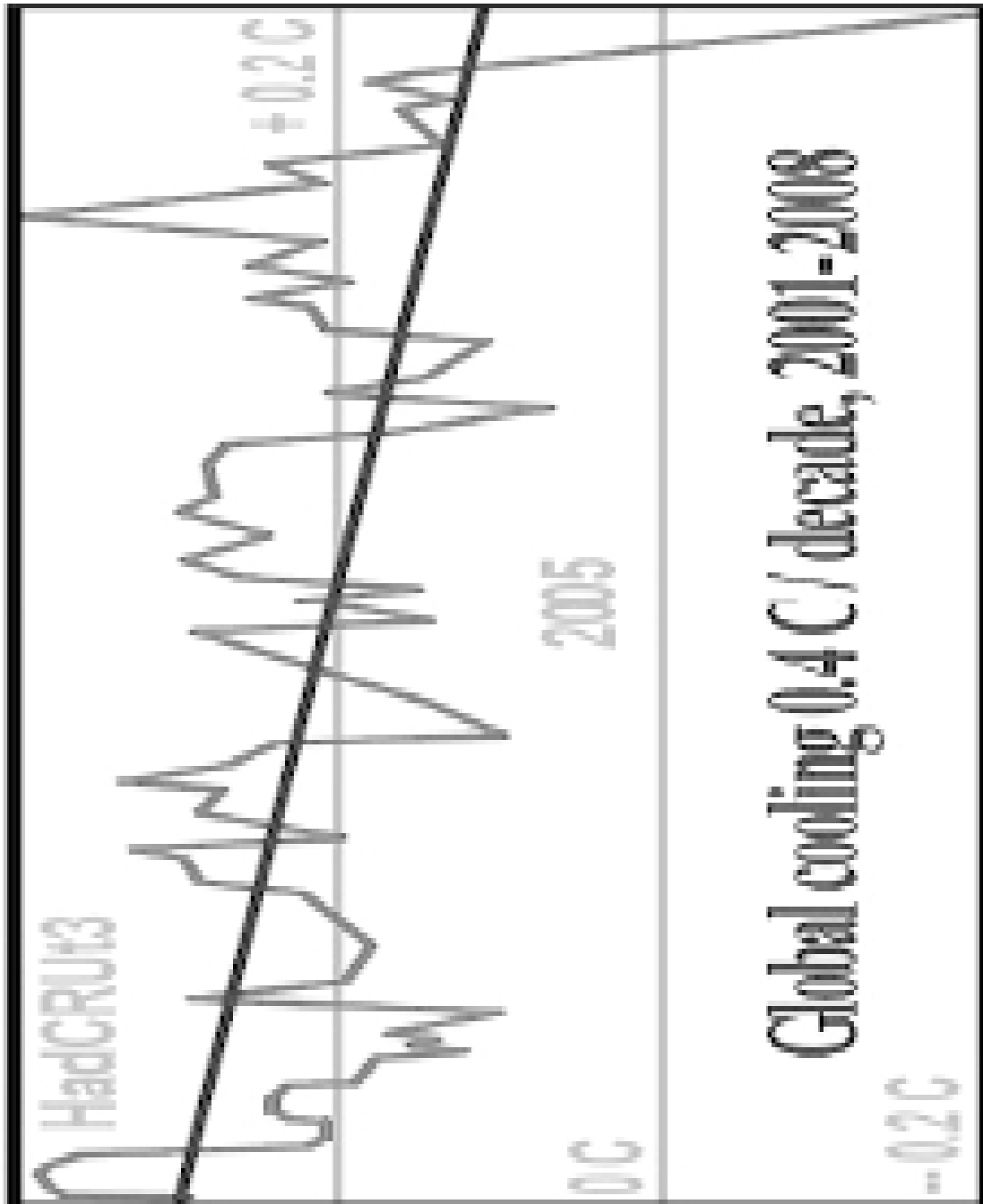


Whatever Happened to Global Warming?

