



Nebraska Report

There is no Peace without Justice

MAY/JUNE 2019 VOLUME 47, NO. 3

Bipartisan Call to Action on Climate Change

See
Page 2 for
how you can help

by Mark Reynolds & Mark Welsch

As Americans observed Earth Day many of us took a moment to reflect on the power of the grassroots movement behind that first celebration in 1970. It led to dramatic changes that improved the quality of our lives through cleaner air and water.

Shocked by the massive oil spill that fouled the beaches of Santa Barbara, California in 1969, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson organized the first Earth Day the following spring. The response was overwhelming: Some 20 million Americans turned

out to show their support for cleaning up the environment. With bipartisan support, President Nixon created the EPA by executive order and supported the bipartisan passage of the Clean Water and Clean Air Acts in Congress. Democrats and Republicans worked together on these bills.

Today, a similar movement is building for Congress to enact measures to preserve a livable climate for future generations. Across the country, volunteers with Citizens' Climate Lobby have conducted more than 1,000 outreach events in their local

communities, aiming for a goal of 2,000 outreach events this spring. (Some of those have happened in Nebraska.) Not only that, but we have held more than 250 meetings with our members of Congress since January 2019, asking them to support a bipartisan climate solution known as the "Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act" (H.R. 763).

Thousands of economists across the political spectrum have said the most effective step we can take to bring down the emissions causing climate change is to put a robust price on carbon. If revenue is returned to households, they say, our economy will actually benefit. The Energy Innovation Act does just that. It is...

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Nebraskans for Peace's state office in Lincoln is located on land that formerly belonged to the Otoe Tribe

Nebraska Report

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Nebraskans for Peace

NFP is a statewide grassroots advocacy organization working nonviolently for peace with justice through community-building, education and political action.

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Call June 5th to Help Stop Climate Change

Starting on Wednesday, June 5, please call all three of your Members of Congress (MOC) to ask them to take action to stop climate change from getting worse. Ask them to co-sponsor the bipartisan solution that is gaining traction in Washington, D.C. The bill is called the "Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019". This Act has been re-introduced in the House as HR 763 and will be re-introduced in the Senate soon. You will find a script and the names and phone numbers of your MOC here: cclusa.org/call

By contacting your MOC, you will be helping the over 1,500 Citizens' Climate Lobby volunteers who will be meeting in all Members of Congress offices on Tuesday, June 11th. A record number of 16 people from Nebraska will be there this year—and we need your help! Please contact Mark Welsch if you have any questions 402-453-0776 or NFPomaha1970@gmail.com

Your MOC contact info and a script to read to their staff when you call, is here: <http://nebraskansforpeace.org/contact-elected-officials>.

Senator Deb Fischer

(202) 224-6551

www.fischer.senate.gov

Senator Ben Sasse

(202) 224-4224

www.sasse.senate.gov

Representative Jeff Fortenberry

(202) 225-4806

<https://fortenberry.house.gov/>

Representative Don Bacon

(202) 225-4155 or (888) 221-7452

<https://bacon.house.gov/>

Representative Adrian Smith

(202) 225-6435

<https://adriansmith.house.gov/>

Local Climate Advocates Heading to D.C. to Push Bipartisan Carbon-Pricing Bill

With scientists warning that we must cut heat-trapping emissions by half in the next 12 years to avert climate catastrophe, 16 members of the Nebraska chapters of Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) will be in Washington, D.C., on June 11 to join more than 1,500 other volunteers pressing Congress to enact legislation that would place a fee on carbon and give the revenue back to households.

"I am involved in Citizens Climate Lobby because climate change is already impacting Nebraska. Our state climatologist says that floods like we saw this spring will be more frequent and more intense unless we decrease our emissions. A carbon fee and dividend program, like the one proposed by CCL, is the best

way to turn things around.

I decided to go to Washington D.C. because of my son Ollie. I want him to know that his dad did everything he could to save his future. This is real. It's happening now in our own backyard. And it's going to harm our children and grandchildren unless we change course."

— Ryan Pendell, Omaha

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763) is a bipartisan climate change solution. It not only has a realistic chance of passing through Congress, but stimulates the economy and prevents the middle and working class and the poor from bearing the brunt of the costs associated with climate change.

"The Energy Innovation and Carbon

Dividend Act" (H.R. 763), would put a fee on all oil, gas and coal we use in the United States. It will drive down carbon pollution because energy companies and Americans will choose cleaner, cheaper energy options. The money from the fee will be returned directly to people as a monthly rebate. Most American households will end up with more money in their pockets.

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a national, nonpartisan advocacy organization working to bring Republicans and Democrats together on market-based solutions to climate change. The group has been the primary catalyst for the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, which now has 37 cosponsors.

Bipartisan Call, conclusion

- **Effective:** It will reduce U.S. emissions at least 40 percent in the first 12 years and targets 90 percent reductions by 2050.
- **Good for people:** It will improve health and save lives. Additionally, the carbon dividend puts money directly into people's pockets.
- **Good for the economy:** It will create 2.1 million new jobs in the first ten years.
- **Bipartisan:** Republicans and Democrats are both on board as cosponsors.
- **Revenue neutral:** The government keeps none of the money, so the size of the government will not grow.

This legislation is garnering support from institutions and groups that have the ear of elected officials. From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: "At a time when the dangerous effects of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent, the need for legislative solu-

tions like this is more urgent than ever."

From Trout Unlimited: "Just as we learned in the 1990s that we had to move from the stream to the watershed scale to recover trout and salmon, we must reduce carbon emissions to slow climate change. For this reason, Trout Unlimited is supporting passage of common sense legislation such as the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. The time for band-aids is past."

Many members of Congress realize the "time for band-aids is past," and 37 of them have taken action by signing onto the Energy Innovation Act.

At a recent town hall meeting, Rep. Don Bacon said "Of the proposals out there that deal with carbon fees this is the best one of them all." We are seeing the impact of climate change here in Nebraska, with massive floods in 2011 and 2019 and the drought of 2012 that was hotter and dryer than any year during the Dust Bowl. We hope that all of

Nebraska's Representatives, Jeff Fortenberry, Don Bacon and Adrian Smith will cosponsor H.R. 763. We also hope that Senators Deb Fischer and Ben Sasse will support similar legislation in the Senate.

Following the outpouring of support for the first Earth Day, Democrats and Republicans in Congress came together to enact policies that protected the environment and made our lives better. Likewise, Democrats and Republicans must now come together to enact effective policies to prevent our climate from unraveling beyond the point of no return. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act offers the opportunity for that much needed bipartisan collaboration.

Mark Reynolds is executive director of Citizens' Climate Lobby. Mark Welsh is one of the co-leaders for the Omaha chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby and the NFP Omaha Coordinator.

Pray With Your Feet

Taking Inspiration from the Message of the Climate Reality Project

by Matt Gregory

The Reverend Dr. Gerald Durley of Interfaith Power & Light roused us to our feet in a fiery warmup sermon with a call to address the injustices of climate change in what would be the first of many standing ovations of the three-day conference. The Climate Reality Project training of climate change leaders was held on March 14-16th in Atlanta, Georgia in order to make connections to and honor the work of the Civil Rights Movement and Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and to draw attention to the social justice component of climate change and an interfaith moral call to action.

