

Steve Fielding of Family First and his critical position on anthropogenic emissions and whether the CPRS or similar scheme is based on bad science.

Politicians invariably trap themselves in their own simplistic spin and understanding of complex dynamic systems.

Temperatures over the last 10 years have not increased as rapidly as previously despite CO2 emissions and levels accelerating because we are at a low in the natural 11 year sunspot cycle and thus its warming contribution. Despite this the CO2 component of greenhouse warming is still happening.

However, what we are not told is that even the CO2 greenhouse component effect governs less than 5% of the global heat dynamics and balance. Over 90% of the heat dynamics of the blue planet is governed by a range of water based processes and has been for 4 billion years. Because they are so dominant our climate models assume that humans could not possibly have altered these and hence focus on our recent CO2 emissions from fossil fuels as the cause of global warming. However when we clear forests we impair much more than just their natural bio-sequestration and carbon cycle. Having cleared 6.3b Ha of the earth's 8 b Ha of primary forest plus the resultant soil degradation, much in the past 250 years is not inconsequential.

Lets hope as the smell from the CPRS carcass subsides, the debate can refocus on what we actually need to do to cool regions and draw down past emissions and the critical role of forests in this. There are highly effective safe natural solutions but not much time.

Walter Jehne