It is doubtful that a even single American schoolchild exists who has not been schooled in the dreaded Greenhouse Effect - a layer of heat-trapping carbon dioxide, produced by human activity, which is rapidly raising the earth's temperature to the point that the ice caps will soon melt, raising sea levels to the point where most of our coastal cities will be flooded in only a few decades. And, we have also been told that only immediate and drastic action on our part to quickly reduce the atmospheric CO₂ content can save mankind and the planet from pending disaster. And the best way to do all this will be a massive tax on CO₂ producing devices, particularly coal-fired power generation facilities and other large industries utilizing fossil fuel for energy. By greatly raising the cost of fossil-fueled production - hopefully taxing it out of existence - we will make environmentally friendly, renewable energy sources like wind and solar more price competitive and these sources will quickly replace the evil carbon-based manufacturing and transportation culture. We've also been told that all the world's scientists are in full agreement on this issue, the time for debate has ended, and immediate action is now the only path. Nirvana is just around the corner.

Much of the credit for this early warning can be awarded to Dr. James Hansen, head of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, who will be the keynote speaker at the Mensa "Weather or Not" Colloquium in February 2009. This marks the 20th anniversary of the year Dr. Hansen first testified before congress and alerted the world to the pending catastrophe of Anthropogenic, or Man-Made Global Warming. The alarm was later amplified by Dr. Michael Mann's famous "hockey stick" temperature curve, which showed a constant global temperature for about 1,000 years, then a sudden skyrocketing of temperature at the dawn of the 20th century, when mankind's production of CO₂ began to accelerate. The issue really hit the big time when Al Gore's film ***An Inconvenient Truth*** hit the big screen, yielding an Oscar and a Nobel Peace Prize for all of the lives that would be saved in the future because of the timely warning which quickly spread all over the globe. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC, quickly adopted Dr. Mann's hockey stick as gospel, leading to the claim that the 3,000 climate scientists represented on the panel were in universal agreement with Hansen and Gore, and indeed the science was completely settled and the time for debate had indeed ended.

Except a funny thing happened on the road to Armageddon:
"Global Warming" came grinding to a halt.