I was fortunate to have been accepted to attend the conference with attendees from most U.S. states and dozens of countries. I turned out to be only one of three out of over 2000 trainees from Nebraska, although there have been other Nebraskans such as former State Senator Ken Haar who have attended previous trainings. There were diverse perspectives and groups discussing and presenting on various aspects of climate change with a focus on the U.S. Southeast.

The tone was set during the first panel when Retired Lieutenant General Russel Honore, founder of GreenARMY which is made up of Democrats, Republicans and Tea Partiers, proclaimed that his community in Louisiana was not going to be sacrificial lambs to the fossil fuel industry. Former Vice President Al Gore and chairman of Climate Reality Project asserted for the first of a couple of times that conference that voter suppression was an environmental issue. As he explained it, fossil fuel companies do not want low-income and minority communities voting for candidates that oppose their presence and development in those communities. They want to maintain business as usual, sowing divisions along racial and class lines. Gore also chimed in with a

quote from Admiral David Titley—one of the presenters of Nebraska Peace Foundation's Berkshire Hathaway shareholder resolution in 2017—"ice doesn't care if you're Republican or Democrat. It just melts." From the conclusion of the first panel, I realized that Al Gore was not the boring and passive figure that I've seen on television and in interviews. Referencing the theme of the conference, one could say he definitely found his calling with climate change. And similar to his personality in the the *An Inconvenient Truth* documentaries, he was quick and generous with quips, especially of the political variety.

***Unless there's action,
don't expect change for
the better. When you
pray, move your feet
AND your hands.***

That was just a brief appetizer and after lunch he served up the biggest meal of the conference—a 550-slide, two-and-a-half-hour presentation that covered the expansiveness and comprehensiveness that is climate change from the basics of the science to what's transpired, to scenes of destruction that span the entire globe, to a focus on the host city Atlanta and Georgia, to the clean energy solutions that show how we can address this crisis in time and in an equitable manner. Some of the highlights of that marathon included how climate change has disrupted the polar vortex, splitting it into 3 parts which led to the Arctic temperatures the Midwest experienced this past winter; that 509 days of Niagara Falls waterfalls fell on Houston from Hurricane Harvey in FIVE DAYS; the coal ash levees in North Carolina that collapsed during flooding from Hurricane Florence and

the black communities that affected; that almost as many people died in Puerto Rico from Hurricane Maria as did on 9/11; how climate change could cause a decrease in the nutritional value of staple crops; the farm workers, the elderly and infants who are most susceptible to heat stress and the first victims of the spread of infectious diseases; environmental racism and how African Americans are disproportionately affected by pollution particularly from coal plants; the effects on wildlife and how land-based animal and plant species are moving northward 15 feet per DAY; how Florida floods on sunny days which has led to gators swimming by doorsteps and an octopus in a parking garage; how projections for solar energy progress have been grossly understated; how battery storage is taking off and auto manufacturers are moving to electric vehicles; and how addressing climate change is a jobs issue as wind turbine technician and solar panel installer are two of the fastest growing jobs nationwide (including in Nebraska).

During the three-day conference there were an array of breakout sessions to choose from, including climate change effects on health, rural communities, social justice, community organizing, and green jobs. There were also panels on climate solutions, communication, energy transitions, climate equity and taking action.

The most memorable and inspiring event of the conference was the "Moral Call to Action on the Climate Crisis" at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park. Somehow the many blocks long of people waiting in line got inside, found seats and were treated to stirring sermons from an all-star interfaith line up. There was a litany from Rev. Kate McGregor Mosley of Georgia Interfaith Power & Light, musical performances from the Unity Chorus, and representatives of Muslim, Jewish, Hindu

A Congressional Effort to Coordinate U.S. Nuclear Nonproliferation Efforts. From a Republican.

The following article, written by Thomas Gualkin, appeared in the March 22, 2019 edition of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

The Trump Administration's 2018 Nuclear Posture review was so short on nonproliferation that a Republican congressman is proposing a new government body to address it.

U.S. Rep. Jeff Fortenberry told the *Bulletin* he will soon introduce legislation in the House of Representatives creating a "Nuclear Nonproliferation Council" to coordinate U.S. government agencies' work on securing nuclear material and preventing the further spread of nuclear weapons. It is conceived as "a formalization of the network of nonproliferation actors within the government," said Fortenberry, who represents Nebraska's first congressional district.

The proposed council would complement the existing Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC) established by Congress in the 1987 National Defense Authorization Act. The Nuclear Weapons Council serves as the focal point of Defense Department and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) coordination on maintenance of the US nuclear weapons stockpile—including major portions of the \$1.7 trillion nuclear modernization program currently underway.

Fortenberry first presented the concept for the new council in an October 2018 post on his congressional website. "Numerous outside organizations, from independent commissions to the Government Accountability Office, have voiced concern about the level of coordination between these nonproliferation entities and the activities they oversee," he wrote. "I have proposed a parallel entity called the Nuclear Nonproliferation Council, whose purpose will be to examine what

we are doing and give us the highest possible assurance that we are preventing the spread of nuclear weapons technology and materiel."

Current government coordination on nuclear nonproliferation policy is a maze, Fortenberry told the *Bulletin*. "Due to the good people who've dedicated



Rep. Jeff Fortenberry

themselves to this space, we've actually carried forward a body of wisdom inside our government, and I think that's been important," he said. "But, from my perspective, formalizing that through a peer-to-peer type of council that could actually do a better reporting job to Congress on what's going on [...] would be a good development."

"Why not have a parallel nonproliferation council to formalize what are already good, robust interagency activities?" Fortenberry said.

Fortenberry's office expects the legislation to be introduced in the next month. No details about the scope of the proposed council's activities and mem-

bership were on offer while the legislation is still being drafted, but Fortenberry sees the council as part of the United States "trying to lead the world in a new architecture" for reducing the possibility of a nuclear exchanges as well as the risk of nuclear accidents or theft of nuclear material that can be used for dirty bombs.

Fortenberry also noted the proliferation concern posed by nuclear technology exports—a problem highlighted by the multiple controversies surrounding Saudi Arabia's nuclear energy ambitions, for example. "When you sell nuclear power without significant safeguards, you're creating a body of scientific knowledge," he said. "And through a few switches and the right type of material, you're in the nuclear weapons business."

Fortenberry envisages that the nonproliferation council could address these issues from a diplomatic, as well as operational perspective. "In my view, nonproliferation is a big word that encompasses a lot of things," he said. "It has certain technical definitions that we say around here in terms of nonproliferation of weapons and nonproliferation of possible materials use... Technically that's what we're trying to focus on with this piece of legislation. But it's a platform for entering into a lot of the softer science of diplomacy as well as the geopolitical nature of the 21st century."

Fortenberry's idea for a nonproliferation council has not been widely reported. He mentioned it briefly at a June 2018 appropriations committee meeting (calling it a "whole of government approach"), in the October post on his website (in which he also pointed out the *Bulletin's* Doomsday Clock is now

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Coming Soon... On Roads Through Nebraska...

