surface as IR via black body radiation."]

I would also refer you to the previously supplied links:-

<http://www.ipr.res.in/~othdiag/fir/stability/node13.html>

<http://www.ipr.res.in/~othdiag/fir/stability/node14.html>

<http://www.ipr.res.in/~othdiag/fir/stability/node15.html>

(for those with some suitable science behind them.)

To proceed.

It is clear that the "Vibrational Energy" outlined is in fact being misinterpreted as a "Vibration" of the entire "Gas Molecule" in a kinetic nature. THIS IS NOT THE CASE.

These are Quantum Vibrational State alterations, and the CONFORMAL (shape) alterations are temporary in QUANTUM Time frames. These 'shape changes'

produce secondary PHOTONS generally in the Infrared REGION with NO kinetic ALTERATION to the molecular unit (i.e no alteration to molecular velocity).

The overall effect of these inadequate treatments used, within 'greenhouse science', of well established theory and knowledge will be to overstate the 'temperature' being represented as being that of the actual materials being 'labeled' as 'greenhouse materials'.

So the Photonic Remittance of CH₄ has led to 'greenhouse science' making CH₄ into a very severe 'greenhouse gas'.

The REALITY is that CH₄ is a very Active remitter of energy, as

secondary Photons, and retains little as a kinetic gain OF the actual molecular unit.

So the PHOTONIC remittance by CH₄ of secondary Photons is NOT indicative of the actual TEMPERATURE (the scaled measure of the kinetic velocity of the molecular units as an average) of the CH₄ molecule either singularly or as a 'population' (in statistical considerations).

Within the 'greenhouse theory' the attempt is made to produce 'numbers' that use the remittance behavior of molecules as 'black body radiation'.

This is done so as to enable 'greenhouse theory' to CLAIM warming, it is the basis of the ERRONEOUS use of Satellites taking measurements in RADIATION that are then made into measurements of TEMPERATURE, and this is an inadequate treatment of the situation actually present.

The absorbency and remittance of energy from molecules is well known as EMPIRICAL knowledge in the level of understanding that IS KNOWN to SCIENCE.

Interactions in a Photonic Style, with the remittance of a Photon, are in fact INDEPENDENT of kinetic gains BY that molecule.

Kinetic gains by a Molecule are in fact made within Wave-Kinetic Interactions, and the energy within the TOTAL INTERACTION is SPLIT between Photonic and Wave-Kinetic Interactions.

The SPLIT in TOTAL ENERGY use by interaction ALTERS with each molecule in conjunction with the specific spectrum being incident. So the various spectra will induce either more kinetic gains, or more energy as a remitted photon.

Again however the "GREENHOUSE THEORY" attempts to link the RE-EMITTANCE with the kinetic gain, and this IS incorrect.

Another example is wanted? Well it is said the Methane is 23x a stronger 'greenhouse gas' than CO₂. As is outlined, the 'greenhouse potential' is seemingly related to the ability to re-emit energy as Secondary Photons, MISTAKENLY inferred by 'greenhouse science' as being a 'black body' response.

Thus the REALITY is that of the energy reemitted ~CO₂:Methane is ~1:23, but that reemitted by H₂O would then be placed H₂O:CO₂:CH₄ as ~1:100:2300.

This is as the PREDOMINATE interaction undergone by H₂O with Radiation in the overlapping spectra shared by these molecules is Wave-Kinetic and THAT results in kinetic gain by the ENTIRE H₂O molecule as a VELOCITY increase, without a Photonic remittance of energy of any significance.

On the other hand, it is READILY seen how METHANE (and CO₂) is an EXCELLENT natural oscillator to regulate the warming climate that actually caused the NATURAL release of such gases.

The release of Methane from natural reserves coincides with those reserves being placed fringing the Polar Regions, when land is suitably

placed as it is by the European Continent as it is presently positioned.

