

Interactive comment on “Ice melt, sea level rise and superstorms: evidence from paleoclimate data, climate modeling, and modern observations that 2 °C global warming is highly dangerous” by J. Hansen et al.

A. Meyer

aubrey.meyer@btinternet.com

Received and published: 30 July 2015

Prudence and Precautionary Climate Strategy in the light of the paper by Hansen et al
pub ACP 07 2015

Projections (predictions) from climate models compared with recorded rates of change show IPCC 'conservatism' (around 1 meter Sea Level Rise by 2100 (IPCC AR5)) compared with Hansen (projecting that Sea Level Rise could rise 5-10 meters by 2100 (citing doubling rate now per decade - starting around 33 mm?)).

C5426

As there is no precedent for the rates of change re fossil-fuel fired atmospheric CO₂ concentrations ppm rise accelerating since 1800 (now at 1000:1) and in the light of ice-melt-rate evidence now coming in from Antarctica and Greenland, Hansen is prudent to challenge that conservatism & conjecture 5-10 meters SLR by 2100,

Whatever the reality may prove to be, the situation we are clearly now in is that climate-science has become a climate-policy issue and since we face what is a global problem requiring a global response, there is a need for a precautionary global climate-strategy.

Evolution enables us to consider where we think we came from (precedent). Evolution enables us to formulate where we intend to go next (prescience).

Informed evolution turns more on the extent that we do or don't exert on GHG emissions 'control', than on the evolution of how climate-models may or may not 'improve'.

IPCC says we need a ~304 Gt C Budget for 2°C 450 ppm by ~ 2100. Hansen says ~171 Gt C (Reduce @ 6%/a) for 1.5°C 350 ppm by ~ 2100.

If we follow IPCC and they have underestimated risk, we find out too late to do anything about it. If we follow Hansen and he has over-estimated risk, we find out in time and can relax a bit.

Since Global Climate Strategy turns primarily on the issue of the future rate and the extent of emissions control (carbon budgeting) we need a tool for calculating and communicating that, hence the Carbon Budget Accounting Tool (CBAT): - <http://cbat.info/#domain-1>

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 15, 20059, 2015.