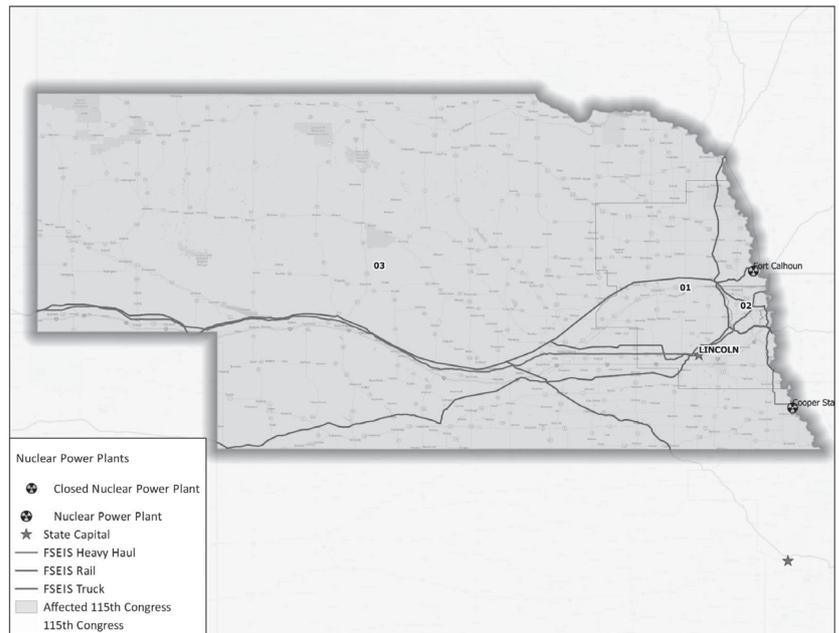
Shipments of High-Level Radioactive Waste

by Kevin Kamps
Radioactive Waste Specialist
Beyond Nuclear

In late March, I was honored and privileged to give presentations in Lincoln and Omaha—co-sponsored by Nebraskans for Peace—regarding the impending risks of unprecedented, large-scale, high-level radioactive waste (HLRW) shipping across Nebraska. This risk arose from pending congressional legislation: “The Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2019” (NWPAA). The bill (and now related ones in both houses of Congress) could result in 500 trans-continental shipments of commercial irradiated nuclear fuel, per year, for two decades, beginning in the early 2020s. The transports would be bound for a so-called “Consolidated Interim Storage Facility” (CISF) in a Hispanic area of New Mexico, already heavily burdened with pollution from fossil fuel and nuclear industries, which would be a gross environmental injustice. A significant share of the road, rail and even barge casks—most originating from east of the Mississippi—would move through Nebraska. The risks of transporting this material are unacceptably high and authorization to do so must not be granted.

The latest incarnation of this legislation is H.R. 2699, just re-introduced on May 14th by John Shimkus (R-IL) and Jerry McNerney (D-CA). A very similar bill, H.R. 3053, passed the U.S. House on May 10, 2018, by a very wide margin—340 to 72. (All three Nebraska U.S. Representatives, Don Bacon, Jeff Fortenberry and Adrian Smith, voted in favor of this dangerously bad bill.) Please urge your Congressman to reconsider his position! You can be patched through to your U.S. Rep.’s D.C. office via the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121; or use <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>) But last year, thankfully, the U.S. Senate did not take up the legislation, so it died.

Figure 24 FSEIS Routes through Nebraska



However, John Barasso (R-WY), chairman of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, held a discussion draft hearing on “the Shimkus bill” this past May 1st.

At the same time, the U.S. House Appropriations Committee is poised to fund study of CISFs. Additional bills in the Senate could similarly speed the transfer of HLRWs, including to the highly controversial, scientifically unsuitable, Yucca Mountain permanent repository, on Western Shoshone treaty land in Nevada. In short, engines are revving on Capitol Hill, threatening to launch Mobile Chernobyls, Dirty Bombs on Wheels, and even Floating Fukushimas.

Under the current Yucca scheme, 6,739 rail-sized casks on trains—and heavy-haul trucks or barges—and another 1,789 Legal Weight Truck-sized casks on the interstates, would travel through Nebraska, bound for Nevada, if the dump were to open. (Nevada has successfully resisted that, tooth and nail, for 32 years and counting.) See the Nebraska road and rail route map.

The vast majority of the shipments through Nebraska would be from other states’ atomic reactors to the east, passing through, bound for Yucca. The 8,528 casks would make Nebraska the third-hardest-hit state, after only Nevada itself and neighboring Utah.

Nebraska is also on the short list for barge shipments—as many as 125, from Cooper atomic reactor, up the Missouri River, into the Port of Omaha. There, they would be offloaded onto trains, bound west.

The NWPAA would expedite the opening of the Yucca dump, and also significantly increase the quantity of HLRW that could be buried in there (correspondingly increasing shipment numbers).

CISFs in New Mexico, and/or Texas, would mean even larger shipment numbers, and much sooner. Yucca is currently limited to 70,000 metric tons (MT) of HLRW burial. But New Mexico’s CISF has applied for 173,600 MT of storage; Texas’ for another 40,000 MT. Thus, the CISFs represent three times Yucca Mountain, Nevada, with

a corresponding increase in shipments.

Health, safety, security and environmental risks include severe accidents, or terrorist attacks, releasing catastrophic amounts of hazardous radioactivity, impacting an entire region. The shipping containers' design could easily be surpassed by real-world fire temperatures and duration; depth and time submerged under water; the force of high-speed impacts into immovable objects, falls from heights onto spikes, crushing loads, etc.

The penetrating power of harmful gamma and neutron radiation, 'allowed' or 'permitted' to be emitted from shipping containers, at a certain dose rate, at a certain distance (10 milli-Rem per hour, or about 1-2 chest X-rays/hr, at a distance of 6.6 feet; 200 mR/hr, or about 20-40 chest X-

rays/hr, at the container's exterior surface). Thus, even so-called 'routine, incident-free' shipments would be like 'mobile X-ray machines that can't be turned off,' delivering hazardous ionizing radiation dose, at close range, as they pass by.

Externally contaminated containers would make doses even worse. There are 49 documented cases of "surface contamination" in the U.S., just from 1974-1992.

The French company leading the Texas CISF, Areva/Orano, had hundreds of contaminated shipments—a quarter to a third of all shipments in France for a decade or longer.

So what can be done? Permanent shutdowns—as at the Fort Calhoun atomic reactor—mean core meltdowns can't happen, and no more HLRW will be generated.

Cooper, a Fukushima Daiichi twin design, must be shut as soon as possible, for safety's sake. The electricity can easily be replaced, of course, by safe, secure, affordable, and clean efficiency upgrades, as well as by renewables like wind and solar power.

For the more than 80,000 MT of commercial HLRW in the U.S. today, the interim alternative of Hardened On-Site (or Near-Site) Storage is an essential, and long overdue, safety and security upgrade.

For more information, including related videos, animations, power point presentations, maps, backgrounders, etc., please visit: <http://www.beyondnuclear.org/waste-transportation/2019/3/26/32519-beyond-nuclear-mobile-chernobyl-presentation-in-lincol.html>.

