

Eleven National Academies of Sciences Urge “Prompt Action” to Address Global Warming

The National Academies of Sciences from the United States, Japan, Russia, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, China, India, and Brazil all agree that “there is now strong evidence that significant global warming is occurring...[I]t is likely that most of the warming in recent decades can be attributed to human activities...We urge all nations...to take prompt action to reduce the causes of climate change. (2005)

A Sample of Editorial Boards from Across the Country on the Need to Address Global Warming

- “Some New Year’s intentions...[W]e offer these suggestions with the hope that others will turn them into resolutions...By the General Assembly, to recognize that Virginia, with all its low-lying vulnerability, may be hard hit by the consequences of global warming, and to join other states that are trying to stop a tide that may yet be reversible.”
Newport News Daily Press (2007)
- “[C]limate change, aka global warming, is real...[T]he real debate involves what to do from this point forward, knowing that we don’t know all there is to know about the connection between global warming and human activity. But here’s what we do know: What you don't know can hurt you, and it can hurt your children and your grandchildren even more.”
Newport News Daily Press (2007)
- “Where in the past people talked of the effects of global warming as something in the far distant future - rising sea levels and parched cropland - the realization is coming upon us that the future is now. With our coastal population growing, larger and more powerful hurricanes pose an ever-increasing threat to life and property. We can do something about it, if we act and act soon. But will we?”
Anniston Star, Alabama (2005)

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- “The industry and state government are wise to confront today’s even-greater challenge: to slow the progress of global warming by cutting back on greenhouse gases. Having technologies in place before regulations come will make complying with them far easier. But helping to develop those technologies would accomplish even more by making Ohio a leader in what promises to be a lucrative industry.”
The Columbus Dispatch (2007)
- “Global warming is a fact. Some voices are trying to sound the alarm, but the one form of life in position to stop the warming trend - the human race – isn’t doing nearly enough to address the issue. Nature is giving the world all the proof it needs. The only question is whether people in position of influence will heed nature’s undeniable message.”
The Tennessean (2003)
- “While the political debate in the United States over global warming spins in mindless circles, scientific evidence that man-made gases are dangerously heating the planet keeps piling up... State-by-state efforts are helpful but ultimately aren’t enough. Since the White House is still dithering on this issue, the incoming Congress must make crafting a national climate change policy a legislative priority.”
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (2006)

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- “Denial and despair let us, and our politicians, off the hook...This is not time for denial or despair. By denying global warming—in the face of overwhelming scientific evidence—we can convince ourselves that we need not change our behavior...It is no time for denial or despair. It’s a time for action.”
Idaho Statesman (2007)
- “Global warming poses a significant threat to the nation’s coastal cities, and especially greater New Orleans...The United States should be leading efforts to combat global warming, instead of straggling behind.”
New Orleans Times-Picayune (2005)
- “The United States needs proactive policy to make a dent in dangerous climate trends.”
Philadelphia Inquirer (2006)
- “We’ve said it before: Global warming is the greatest environmental threat that humanity has ever faced.”
San Jose Mercury News (2007)
- “Most scientists and policymakers agree that global warming is a major concern... Congress should deal with this problem, relying on the latest research on the environmental and economic impacts of trying to reduce greenhouse gases.”
The Columbus Dispatch (2007)

State and Local Action to Address Global Warming

13 States and 376 Mayors from all 50 States Recognize the Threat of Global Warming and Have Taken Steps to Address the Threat

“Global warming poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment of California.”

AB 32, California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006

“Climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves; and more frequent and greater concentrations of smog...”

U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (2005)

“Southwestern states have particular concerns about the impacts of climate change and climate variability on residents, businesses and the environment, including the potential for prolonged drought, severe forest fires, warmer temperatures, increased snowmelt, reduced snowpack...”

Southwest Climate Change Initiative, Arizona and New Mexico Agreement (2006)

U.S. Defense Department Sponsored Report, Climate Change and Its Implications for National Security

The report commissioned by the Department of Defense suggests that with the potentially dire consequences of abrupt climate change the United States “will find itself in a world where Europe will be struggling internally, with large numbers of refugees washing up on its shores and Asia in serious crisis over food and water. Disruption and conflict will be endemic features of life.”

Report Commissioned by the U.S. Department of Defense

(2003)

Prime Minister Tony Blair's Recent Comments on Global Warming

“We know it is happening. We know the consequences for the planet.

We now know urgent action will prevent catastrophe and investment in preventing it, will pay us back many times over.

We will not be able to explain ourselves to future generations if we fail.” (2006)

An Urgent Call to Action

Scientists and Evangelicals Unite to Protect Creation

“We agree that our home, the Earth which comes to us as the inexpressibly beautiful and mysterious gift that sustains our very lives, is seriously imperiled by human behavior. The harm is seen throughout the natural world, including a cascading set of problems such as climate change...”

Joint Statement by Religious and Scientific Leaders (2007), including

- Eric Chivian, M.D., Harvard Medical School;
- Rev. Richard Cizik, National Association of Evangelicals;
- Howard Frumpkin, M.D., US Centers for Disease Control
- James Hansen, Ph.D., Director, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies

President Bush

State of the Union

Address

“[T]echnological breakthroughs...will help us be better stewards of the environment, and they will help us to confront the serious challenge of global climate change.” (2007)

Interior Secretary Kempthorne Announces Proposal to List Polar Bears as Threatened Under Endangered Species Act

“Polar bears are one of nature’s ultimate survivors, able to live and thrive in one of the world’s harshest environments,’ Kempthorne said. ‘But we are concerned the polar bears’ habitat may literally be melting.’...The administration treats climate change very seriously and recognizes the role of greenhouse gases in climate change.”

Department of Interior Press Release (2006)

AMERICAN BUSINESSES CALL FOR ACTION ON GLOBAL WARMING

Endorse Goals that Match the Toughest Proposal

“We Know Enough to Act on Climate Change”

“[W]e, the members of the U.S. Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) have joined together to recommend the prompt enactment of national legislation in the United States to slow, stop and reverse the growth of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions over the shortest period of time reasonably achievable.” (2007)

- Alcoa
- British Petroleum
- Caterpillar
- Duke Energy
- DuPont
- Environmental Defense
- Florida Power and Light Group
- General Electric
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Pew Center on Global Climate Change
- Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation
- PNM Resources
- World Resources Institute

Oil Companies on the Need for Action on Global Warming

“For Shell, the debate on climate change is over. It's time to work on solutions. A national approach to greenhouse gas management is important to the future. Such an approach requires a regulatory framework that enables markets to work for both supply and demand side needs. It would be very challenging to have different state-by-state regulatory requirements.”

John Hofmeister, President, Shell Oil (2007)

“Companies composed of highly skilled and trained people can't live in denial of mounting evidence gathered by hundreds of the most reputable scientists in the world.”

Lord Browne, CEO, British Petroleum (2002)