

# California Drought Update

## by Patrick Ruckert

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<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org>

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## A Note to Readers

### Trapped in the past; unable to envision a future

Too often the past, and the present, trap and paralyze people, making it impossible for them to envision a future outside of what is considered “paractical.” That is why the arguments and proposals of what to do about the water crisis in this state lead to a dead end. Had the way of thinking that now predominates existed in the past, then the Central Valley Project would never had been built, not to speak of the California State Water Project, the Los Angeles Aqueduct and the Colorado River Aqueduct. The endless, and, in some cases, mindless, proposals-- like the Governor's Tunnel under the Delta; the building of more water storage; taking the funds from the high-speed rail project and to use them somehow-- all of these have no imagination and prevent making real solutions possible.

See the reports below for updates on these diversionary ideas.

Look beyond what is in front of your eyes. Imagine what the country can be in 50 years. You really don't have to look far, for later this month the future will begin. The Carlsbad desalination plant will go on line and begin producing 50 million gallons of water per day. Dozens of such plants could be built in two years, if we change the nation. That requires the removal of that mass murderer Obama from the Presidency, and then the removal of the stranglehold on the nation by Wall Street-- bankrupting their parasitical system by restoring the Glass-Steagall banking law. Then we can begin really building what the nation requires for the future.

Expressing the idea of imagining a different future, the following is an excerpt from a discussion on November 3, 2015. Speaking is Helga Zepp-LaRouche:

*Well, from my perspective the situation in the United States is so bad, that everybody can see it. And if you look at all the elements of it, I mean, this new death explosion of the middle age people, due to drugs, alcohol, suicide, I mean that's unbelievable, you know. That is really obviously a collapsing society.... Then you have the school shootings, and the homicide rate is up everywhere in all major cities.*

*So the situation has reached a point where most people we meet are desperate. And then you find our supporters, or people who respond positively to what we say, and they agree with us, because they can see it too. But the problem is, these people are all isolated and they don't have the feeling how to change it, except if we organize them. And I really think this idea of the United States needs an optimistic program, how the United States should look like in 10, 20 years. And I think what we*

*need to do, is what I said earlier at this meeting that we have to have -- in a certain sense it is already implicit in the World Land-Bridge report, but I think like if we would have alike a 20-page supplement to it, which shows how the Silk Road would look in the United States, in terms of building 50,000 or 100,000 miles of fast train system. The U.S. is a big country, it probably could easily build 100,000 miles of fast train; if you would do in the United States the same thing what the Chinese are doing, namely, to connect every city above half a million through a fast train system, we probably can calculate what that would do for the United States.*

*And then, I like the idea of having some Cusanus cities, some science cities, where the United States would again have all the science concentrated, like in Japan, Tsukuba Science City, where they basically put in all the firms which are in competition normally, internationally, but if you go to the Science city, they work all together, sharing their discoveries, and breakthroughs, and that is then -- it used to be like that, when we went there.*

*Some cities, every 2,000 miles along the Rocky Mountains and get people a sense of how the United States could be transformed. A real vision of what the Silk Road would mean for the United States, combining it with the water, fight against the desertification; I think it would inspire people. Because most people don't have the idea to think out in their mind, and the imagination, of a better future. This is one of the biggest problems we find in the organizing, that people, when you tell them that this is going to happen, they only argue in respect to the past, because they cannot have a vision for the future, because they're drawn by all the, -- why this is not possible.*

*But you have to somehow lose your -- you have to sever yourself from the chains of the past; you have to have a clear idea of what the United States would be in 50 years; will there be a vanished hole, and not exist? Or it will be beautiful.*

## **One Storm Does Not End of Drought Make**

As has often been said, hope is not a strategy. Last week we had some rain and snow, which has been added to a little this week. In an headline, full of irony compared to the more sober content of the article, the *Western Farm Press* on November 3, put it this way: "It's raining in California: time to party!"

Then this headline in the *Los Angeles Times* expressed the non-strategy directly, also on November 3: "Heavy snows in Sierra Nevada raise hopes of relief from drought."

On the other hand, an article by Megan Rouillard on September 29, from the *LaRouche PAC* science team, "Don't count on El Niño to Solve the Drought," presents the alternative to Governor Brownshirt's murderous policy. The full article can be found here:

[http://larouchepac.nationbuilder.com/don\\_t\\_count\\_on\\_el\\_ni\\_o\\_to\\_solve\\_the\\_drought](http://larouchepac.nationbuilder.com/don_t_count_on_el_ni_o_to_solve_the_drought)

Here is an excerpt from the article:

*The moral of this story is... don't rely on natural cycles to solve your problems! We can intervene and change them. From large scale water infrastructure projects, to desalination and even rainmaking technologies, [we can manage the global water cycle](#) to better suit the needs of mankind. Rather than waiting on good news from your meteorologist, take action to create the needed solutions.*

*The solution is most emphatically NOT what California Governor Jerry Brown has suggested: to significantly decrease water use and to refer to the example of how Californians used to get along just fine with millions fewer people as some kind of model. The power of human creativity has demonstrated again and again the ability to allow for continuous growth and development-- this is, in fact, the only thing which is truly sustainable!*

For a sobering evaluation of the potential of El Nino, here are excerpts from an editorial in the *Press Democrat* on October 30:

*In its most recent update, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center said the chances of above-average rainfall in the first quarter of 2016 range from 33-39 percent in the northernmost reaches of the state to 60-69 percent in far Southern California. Here in the North Bay, the chances for a wet winter are 40-49 percent.*