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, conclusion

set to two minutes to midnight, "the closest we have been to colossal extinction since the height of the Cold War"), and most recently in an end of year report presented to the House this past January.

Fortenberry said he began working on the idea for a nonproliferation council last spring after reading through the "2018 Nuclear Posture Review" (NPR). "It just struck me as peculiar that perhaps 95 percent of it was dedicated to atomic weaponry. I think there were about two pages dedicated to nonproliferation," Fortenberry said. "I thought it was a peculiar under-emphasis on nonproliferation. And that is a significant part of keeping us safe."

Among the NPR's recommendations was a call for production of new weapons like a modified submarine launched warhead with a 'low' yield of about five kilotons, and a nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile. Many of the stockpile improvements suggested by the NPR derive from assessments and decisions of the Nuclear Weapons Council, whose voting members include two under secretaries of defense, the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the NNSA administrator, and the commander of U.S. Strategic Command (StratCom).

Fortenberry's Nebraska district includes the headquarters of StratCom, which oversees the nation's strategic deterrence and nuclear weapons operations.

"I've been a supporter of modernization and regeneration for our own safety and defense posture as a part of deterrence," Fortenberry said. "On the other side of the coin, though, is to ensure that we are aggressively working for nonproliferation. . . I just thought since we had an Atomic Weapons Council [sic] that led to significant recommendations about how we modernize and assure our deterrence, that we ought to have at least some kind of corresponding emphasis on nonproliferation. And I decided to try to venture into the legislative round and formalize this through a nonproliferation council."

Fortenberry created and leads a bipartisan caucus called the "Congressional Nuclear Security Working Group" focused on nonproliferation issues. The group was instrumental in passing an amendment to the "2019 National Defense Authorization Act" that directed the NNSA to speed the elimination of cesium chloride, which can be used to make dirty bombs, from medical equipment in the United States. The group's co-chairs are Fortenberry, fellow Republican Rep.

Chuck Fleischmann, and Democratic Reps. Bill Foster and Ben Ray Lujan.

"We dialogue with the Department of Energy, with NNSA regularly," Fortenberry said. "We've had the highest level of meetings, particularly with Energy—with Secretary [Rick] Perry as well as [Ernest] Moniz prior to him. It creates the conditions for some type of movement around these ultimate existential questions which really, really get short shrift around here."

Asked how political divisions in Congress might affect support for the proposal—particularly in light of disagreements over the NPR and the Trump Administration's withdrawal from the Iran deal—Fortenberry acknowledged that "distinctions of approach" exist on nuclear policy. There is also some resistance to another bureaucratic entity within Congress, he said. But he sees the proposed council as an opportunity to engage in bipartisan work on an existential concern.

"This type of issue should transcend any political disagreement," Fortenberry said. "It really is about life and death, the future of civilization itself."

What's HOT in Global Warming?

by Professor Bruce E. Johansen

Ice Melt Chronicles: Arctic & Antarctic

Our wicked winter was a global oddity, a gift of the polar vortex. At the same time, the Arctic and Antarctic continue to melt at accelerating rates. While our area was struggling with record ice, snow, melting, and flooding, the NASA Earth Observatory reported from Alaska: “Forget the transition period between

keeping. NASA reported that while Barrow’s average daily high temperature in March averaged an astounding 31 degrees F. above average, Barrow also received more than four times the normal amount of rain and twice its usual snowfall. March rain in Barrow is usually all but unknown.

provoke the disintegration of the West Antarctic ice sheet was aired as theory by glaciologists as early as 1979. An analysis by Jonathan L. Bamber of the United Kingdom’s Bristol Glaciology Center and colleagues estimated that collapse of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet could raise global sea level by 3.3 meters



“Forget the transition period between seasons: in March 2019, Alaska jumped from mid-winter right into late spring, setting monthly temperature records in many cities and towns. Meteorologists have noted that the unusually hot month was part of a long-term warming trend in the state in recent years.” — NASA Earth Observatory

seasons: in March 2019, Alaska jumped from mid-winter right into late spring, setting monthly temperature records in many cities and towns. Meteorologists have noted that the unusually hot month was part of a long-term warming trend in the state in recent years.”

A high-pressure system anchored itself over Alaska for most of March, allowing average temperatures to set records across the state. Utqiagvik (Barrow), the northernmost town in the United States, experienced its mildest March in more than 100 years of record-

Ice extent in the Bering Sea set record lows for March. While ice cover there usually reaches its maximum in March, by April 1, 2019, NASA reported that “The sea was already largely free of ice.”

The Pine Island Glacier Disintegrates

At the same time, the Pine Island Glacier in West Antarctica was melting faster than at any time on record, raising the possibility that global sea levels could rise several feet by the end of the present century.

The idea that global warming could

(about 11 feet).

Two-thirds of the ice-mass loss from the West Antarctic Ice Sheet stems from the Pine Island Glacier and its environs, where release of ice doubled during the decade ending in 2008. Radar images from satellite observations of the Pine Island glacier in Antarctica taken during the 1990s indicate that it has been shrinking rapidly. The shrinking of this glacier is important, “because it could lead to a collapse of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet,” said Eric Rignot, a glaciologist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, who led the study at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

“The continuing retreat of Pine Island glacier could be a symptom of the WAIS [West Antarctic Ice Sheet] disintegration,” said Craig Lingle, a glaciologist at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, who is familiar with the study. By 2009, the Pine Island Glacier was losing ice four times as quickly as a decade previously, according to satellite imagery, a disclosure that provoked alarmed scientists to cut their estimates for the demise of this glacier to one century from 600 years or more.

A modeling study published in 2010 argues that the Pine Island Glacier has passed its tipping point, which could bring on collapse of parts of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet. The study by Richard Katz and colleagues at the University of Oxford projects that the glacier may lose half its mass in less than a century.

Ice Erodes from Below

Warming water in the Amundsen Sea is eroding the glacier from below, pushing the grounding line higher up the continental shelf. This model may under-

state the speed at which glacier’s grounding line is retreating, says Katz. “Ours is a simple model of an ice sheet that neglects some important physics,” said Katz. “The take-home message is that we should be concerned about tipping points in West Antarctica and we should do a lot more work to investigate,” he said.

The Pine Island glacier is important because it is part of stream of ice that moves more rapidly than the ice cap surrounding it. This glacier is part of an ice stream that runs from the interior of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet into the surrounding ocean waters. If a glacier in this ice stream melts more quickly from the bottom than snow accumulates on its top, the net ice melt goes into the ocean, raising sea levels.

A “disaster scenario,” as described by Richard Alley, a glaciologist at Pennsylvania State University, has the Pine Island glacier retreating enough to “make a hole in the side of the ice sheet... The remaining ice would drain through that hole,” as if a cork has been removed from a bottle.

Watching Glaciers Collapse

By 2019, the retreat of the Pine Island glacier was speeding up even more ominously. For a NASA moving depiction of its disintegration, see: <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/pine-island?src=eo-features>

NASA and European observers have been watching important glaciers collapse in real time. The Pine Island glacier, with the neighboring Thwaites Glacier, is one of the main pathways for ice entering the Amundsen Sea from the West Antarctic Ice Sheet. One the fastest-retreating glaciers in Antarctica, this region contains enough “vulnerable ice” to raise global sea level by 4 feet.

