

# Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change

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## Press Release (9 March 2020)

The *Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change* (hereafter, Center) announces it has filed a petition with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), asking it to repeal its Endangerment Finding for Greenhouse Gases Under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act (74 FR 66,496, Dec 15, 2009).

Over ten years have elapsed since the EPA Administrator made this judgment in its so-called *CO<sub>2</sub> Endangerment Finding*. During that time a considerable amount of scientific research has been conducted on the potential impacts of rising greenhouse gases on humanity and the natural world. The additional knowledge obtained from such research and observations reveal quite clearly that rising greenhouse gases do not represent what EPA identified in 2009 to be a current or *future* threat to public welfare.

According to the Center's Chairman, Dr. Craig Idso, who is the lead author of the petition, "multiple observations made over the past decade confirm the projected risks and adverse consequences of rising greenhouse gases are failing to materialize. The truth is, in stark contrast to the Endangerment Finding, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and fossil fuel use during the Modern Era have actually *enhanced* life and *improved* humanity's standard of living. And they will likely continue to do so as more fossil fuels are utilized."

The 139-page petition by the Center highlights multiple peer-reviewed scientific studies in support of this thesis. In particular, the petition shows (1) there is nothing unusual or unnatural about Earth's current warmth or rate of warming, (2) historic and modern records of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and temperature violate established principles of causation, (3) model-based temperature projections since 1979 artificially inflate warming (compared to observations) by a factor of three, invalidating the models and all their ancillary claims associated with greenhouse gas-induced warming, and that (4) key adverse effects of greenhouse gas-induced warming, including extreme weather events, temperature-induced mortality and sea level rise, are not occurring despite EPA predictions they should be worsening.

The petition also presents compelling evidence that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and fossil energy use provide critical benefits that act to *enhance* health and welfare for humanity and the natural world. According to Dr. Idso, "Without adequate supplies of low-cost centralized energy derived from fossil fuels, few, if any, of the major technological and innovative advancements of the past two centuries that have enhanced and prolonged human life could have occurred. Additionally, without the increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel use over the past two centuries, Earth's terrestrial biosphere would be nowhere near as vigorous or productive as it is today. Rather, it would be devoid of the growth-enhancing, water-saving and stress-alleviating benefits it has reaped in managed and unmanaged ecosystems from rising levels of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> since the Industrial Revolution began."

Such demonstrable facts presented in the Center's petition provide clear evidence that EPA's 2009 Endangerment Finding is scientifically flawed. Consequently, the Center calls upon the EPA to overturn its 2009 Endangerment Finding.

The petition can be viewed or downloaded at:

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V23/mar/EPAPetitionCO2ScienceMarch2020.pdf>.

Questions about the report can be addressed to the Center's Chairman, Dr. Craig Idso, at [center@co2science.org](mailto:center@co2science.org) or to Fred Palmer, Senior Fellow—CO<sub>2</sub> Policy (Phone: 314-409-0435; email: [vapalmers@aol.com](mailto:vapalmers@aol.com)).