

**(Arlington, VA, May 18, 2009)** At a Public Hearing today, held at the EPA Potomac Yard Conference Center, Arlington VA, Consulting Geophysicist Dennis Hedke of Wichita, KS presented a statement challenging numerous findings recently released by the EPA in its so called “Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under Section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act”, dated April 17, 2009.

Hedke first noted that the EPA’s own website excludes carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from its list of defined “air pollutants”, such as carbon monoxide, chlorofluorocarbons, aerosols, etc. Yet, the EPA does conveniently group the greenhouse gases (GHG) of water vapor, CO<sub>2</sub>, methane and other noble gases as “pollutants”, for purposes of evaluating their potential to “endanger” our lives, due to their role in the greenhouse effect.

Furthermore, Hedke states “The EPA’s findings present serious conflicts and discrepancies with very well documented data related to such issues as the human-induced contribution of CO<sub>2</sub> to the greenhouse gas mix, recent temperature history of the earth and projected temperature / CO<sub>2</sub> linkages, projections of sea level rise, oceanic pH conditions projected to disrupt calcification and coral growth, misinformation with respect to projected hurricane intensity and overall precipitation events. These opinions reach further into the political domain, implying national security to be at risk if we do not act immediately to curtail the impacts of their climate change predictions.

For example, the EPA document issued the following statement: *“There is strong evidence that global sea level gradually rose in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is currently rising at an increased rate.”* **However, the University of Colorado reports that the average sea level rise over the past 10,000 years was 4 feet/century, and that current sea-level rise is little more than 1 ft/century. Recent evidence actually suggests that virtually zero increase has occurred since 2005.**

Furthermore, The EPA document issued the following: *“Ocean CO<sub>2</sub> uptake has lowered the average ocean pH (increased acidity) level by approximately 0.1 since 1750. Consequences for marine ecosystems may include reduced calcification by shell-forming organisms...”* **However, data cited in a report (January 2009) by the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change clearly shows that “The 20<sup>th</sup> century has witnessed the second highest period of above average calcification in the past 237 years.”**

“I find it appalling”, said Hedke, “that opinions of some of the most highly regarded scientists, engineers and economists in the United States, as well as abroad, have been categorically ignored, denied and dismissed without so much as a mention.

“My review of the EPA’s supporting models lead me to conclude that their research scientists have failed to account for even the most simplistic variances in the hydrologic cycle (water vapor) that must be honored in order for fundamental credibility in projected temperatures due to greenhouse effects. In my opinion, the conclusions drawn in this report bear very little resemblance to the reality of the atmosphere we observe today.

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