Fractures near the seaward edge cause the ice to calve off as icebergs, a normal part of life for glaciers that extend over water. If icebergs calve off at a rate that matches the glacier’s acceleration, the ice front stays in the same place. Over the long term at Pine Island, the ice front has retreated inland, indicating that the calving rate has increased more than the glacier has accelerated, causing the outlet glaciers to shrink rapidly.

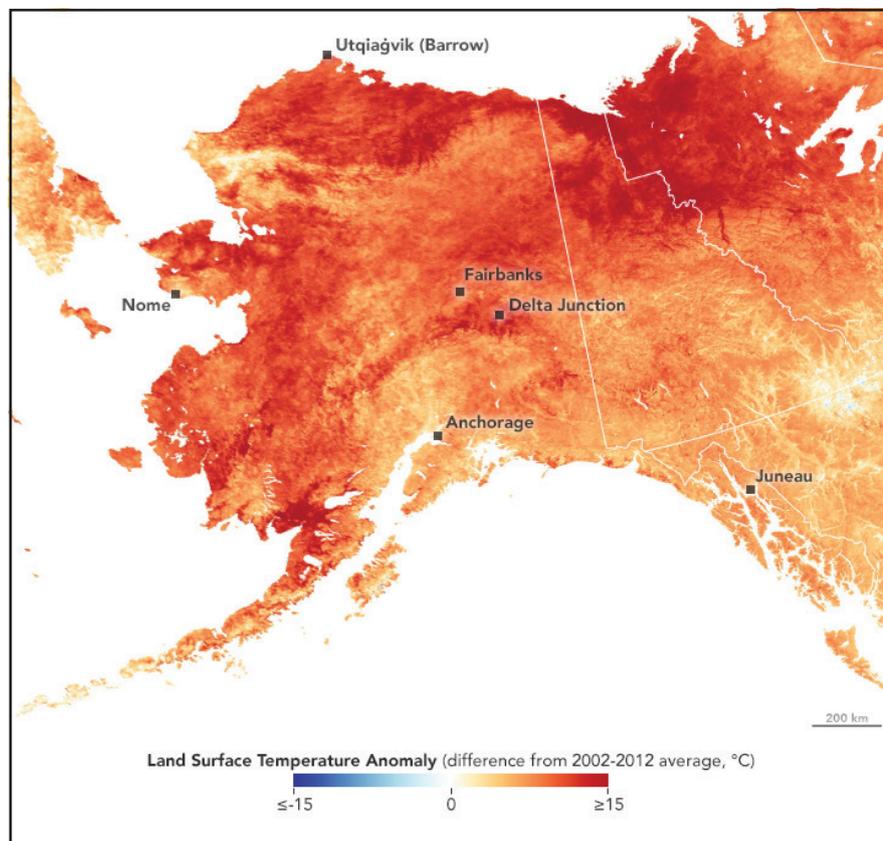
NASA explained that “Large cracks are forming farther upstream from the ice front than ever before—even in the middle of the ice shelf, where scientists had never previously seen them grow. “This is indicative of a progressive collapse of the ice shelf,” said Rignot.

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Bruce E. Johansen, Frederick W. Kayser Professor at the University of Nebraska–Omaha, is author of Climate Change: An Encyclopedia of Science, Society, and Solutions (2017).



Pray, conclusion

and Christian faiths, each with a message of inclusion and making the case that addressing climate change and environmental degradation and environmental inequality are moral issues needing immediate attention. And these cases were made in a welcoming way for nonbelievers as well. The Call to Action sermons were delivered by Al Gore and Bishop William Barber II, leader of the “Moral Monday” protests and past chair of the North Carolina NAACP. Gore dug deep into his Baptist upbringing for a booming call for justice against racist pipelines and pollution but it was Bishop Barber who brought the thunder and inspired the audience of almost 2,000 to their feet multiple times as he laid out the case for putting aside our racial and class differences to address climate change. As he stated more than once over the three-day conference, Barber reminded us that MLKJ did not lead just a Black People’s Movement, but a Social Justice Movement that included all races, genders, classes and sexual orientations, and that is how we must address climate change. He also said that we can pray on our knees until we sweat blood—or as we say around these parts, until the cows come home—but unless there’s action, don’t expect change for the better. “When you pray, move your feet AND your hands.”

On the final Saturday of the Conference, the regular program included a minute of silence for the victims of the New Zealand shooting massacre and a call for unity as well as added discussion to panels about the flooding in Nebraska and Wisconsin. After only one slide of Nebraska during the long presentation—a scene from flooding in DeWitt in 2015—that included the world over, it was simultaneously gratifying and demoralizing that attention had shifted to my home state, and this was before the horrific images of communities along the Platte and Missouri went viral.

One of the last presentations was on the Paris Climate Accord. While it needs to be strengthened, we need to remain a part of it. Everyone has heard that President Trump has declared that the U.S. intends to pull out of it. What you may not know is that the U.S. cannot formally request to leave until November 4, 2019 and that it will not take effect until November 4, 2020. That’s one day after the next presidential election, which a new President can null and void immediately in case you needed another reason not to vote for Trump.

Less than a week later, there was a Climate Change Summit in Lincoln at Innovation Campus (covered in the *Lincoln Journal Star*) put on by the State Climate Office



Photo by Matthew Conboy

Former Vice President Al Gore presenting at a Climate Reality Project Conference.

that included Nebraska’s climatologists and experts on agriculture, health and municipalities from around the Midwest. Programming and presentations were amended and made new in order to include images and info regarding the Bomb Cyclone, snowmelt, flooding and destruction. Although we can’t attribute every weather event with a direct correlation to climate change, the events of Nebraska in mid-March that included glacier-sized ice chunks levelling towns looked anything but “natural”. One of the slides from Gore’s presentation was a quote from Kevin Trenberth of the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research who said “global warming is contributing to an increased incidence of extreme weather because the environment in which all storms form has changed from human activities.”

After the conference in Atlanta and having been swirling in climate change information and data, when I took my seat in Lincoln, I did not expect to be wowed by the presenters and their work, but it was an extraordinary and insightful agenda that could only have been improved by the attendance of our elected officials—particularly our climate-denying and delaying state senators.

Five days after the horrific and tragic events of New Zealand, their government under the leadership of their unshakeable Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern came together to ban semiautomatic weapons and assault rifles. What if we lived in a state where our elected leaders witnessed and experienced the destruction that Nebraska endured and declared a climate emergency and united in action within a week to start the drastic lowering of greenhouse emissions and implemented a mitigation and adaptation plan? Until that world is a reality, we should look to Dr. King’s work and tactics, support the students striking for climate action and all do our part to address global warming. And when you pray, use your feet.

Matt Gregory is a former Nebraskans for Peace board member and former organizer for Nebraska Interfaith Power & Light. His opinions are his own and do not necessarily reflect those of Climate Reality Project.

