

Your opinions

Global warming cartoon falls into propaganda

Steve Benson's cartoon, "I'm not listening!" on May 17, purports to show an ever-warming Earth — arrows showing presumably human-caused climate change. Let's test each of Benson's items by examining data:

Ice Caps Melting! "Cryosphere Today" shows sea ice coverage history since the satellite era began in 1979; Antarctica's total sea ice is highest on record. Total Earth sea ice area is well above the 30-year mean by an area of Texas plus South Carolina.

Droughts increasing! In Senate testimony, Dr. Judith Curry showed, using Palmer's Drought Severity Index, U.S. drought in the past century has actually fallen. **Sea Levels Rising!** Sea levels have been rising for 22,000 years so this isn't new news.

History of Pisa, Ephesus, Ostia Antica and Portus (ports of Rome) and the Roman conquest of England at Richborough Castle and Lympne, shows sea levels higher than today 2,000 and 1,000 years ago. Tide gages show no acceleration of sea level rise as Earth warms from the Little Ice Age.

Extreme Weather Building! Not according to the records of F3 and stronger tornadoes at NOAA, and kinetic energy of hurricanes and tropical storms. When hurricane season begins in a few weeks, it will be the longest time since a Category 3 or greater hurricane struck the United States since records began.

CO2 massing! For most of geologic history there has been much more, up to 17 times more, CO2 than at present. During that time CO2 did not control temperature, and it still doesn't today.

Oceans Warming! Read Svensmark's book, "The Chilling Stars," showing cosmic rays increase strato-cumulus cloudiness, reflecting sunlight, cooling earth. Sunspots chase cosmic rays, sunlight heats the oceans, and earth warms.

Today's climate is stable, bountiful, and perfectly normal.

Cartoonist Benson fails each test;

he's engaging in propaganda.

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<http://arctic.atmos.uiuc.edu/cryosphere/>

<http://ctic.atmos.uiuc.edu/cryosphere/IMAGES/global.daily.ice.area.withtrend.jpg>

http://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Testimony&Hearing_ID=e07101a7-0715-7690-b6e9-c39e56a3b468&Witness_ID=b46b2226-01bf-4156-a675-ae9093e5e140

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