

Global Warming: a Climate crisis

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Presentation Outline

I. Global Warming is real

Three indisputable facts

1. Increasing CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere, which is directly caused by fossil fuel consumption (burning of coal, oil, natural gas, and other fuels made from these resources, and slash and burn agriculture)
2. CO₂ has a heat absorbing effect known as the “greenhouse effect”
3. Warming Earth is evident on many fronts

II. Why is Global Warming denied?

Admitting it would demand doing something about it and there are many forces arrayed against doing anything meaningful.

1. Vested interests in status quo
2. Anti-regulation mentality
3. Addiction-Denial
4. Apathy. Lack of public involvement.

III. Political action is required. Actions might include any one or more of the following.

- A. Massive reforestation programs
- B. Sequestering CO₂ in depleted oil wells
- C. Increasing Earth's reflectivity by injecting reflective particles into orbit.
- D. Mid ocean fertilization

But!!! Such actions would require world agreement and support and 2, 3 and 4 are very dubious in terms of long-term consequences. Other actions might include:

- E. Taxes on fuel use
- F. Tax incentives for alternative energy use
- D. Land use restrictions. (Curtailed urban sprawl of “McMansions” that consume inordinate land (deforestation) and expand energy consumption in maintenance and required commuting)

Are we willing???