DeWayne Mays Wins Human Rights Award

This past winter, Nebraskans for Peace State Board member Paul Olson nominated Dr. DeWayne Mays, President of the Lincoln Branch—NAACP, for the City of Lincoln Commission on Human Rights “2019 Gerald Henderson Human Rights Award.” Gerald Henderson, who until his death served as a member of the NFP State Board, was the first director of the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights which since the 1970s has combated housing and employment discrimination. Dr. Mays has been especially important in the planning and execution of the Mandela picnics, a joint NAACP and NFP event, and in preparing the groundwork for “Truth and Reconciliation” work in Lincoln fostered by the NAACP and NFP. Reprinted below is the nomination that Olson submitted on Dr. Mays’ behalf.

Dear LCHR commissioners,

This is to recommend DeWayne Mays for the “Gerald Henderson Human Rights Award.” I knew Gerald Henderson, and I believe that I made the first active housing complaint to Mr. Henderson in behalf of Professor Earl Rand who was a visiting professor at the University of Nebraska in the “Triple ‘T’ Project (“Teaching the Teachers of Teachers”) which I headed. I think that it would be most appropriate that DeWayne Mays be given the Gerald Henderson award because his work is in the spirit of Gerald Henderson. For a long time he has been active as an officer in the local NAACP, serving in a variety of roles—presently as the president. He has also been a national and regional NAACP leader, participating in its organizational meetings at the state and regional level and bringing back to Lincoln ideas that originated in the national office or in the regional and state meetings. I attend many of the local NAACP meetings, and DeWayne is always a leader in those meetings. He has been a key organizer of the annual NAACP banquet, serving on the committee that coordinates the event and sells a large number of tickets.

Mays has also stood for peace and justice in the Lincoln community in a variety of other ways. He attended a meeting a few years ago with Sheriff Wagner where he pressed the sheriff on the kinds of military equipment that the sheriff’s department was getting and ask for exact criteria as to when that equip-

ment would be used. In another meeting he performed similar advocacy with Public Safety Director Tom Casady and Lincoln police leaders. He presses the issues without malice or rancor, and always competently. Because of this, he gets a good hearing. How police departments treat local citizens profoundly affects what employment they can gain.

Again, in the area of employment, Mays has been an important force in shaping the Lincoln Public Schools and Lincoln Police Department policies with respect to policing the schools so that that policy does not become part of the ‘school-to-jail’ conduit and young people are enabled to continue their education, attend vocational education or college, and obtain decent employment.

Mays has also had a significant role in planning local tributes to famed South African civil rights hero Nelson Mandela that have raised the issue of equal housing opportunity and the apparent re-segregation of parts of Lincoln, elevating discussion of the issue to the whole city. For each of these tributes honoring Mandela, Mays has been the point person for the NAACP in the organization of these Trago Park picnics that annually draw several hundred African, African-American and Caucasian citizens to celebrate the South African president’s peace and justice legacy, share some food, and enjoy African and African-American music and performative genres. At these events the issues of fair housing and employment are commonly raised.

Mays has been active also in endeavoring to get out the vote by people of color by participating in door-to-door registration drives, leading in the “UNL Big Red Welcome” for new students, and testifying before the legislature for mail ballot voting. The voter turnout of people of color is what will eventually ensure decent housing and employment to racially impacted populations. DeWayne keeps a sizable email list which allows him to inform people of civil rights issues and events. He participates in a multiracial group that I also frequent—a group that meets once a week and converses about ordinary family gossip but also about what it ought to do about civil rights issues, including housing and employment, in Lincoln. Included in this group is Gerald Henderson’s widow, Josephine.

Nothing means more to Dr. Mays than his church and his family’s participation in that church. He is a faithful member and leader at Mount Zion Baptist Church, teaching the Sunday school and holding administrative roles.

Dr. Mays is a highly professional soil scientist who does not need his record on human rights to assure his distinction. For years he was a leading soil scientist for the federal government in the Federal Building here in Lincoln, and he could well rest on his laurels as a scholar. He has chosen to work for justice not only for African American peoples, but for Native Americans and Latinos, through the NAACP, the Mandela commemoration, and his many other advocacy activities. Whenever he organizes, he organizes with all peoples of color and with Caucasian people who care about justice in our society. He has my unqualified recommendation the Gerald Henderson award.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Olson

Kate Foster Professor of English
emeritus, UNL

2019 NFP Scholarship Winner

Jessica Reyes

**Second Congressional District
Millard West High School
Omaha, Nebraska**

College: University of Nebraska–Omaha

There are numerous issues that are worth being advocated for, but many of the most prevalent ones in today's age fall under the category of Civil Rights and Economic Justice, which is Nebraskans for Peace's Priority II. I will be focusing on multicultural communities in which to implement an alternative approach. Multicultural communities have far more problems than communities with less minorities, which has been backed up by countless research. These problems range from crime to job opportunities. In order to better serve these communities, it seems logical to invest more in police forces or food bank programs, but in reality, investing in education can serve as a blanket for solving a multitude of issues.

Schools with more students belonging to minority groups (as opposed to white students) experience inequalities when it comes to building quality, materials, technology, opportunities for extracurricular involvement, and counseling availability. They are also compromised when it comes to teacher quality, which is the largest issue because teacher quality has been proven time and time again to be most influential in student success. This goes especially for minority groups, which is stated in "The Coleman Report" of 1966.

School systems and state governments owe it to multicultural communities to figure out how to acquire and retain excellent educators for underserved youth. A 2016 study from the Learning Policy Institute that looked at how to find and maintain good teachers reported that unprepared new teachers are 2.5 times more likely to leave the profession in their first year than their well-prepared colleagues. Many experience lack of support

as well, which makes them also more than twice as likely to leave the profession than teachers who are provided with that support. This means that schools ought to invest in preparing teachers for their position, whether it be through professional development that



**Jessica Reyes
2nd Congressional District**

discusses cultural awareness or showing them how to address common problems they will encounter in their classroom. That being said, districts also need to provide support, so teachers can feel like their questions and decisions are valid, important and valued. A third thing schools can do to obtain excellent educators is increase their hiring budgets. This is a lot easier said than done and they have to pull funding from other areas to do so, but as stated earlier, student achievement starts with teacher quality. By increasing the hiring budget, they can not only get more teachers and lower the student-to-teacher ratio, but they can gain more prepared,

educated and competent teachers, while being able to pay them more. The last thing schools can do to attract excellent teachers is implement incentives for qualified ones to come and work in their district. For example, they can pay for a Master's degree that is being obtained while they are employed by the district. Having better teachers means more-enriching classroom environments and

... By next year, 65 percent of all jobs will require post secondary education, which means that most kids in poverty won't have a chance in 65 percent of the job market.

higher student achievement, which is a hefty investment that is certainly worth looking into.

Another thing that school systems can do to advance educational equity is invest in pre-k programs and elementary schools. An article from *USA Today* claimed that students of low socioeconomic status, which is common in multicultural communities, are 1.3 times more likely to suffer developmentally, and 40 percent of them aren't ready for primary school, which shows that deficiencies in cognitive and noncognitive skills show up early. By investing in excellent educators for pre-k programs and young grades in general, school systems are doing themselves a favor. "The Coleman Report" concluded that the negative effects of bad teachers is cumulative throughout school years and they are harder to reverse than the effects that good teachers have on students. Having competent and caring teachers for young students can

help end the catch up game that high school teachers are constantly playing as these developmental deficiencies become even bigger issues when the students grow older. High school teachers are tasked with making sure their students are ready for a college education or even just the real world, which brings me to my next point.

