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Benefits of Global Warming Greatly Exceed Costs, New Study Says

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Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC) to Issue Its Critique of the United Nations' IPCC Working Groups II and III Reports at National Press Club on April 9

What: Breakfast press conference with authors and reviewers of *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Biological Impacts*, and *Climate Change Reconsidered II: Human Welfare, Energy, and Policies*

When: Wednesday, April 9, 8:00 a.m. ? 11:00 a.m.

Where: National Press Club, Bloomberg Room, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, DC

Who: **Joseph Bast**, president, The Heartland Institute; **Dr. S. Fred Singer**, professor emeritus of environmental science at the University of Virginia; **Dr. Craig D. Idso**, founder, Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change, and others to be announced.

An international panel of climate scientists and economists will release a massive new report April 9 that finds the benefits of global warming ?greatly exceed any plausible estimate of its costs.? The new report, the second and third volumes of *Climate Change Reconsidered II*, were produced by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change ([NIPCC](#) ^[1]) and published by The Heartland Institute.

The new report summarizes scholarly research published as recently as January 2014 on the impacts, costs, and benefits of climate change. Hefty chapters summarize thousands of peer-reviewed studies of the impact of rising levels of carbon dioxide ? a greenhouse gas produced during the burning of fossil fuels ? on plants and soils, agriculture, forests, wildlife, ocean life, and humankind.

The authors find higher levels of carbon dioxide and warmer temperatures benefit nearly all plants, leading to more leaves, more fruit, more vigorous growth, and greater resistance to pests, drought, and other forms of ?stress.? Wildlife benefits as their habitats grow and expand. Even polar bears, the poster child of anti-global warming activist groups such as the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), are benefiting from warmer temperatures.

?Despite thousands of scientific articles affirming numerous benefits of rising temperatures and atmospheric CO₂, IPCC makes almost no mention of any positive externalities resulting

from such,? said one of the report?s lead authors, Dr. Craig D. Idso. ?*Climate Change Reconsidered II* corrects this failure, presenting an analysis of thousands of neglected research studies IPCC has downplayed or ignored in its reports so that scientists, politicians, educators, and the general public can be better informed and make decisions about the potential impacts of CO2-induced climate change.?

The authors look closely at claims climate change will injure coral and other forms of marine life, possibly leading to some species extinctions. They conclude such claims lack scientific foundation and often are grossly exaggerated. Corals have survived warming periods in the past that caused ocean temperatures and sea levels to be much higher than today?s levels or those likely to occur in the next century.

The authors contend the world?s economies are heavily dependent on fossil fuels because such fuels are and will continue to be safer, less expensive, more reliable, and of vastly greater supply than alternative fuels such as wind and solar. Dramatically reducing the use of fossil fuels would have devastating effects on workers and consumers of both the developed and developing worlds, leading to severe hardship and even deaths.

Rather than continue to fight what is most likely a natural and unstoppable phenomenon, the authors call for adopting new energy and environmental policies that acknowledge current market and environmental realities. Such policies would encourage economic growth as the foundation for a cleaner environment, responsible development and use of fossil fuels until superior energy sources are found, and repeal of many of the regulations, subsidies, and taxes passed at the height of the man-made global warming scare.

A Summary for Policymakers (SPM) of the report, written in collaboration with the lead authors and approved by them, will be available at the press conference. The complete study will be released digitally in April and available in printed form in May.

Previous volumes in the *Climate Change Reconsidered* series were published in [2008](#) ^[2], [2009](#) ^[3], [2011](#) ^[4], and [2013](#) ^[5]. Those volumes are widely recognized as the most comprehensive and authoritative critiques of the reports of the United Nations? Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In June 2013, a division of the Chinese Academy of Sciences published a Chinese translation and condensed edition of the 2009 and 2011 volumes.

For copies of previous reports and background on NIPCC, please visit the [Climate Change Reconsidered website](#) ^[1].

The [Heartland Institute](#) ^[6] is a 30-year-old national nonprofit organization headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. Its mission is to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems. For more information, visit our [Web site](#) ^[6] or call [312/377-4000](#) ^[7].

Professor Robert (Bob) M. Carter

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