CH₄ (and CO₂) increase the NON H₂O/Photon interactions by interceding more often. These ALTERATIONS, as INCREASES of these molecules (CH₄ and CO₂ as example) produce a REDUCTION in the incidence of H₂O to cascade photons which reduces the rate of kinetic energy induction BY H₂O and as such is a 'cooling process' within the atmosphere. (Remember 'heat induction' is the near inverse of photonic re-emittance.)

The average 'cascade life' of a photon is ~12 months (either loses all energy or escape to Space), and we are speaking of alterations that will not drastically alter that time frame.

As a photon increases its altitude within the Cascade, the decreasing density of the atmosphere promotes the opportunity FOR that photon to avoid other interactions altogether, and actually ESCAPE the Cascade (and Atmosphere) altogether. Also, the condensation/ice points OF H₂O (seen as altitudes within the atmosphere) keep atmospheric H₂O low in the atmosphere, so Photons once gained of altitude can avoid water and still have a vastly improved chance to escape to open Space altogether. Also, these Atmospheric processes are all SECONDARY to the primary induction of kinetic energy produced by the planetary surface.

Realize that the Cascade Process is involving ONLY Energy as Photons, the PRIMARY inductor of Kinetic ENERGY is STILL the Planetary Surface. This (Planetary) Surface Conducts Kinetic Energy into the Atmosphere and it is this process that precedes and produces CONVECTION within the Atmosphere.

Convection within the Atmosphere is seen as Turbulence and Turbulence is driven between differential in Temperature and Pressure.

Hurricanes and other weather systems are the product of Turbulence, and variations in the behavior of these weather systems in their displayed patterning is produced by alterations to Turbulence including the amount of Kinetic Energy involved. These alterations are what Humanity classifies as climate change..

Unnatural alterations to kinetic energy induction are driven by alterations to the material covering of the Planetary Surface.

Thus Unnatural Alteration to Climate, 'CLIMATE-CHANGE' per sec, is driven by Humanities sprawl across the surface and the associated rematerialings thus produced, NOT by 'emissions' which are indeed a problem as AIR POLLUTION.

Peter K. Anderson a.k.a. Hartlod(tm)

If you feel a need to discuss you can find me in Yahoo Groups ('climate-change' or 'powertothepeople').

Posted by: Peter K. Anderson a.k.a. Hartlod(tm) on January 14, 2006
07:43 AM

I am in the process of writing a paper on stored carbon in the earth in relation to global warming. In that quest, I have stumbled upon an alarming fact that you may or may not be aware of.

"Western Siberia is heating up faster than anywhere else in the world, having experienced a rise of some 3C in the past 40 years. The west Siberian peat bog could hold some 70 billion tonnes of methane, a quarter of all the methane stored in the ground around the world. Concentrations of dissolved methane on the Siberian shelf reached 25 times higher than atmospheric saturation, indicating escape of methane from coastal erosion into the atmosphere."

I won't bore you with the details of how varying amounts of released methane affect global warming, because I am sure you know that. Instead, the reason I am writing this is the concern that local releases of methane due to global warming will lead to a feedback loop of localized warming, which will lead to further releases of methane, which will lead to still further micro-warming, etc..

In other words, global atmospheric levels of methane are irrelevant in the short term, as are global mean temperatures, but instead localized atmospheric levels of methane are relevant, as are localized high temperatures.

In particular, the difficulty of mathematically incorporating these localized micro-warming/methane clathrate feedback loops. In other words, I think there is a high probability that current global warming models are seriously underestimating the rate of methane clathrate emissions, and consequently the rate of future global warming.

I do not know if satellite imagery is able to detect surface methane levels, but if it could I predict that you would see a rapid increase in methane emissions from "hot spots" around the world as micro-warming/methane clathrate feedbacks loops start suddenly appearing in the immediate future.

In particular, it would be the high temperature (as opposed to the mean temperature) that will be the factor in starting the feedback loop.

Also, this feedback loop could be over land or shallow ocean and lakes (less than about 100 meters of depth).

Posted by: Brad Arnold on February 2, 2006 09:16 AM

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