School districts ought to invest in obtaining good high school teachers that are willing to be a resource of academic support and counseling for their students, which is crucial because the *USA Today* article also reported that the rate of income-related gaps in high school and college completion has grown by 50 percent since the 1980s. This is problematic because by next year, 65 percent of all jobs will require post-secondary education, which means that most kids in poverty won't have a chance in 65 percent of the job market. If there were teachers who could push those students into exploring their untapped potential, however, the gap of achievement between students in multicultural communities and those in majority white communities would begin to close.

As can be seen, it is crucial that good teachers are available in underserved communities. However, a lot of the solution lies in financial capital that is currently not there, which is what makes educational equity such a daunting issue to address. Getting more financial capital to hire and maintain better teachers means that school systems and state governments would have to rely less on property taxes, which are low anyways in poor areas, and distribute funds more evenly to schools who are in desperate need of them. Of course, again, this is easier said than done, but these students deserve better, and there will be a return on investment in the future. You see, the better teachers there are, the more students can achieve, which means more kids in poverty and multicultural communities will have a chance to go to college. College educations have numerous economical benefits, among which are reduced crime and unemployment rates. So not only are policymakers benefiting students when they work toward progress on advancing educational equity, but they are doing favors for entire communities by advocating for civil rights and economic justice as well.

Frank LaMere Named Honorary Doctor of Laws

Nebraska political legend and Nebraskans for Peace Advisory Board Member Frank LaMere was presented with an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University at the May 11, 2019 Commencement Day exercises. Reprinted below is the citation that was read before the formal presentation of the degree. There is not a Nebraskan alive more worthy of this recognition. With his untiring work for justice, Frank LaMere makes us all better people and Nebraska a better state. Thank you, Frank. Pinagigi.

Frank LaMere is a member of the Winnebago Tribe. He has long been recognized for his efforts to give voice to those who have none and to empower Native and non-Native people through his strong advocacy and work in the field of human and civil rights.

LaMere was one of the chief architects of the effort to stop the illegal flow of alcohol from Whiteclay, Nebraska onto the dry Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. This 20-year effort resulted in a historic and landmark 2017 Nebraska Supreme Court decision that closed Whiteclay's four liquor stores. Two documentaries, "The Battle for Whiteclay" and "Sober Indian/Dangerous Indian," chronicle much of his work. LaMere has received numerous awards and citations. He was the Peacemaker of the Year for Nebraskans for Peace. He was given the War Eagle Human Rights Award by the Sioux City Human Rights Commission, the Outstanding Service Award by the Jackson Recovery Center, the FDR award by the Nebraska Democratic Party and the Good Apple Award by the National Indian Child Welfare Association.

He currently is co-chair of the newly formed Hope Street Project in Sioux City, Iowa and a board member of the Siouxland Community Health Center, the Mercy Medical Center Patient Advisory Council and the Winnebago Tribal Health Advisory Board. He co-chairs the Community Initiative for Native Children and Families (CINCF) in Sioux City and founded the Memorial March to Honor Lost Children. He is a member of the Davis-Chambers Scholarship Advisory and past chair of the Nebraska Indian Commission and the Nebraska Indian Community College Board. He is a member of the Democratic National Committee and associate chair of the Nebraska Democratic Party. He was one of the first members of the Nebraska Rural Development Commission.

LaMere has the distinction of being the only Native American on the Sesquicentennial Commission that guided the celebration of 150 years of Nebraska Statehood in 2017, serving as its vice chair.

LaMere lives in South Sioux City, Nebraska. He does contract work for the Siouxland Human Investment Partnership and Ho-Chunk Inc. He lectures extensively about working for change and empowering oneself through participation and engagement. "Nothing changes unless someone is made to feel uncomfortable! Nothing changes unless we make ourselves uncomfortable!" Frank LaMere lives this mantra supported by many, including his wife, Cynthia, a Yankton Sioux woman, four children and 11 grandchildren.

HARD TRUTH, conclusion

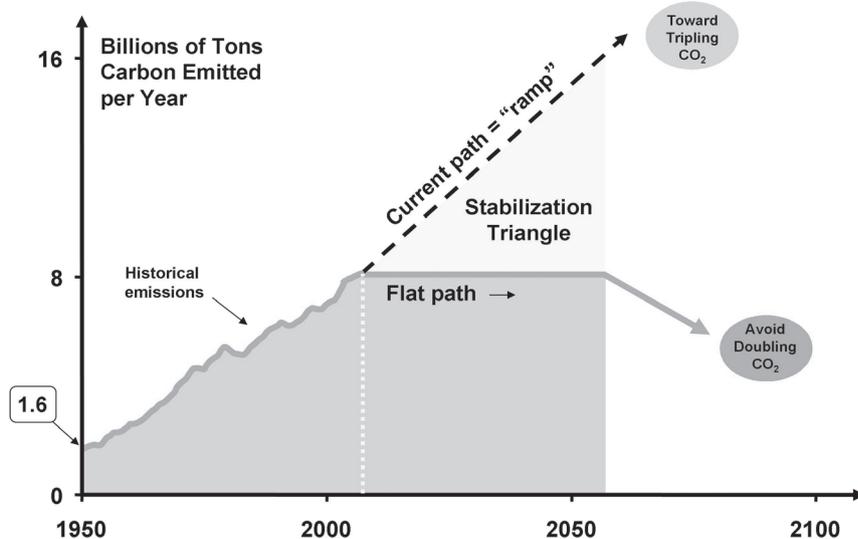
tools we need for meaningful atmospheric carbon mitigation—and have had for 15 years, at least.

The Carbon Mitigation Initiative (CMI) is a joint venture of Princeton University and BP to use “synergy across fundamental science, technological development, and business principles that accelerates the pace of discovery, from proof of concept to scalable application” in order to “to lead the way to a compelling and sustainable solution of the carbon and climate change problem.”

Scientific consensus is that business as usual would mean that greenhouse gas emissions will double over the next 50 years, raising atmospheric CO₂ to more than three times pre-industrial levels, with catastrophic consequences for much life on Earth. A safer course, CMI says, is to scale up existing technology to level off emissions for the next 50 years, with a goal of eventual decline, to “skirt the worst predicted consequences of climate change.”

While there is no single solution to our problems, CMI has developed an ingenious model of stabilization wedges as a way to think about the changes we need to make to survive. “Keeping emissions flat for 50 years will require trimming projected carbon output by roughly 8 billion tons per year by 2060, keeping a total of 200 billion tons of carbon from entering the atmosphere... We refer to this carbon savings as the stabilization triangle,” according to CMI. “Many strategies available today can be scaled up to reduce emissions by at least 1 billion tons of carbon per year by 2060... By embarking on several of these wedge strategies now, the world can take a big bite out of the carbon problem instead of passing the whole job on to future generations.”