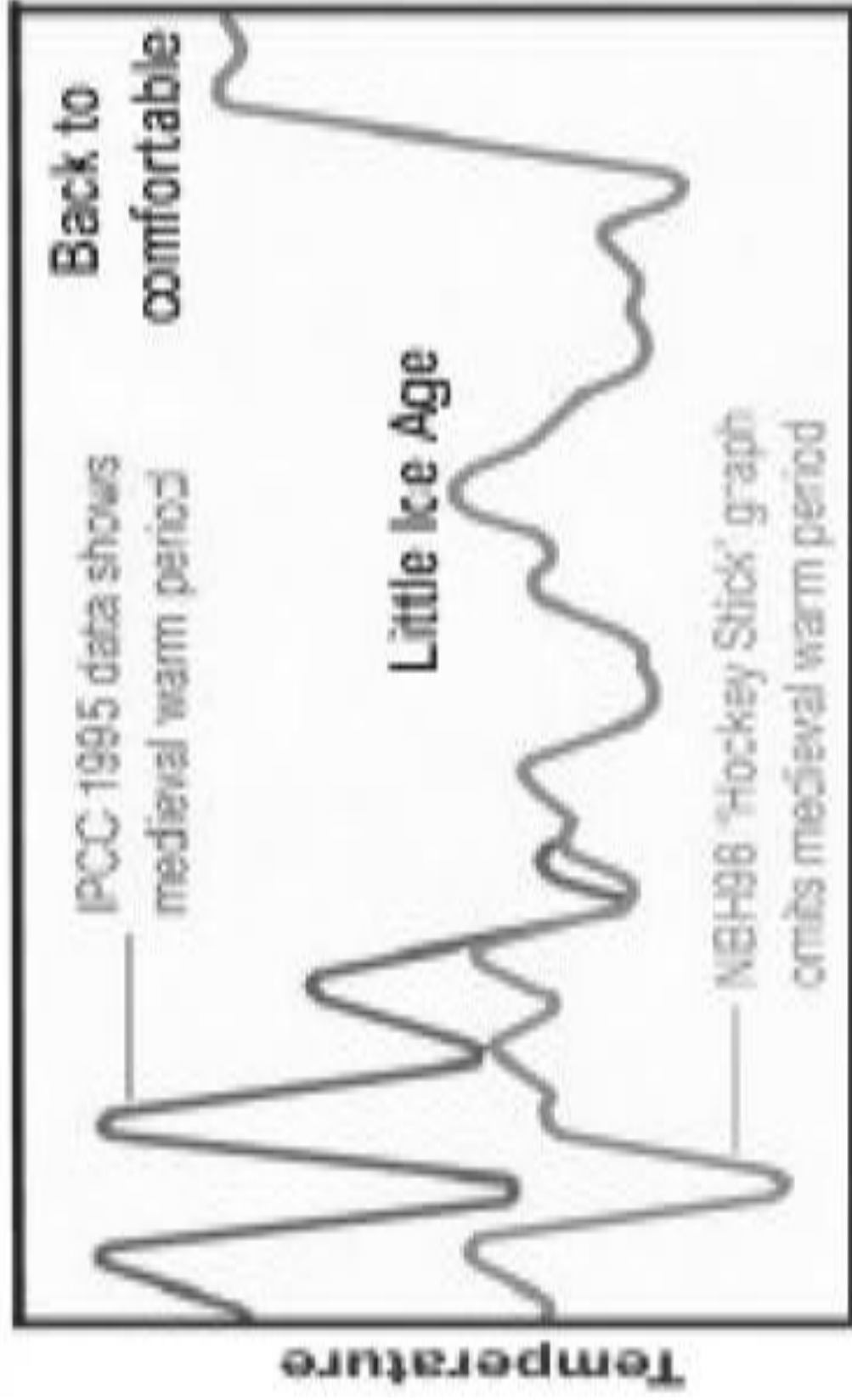


Unpredicted trend: Since late 2001, the trend of global surface temperatures has been downward.

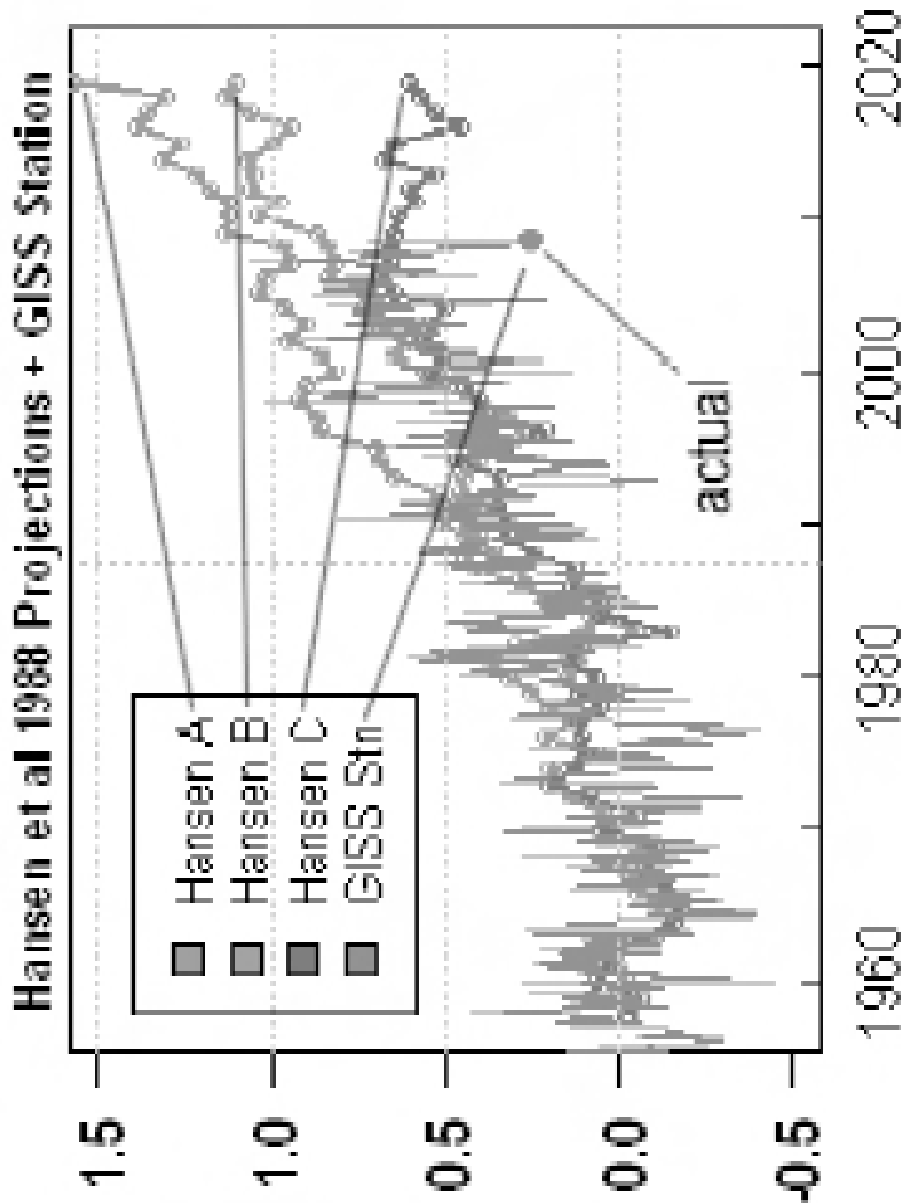
“Global Warming” paused in 1998; and, though it may resume in future years, the rate of warming is less than that which the model relied upon by the IPCC had projected.