To help people understand how stabilization can work, CMI has designed a game (available free as a .pdf) to be played in classrooms and other groups. Fifteen different strategies are identified, each of which has the potential in the real world to reduce carbon emissions by at least 1 billion tons per year by 2060. Eight strategies will

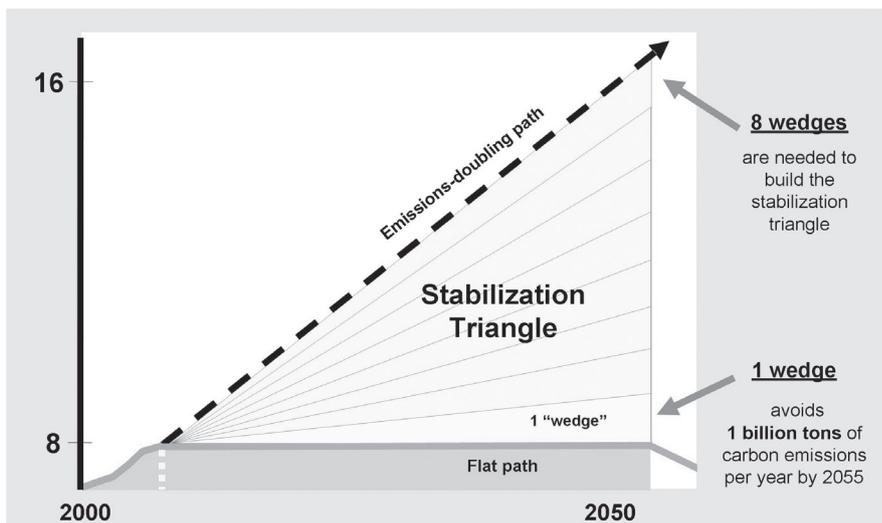


be required to create a stabilization triangle today. When the model was first unveiled in 2004, the job COULD have been done with fewer strategies. The longer we delay action, the greater the number of carbon reduction strategies we will need.

And the SOONER we act, the greater the benefit. It's high time the capitalist model is made to work in the public interest—and every one of the proposed strategies uses the economies of scale. The first Ipad cost \$150 million to make. Today you can buy one for \$249 at Walmart. The more wind turbines we build, the more solar arrays, the more

methanol we capture and convert to clean fuel, the greater and more sustainable the general prosperity.

Strategies range from efficiency—doubling fuel efficiency in cars, cutting the number of car miles traveled by half, efficient building best practices, etc.—to switching fuels (e.g., to natural gas from coal) to ramping up wind energy development by a factor of ten (to 2 million large turbines) and ethanol by a factor of twelve, and installing 100 times the solar capacity operating today. Production of hydrogen fuel cell cars could be powered by 40K square kilometers of solar panels or yet



another 4 million wind turbines. Carbon capture and storage is economically feasible, the right thing to do ethically and mandatory for survival, as many articles in the *Nebraska Report* have detailed over many years, as likewise is the protection of natural carbon sinks by ending tropical deforestation and adopting conservation tillage best practices worldwide.

My point? We don't HAVE to wait for fusion or solar collectors in space or artificial photosynthesis on the moon. And it is a good thing we DON'T have to wait, because season after season brings fresh evidence that we are out of time. When climate migration is mentioned, you may picture South Asians stranded on drowning islands or deserts expanding in hungriest Africa, but immigrants fleeing Guatemala have increased on account of drouth, their lives finally insupportable who have endured through poverty and narco wars.

I had meant to detail the state of methane capture, but that topic needs its own essay. I wanted to make the case for requiring methane capture by the largest corporate sources, the big dairies and corporate feedlots with their captive supply. Apparently Smithfield and others are now capturing methane from hog waste at selected sites. It's a beginning.

The genius of the Carbon Mitigation Initiative shines off the webpage, and I urge you, Gentle Reader, to visit <https://cmi.princeton.edu/wedges> today. The issue of climate change feels overwhelming because it is complex, and because information often comes wrapped in distractions that keep us at odds with one another or too paralyzed to act. So long as we feel overwhelmed, we cannot fight at the top of our form, but that is what it is going to take to get the job done. Imagine a recruiting poster pointing at your nose: Mother Earth needs YOU!

Much has been made just lately of the problems with social media, and much of that criticism does ring true. But I cannot forget that one of the better moments of this new century, the Women's March of January 2017, began with one distraught woman at her keyboard and opened a can of Whup-ass and Hope that helped elect a Democratic majority to the House of Representatives in 2018 and sustains me personally to this day.

What the work of Polly Higgins and CMI means for the rest of us is that we are not alone. You and I don't have to invent the wheel. We just have to be clear about our priorities—mitigating carbon and ending ecocide—and relentless in getting out the vote and spreading the word.

A Pledge for Peace on Earth

Just in time for Earth Day, Don Tilley, founder of the Prairie Peace Park and past president of Nebraskans for Peace, wrote the following anthem as a vision of the peace and justice values we must embrace in the challenging era we're now facing.

*O beautiful earth, our home.
We breathe your life-giving air;
We drink your fresh, flowing water;
We walk on your green fertile lands, teeming with life.
Your giving spirit enables us to mature as humans. We are becoming better. We give our loyalty to you and care for you, our earth home.*

We're trying to turn away from our foolish, parochial, destructive ways. We have exploited you. Treated you with violence. We've invited destruction through global warming. Built nuclear weapons endangering life on earth. We possess an obsession with materialism and greed that ignores your spirit.

And yet, we aspire to be more: dissolving the boundaries around the world as we dissolve the boundaries in our minds. We commit ourselves to practicing positive beliefs of love, kindness, cooperation, human rights and trust. We choose to eliminate collectively unconscious negative beliefs of fear, suspicion, hostility and distrust which hold the entire world captive — keeping us separate, engendering conflict and preventing us from creating peace.

Together we build the earth, and while building on the dignity and worth of each person, seek to create a world where together we can all co-exist. We, the people of the earth, pledge to preserve a home offering opportunity, liberty and justice for all of creation.



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HARD TRUTH

by Sally Herrin

Cutting Carbon

On April 21, 2019, Earth lost an irreplaceable champion, Scottish barrister Polly Higgins, founder of the Earth Law Alliance. Higgins fought to make governments and corporations criminally liable for ecocide—knowing harm caused to the environment—under international law. In 2010, Higgins proposed a model law to amend the Rome Statute, which defines crimes against peace in the world community. A striking beauty in a Hollywood goddess sort of way (she wore brown satin without irony to give a Powerpoint presenta-

tion), Higgins is remembered as one of the world's great visionary thinkers and most inspiring women of her time. We won't see her like again soon, and the job is not done. So it is left to us now to carry on..

No doubt with Joe Hill in Heaven, Polly Higgins is saying, "Don't mourn me! Organize!"

In that spirit, the hard truth on offer today is the enormous emergency of now. To deny or quibble on climate change today is the moral equivalent of turning a blind eye on Ger-

man National Socialism 80 years ago. Today, atmospheric carbon is Hitler and industrialization fuels the ovens. Turns out that last war was just a dress rehearsal, a morality play to prepare us for saving a future for the world.

The good news is, the good guys can win this time too, but only if we come together on the order of the national war efforts of World War II, as people famously DO in emergencies, like a Frank Capra cast or the Avengers. We can win BECAUSE we don't need to wait on some future technology. We HAVE the