Source: *Hadley Centre for Forecasting/ Climate Research Unit, University of East Anglia.*

Among the first to dig the fly out of the ointment were two Canadian analysts, Stephen McIntyre and Ross McKittrick, who had been aware of a previously much warmer period known as the Medieval Warm Period, which was followed by a “Little Ice Age” known as the Maunder minimum. Mann’s widely-accepted “hockey stick” showed neither of these epochs, which were well known and widely accepted in the paleoclimatology community. McIntyre and McKittrick proceeded to reverse-engineer Mann’s Principal Component Analysis program, subjecting it to a Monte Carlo Analysis, inserting random data inputs to see what came out. They discovered it was seemingly designed to “mine” for hockey-stick data curves. Their work was subsequently verified by a U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee investigation led by noted statistician Edward Wegman. The Wegman report suggested one could plug baseball scores into the Mann program and it would produce a hockey stick curve as a result. Alas, the “hockey stick” was busted.



Next, the now-suspicious climate scientists turned their attention to the inimitable Dr. Hansen's predictions, noting that they were based not on contemporary empirical science and actual current data, but rather on computer models programmed on assumptions derived from past climate. And, it was the models, not factual science and modern data, that were forecasting all the doom, gloom, and global meltdown. In fact, it appeared Dr. Hansen was 0 for 3, with all three of his major model projections falling far short of the reality mark as determined by the most modern and accurate NASA satellite data..



Dr. Roy Spencer, who was the recipient of NASA's Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement and the American Meteorological Society's Special Award for his satellite-based temperature monitoring work before becoming Senior Scientist for Climate Studies at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, thinks he knows why Dr. Hansen's doom and gloom models aren't working. He says, "Hansen appears to believe that the climate system is very fragile... what we call high climate sensitivity. He bases this mostly on what he thinks happened on the Earth hundreds of thousands, or even millions of years ago. But I prefer to go by what we know the climate system is telling us TODAY, from NASA's Earth-observation satellites, rather than what we think might have happened in the distant past. And we have recently found, from five years of our newest measurements, evidence of a very IN-sensitive climate system...less sensitive, in fact, than any of the IPCC climate models show in any five year period in their global warming simulations. If the climate system is as insensitive as the satellite data suggest, then manmade global warming is mostly a false alarm. But it also means that the warming we've seen in the last 100 years must be mostly natural, not manmade, most likely part of a natural cycle. And our latest research supports what some meteorologists have been saying for a long time...that the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) might actually be the main culprit in climate change."

The last icon to fall was, of course, Al Gore. His college transcripts show that he made low or near failing grades in every math and science course he ever took in college, and for his documentary he had heavily relied on - you guessed it - Dr. James Hansen. Unfortunately, the British High Court took a close look at his film, and ruled that it could not be shown in British schools unless it was labeled "propaganda" instead of "documentary", and 9 glaring errors in the film were= carefully explained to the students, as well. Seems one of Gore's most glaring blunders in the film was the claim that CO2 was driving temperature. It turns out that close examination of the actual data reveals that CO2 was **lagging**, rather than **leading** temperature, and thus was a **result** of global warming rather than a **cause** of it. In reality, most of the world's CO2, being highly water soluble, is locked up in our oceans, which absorb it from the air when cooling and release it when warming. Thus, as the earth slowly recovers from the last ice age, CO2 is naturally released via what is known as the "champagne effect". We now know the cart was not pulling the donkey, and CO2 does not appear to be a significant "Greenhouse Gas". That honor goes to - you guessed it - **water vapor**, which, it turns out, is responsible for more than 95% of the so-called "Greenhouse Effect".

Still, once released, it is difficult if not impossible to put the genie back in the bottle. Anthropogenic Global Warming has become for the mainstream scientifically illiterate public, a simple fact of life. They are told that the entire climate science community supports the notion, and the time for debate has ended. The ice caps are melting, the polar bears are drowning, hurricanes are getting stronger, and we'll all be under water shortly unless we quickly pass a trainload of carbon tax legislation. Only massive sums of money (directed, of course, into the pockets of those who are currently supporting the Great Global Warming Hoax) will be able to turn the rising tide. Except, of course, the even simpler fact is that none of this is true. Al Gore's famous polar bear photograph had actually been taken several years earlier by Amanda Byrd, a graduate student gathering zooplankton during the summer, when the fringe of the Arctic ice cap normally melts or breaks up. Even your humble editor has seen polar bears swimming around or taking a break on a chunk of floating pack ice during the arctic summer. And polar bear populations are healthy - in fact, enjoying near record-sized populations. Currently, Arctic sea ice is the largest it has been since 1979, and if there is any threat to polar bears at all, it lies in the possibility that sea ice cover may be so complete as to prevent the polar bears from gaining access to their favorite food supply - seals. Thus, warming is good, and cooling is starvation?

And how about hurricanes? Al Gore featured hurricane Katrina as a patently obvious result of Global Warming. Not true, according to most hurricane experts. As a matter of fact, tropical cyclone activity in the northern hemisphere is the lowest it has been in 30 years. Katrina made landfall as a Category 3 storm, and it's damage was due not to unusual intensity, but in the fact that it had hit a heavily populated area where barriers failed and some parts were nine feet below sea level. Chris Landsea, one of the researchers as well as the science and operations officer at NOAA's National Hurricane Center in Miami says, **"There is nothing in the U.S. hurricane damage record that indicates global warming has caused a significant increase in destruction along our coasts."**

How about the "3,000 climate experts" at the UN IPCC? Surely they can't all be wrong. Well, for starters, most of them don't have any say in the reports periodically issued on the subject. The reports themselves are written by only a couple of dozen members of the "writing group" - some of which aren't even scientists, and all of which are government-appointed bureaucrats. The IPCC was **chartered** to find Anthropomorphic Global Warming - it's what they do. And they deliberately ignore any evidence to the contrary, since that isn't in their charter. In fact, many climate scientists bitterly oppose the "official" IPCC findings, and many have resigned from the group as a result. One pundit has remarked, "The corruption of the UN IPCC, when finally revealed, will make the oil-for-food scandal look like some kid had his lunch money stolen".

The “Consensus”

Al Gore has proclaimed that anyone disagreeing with his spin on global warming is either a “crook”, or a “kook”. Well, it looks like Kook Hall will soon be overflowing with some of the world’s most renowned climate scientists. Among the “kooks” can be listed Dr. Richard Lindzen at M.I.T., Dr. Willie Soon at Harvard, Dr. Fred Singer (developer of our weather satellite system), Dr. John Christy (IPCC reviewer, and director of the Earth Sciences Center at the University of Alabama - who refused his share of the Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore), and even the President of the World Federation of Scientists. In fact, as of this writing, 31,072 American Scientists (including 9,021 with PhDs) have signed the Global Warming Petition Project, which says, in part, **“There is no convincing scientific evidence that human release of carbon dioxide, methane, or other greenhouse gasses is causing or will, in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere and disruption of the Earth's climate.”**

Editorial by James A. Peden