*In short, there's plenty of room for average or below-average precipitation.*

*Moreover, even a strong El Niño effect isn't likely to douse conservation mandates.*

*"One wet winter alone won't be enough to declare victory over this drought," a state Department of Water Resources spokesman told Staff Writer Guy Kovner.*

*Before declaring the drought over, badly depleted aquifers must be recharged, dry reservoirs must be refilled, and the Sierra snowpack — which produces a large portion of the water used in an average year — must be restored from near zero.*

*That would take 150-190 percent of average precipitation, experts say.*

*Where it falls matters, too. Abundant rain won't be much help for the Sierra snowpack or thirsty reservoirs such as Lake Shasta and Lake Oroville if it falls in coastal areas or in Southern California, where forecasters are most confident of the El Niño effect.*

Finally, on October 31, Jay Famiglietti, chief climatologist at NASA, is quoted on *PBS* in their program called, "Is desalination the future of drought relief in California?" (We will have more from this program below):

*It will take about 12 trillion gallons of water in storage in our reservoirs and snowpack, in our groundwater, to get us out of the drought. That's going to take about four years of above average precipitation, so not one El Nino, not two, but three or four above average years of precipitation.*

## **A Reminder: Suffering and Damage Has Not Gone Away**

In fact, it keeps getting worse and worse, with more to come, regardless of El Nino.

The *Santa Barbara Independent* in an article, "Drought Gets Grimmer and Grimmer--Water Experts See Little Hope on the Horizon," by Nick Welsh on October 29, includes this paragraph:

*The bad news is that more than 2,000 private wells in California's Central Valley have gone dry, and more than 100 small water systems are now on the verge of collapse. Hydroelectric production statewide is down to the lowest levels since 1977, and more than half-a-million acres of agricultural fields have been fallowed. Eighteen species of fish, Quinn said, are threatened with extinction, water*

*birds are struggling to make do without the flyway stopovers provided by rice farms, and the state's coniferous forests are experiencing unprecedented die-offs.*

“Farmworking communities in the Central Valley battle ongoing California drought” is the title of an article by Carolina Wilson on November 4 in the *Peninsula Press*. Some excerpts:

*According to the CWC, over one million Californians don't have access to clean drinking water. Rempel says it's likely that as the drought drives excessive drilling for water, water tables will drop and contamination rates will rise. The lower the water table is, the more likely it is that chemical contaminants be present.*

*“In California, in 2015, there are over 350 small communities that on a recurring basis lack safe water,” Rempel said.*

*One of those small communities is Lost Hills, a Central Valley community with a population of just about 2,000 people.*

*Rosanna Esparza of the Clean Water Fund works closely with this Kern County community and said its residents know something is wrong with their water because they can see it and smell it.*

*According to California's Water Boards' data, in fact, about 1 in 4 people in Kern County are affected by a contaminated public water system.*

Here is a link to the article: <http://peninsulapress.com/2015/11/04/no-hay-agua-california-drought-central-valley/>

The *Fresno Bee* article on October 31, “Homeless camp outside Mendota grows in drought,” by Barbara Anderson, reports on what happens to some farm workers who have lost their jobs due to the drought. A few excerpts:

*Hernandez, a tree pruner, is one of the newer inhabitants of the homeless camp, which sprang up about seven years ago. In the early days, about a dozen or so people set up residence. In the past two years, the number has mushroomed to 50 – by one estimate – and the camp has taken on the appearance of a shanty town, with people entrenched within its plywood walls.*

*The shacks have caught the attention of government officials, too. A year ago, the [Fresno County public works department](#), citing building code and other safety violations, ordered [Westlands Water District](#) to dismantle the camp, which is on the district's property.*

*There is no potable water. Most of the people ride bicycles into Mendota to buy bottled water. If they have family nearby, they catch an occasional shower. And some risk bathing in a nearby irrigation canal.*

*“There is nothing safe about that situation out there,” says Johnny Amaral, deputy general manager for external affairs at Westlands. The conditions are like those seen in developing countries, not in the United States, he says.*

*Amaral says there is little question laid-off farmworkers from drought-fallow farms have driven up the homeless population of the camp.*

*The camp outside Mendota keeps growing.*

*Westlands has been working to comply with the county order to empty the camp, he says. “We have initiated all the processes and steps to do what it is we're going to have to do in a lawful and legal manner.”*

*The process would be going faster, Amaral says, but “we’re trying to do the right thing with a heart.”*

## **More Dams and Storage? Not with this Governor**

I have previously reported that the “water storage” element (\$2.7 billion) of the \$7.6 billion Water Bond passed by voters last year contained provisions that almost guarantees that no new dams or storage to capture run-off would be built. On November 4 the California Water Commission presented its “Draft Regulations” for spending Prop 1’s \$2.7 billion for water storage projects. As I wrote in “Note to Readers” above attempting to play within the rules of this system is nothing but a diversion from real solutions. Here is a summary of the regulations as posted by [Families Valley](#) on face book on November 5:

*A Year After the Water Bond - We aren't really expecting to get any storage out of the passage of the California Water Bond a year ago. There are so many bureaucratic hurdles and conditions and a timeline that is endless that any real progress is only a dream. The process itself is a nightmare.*

*First of all, any project funded by bond money must provide at least 50% ecosystem benefits. It would also have to provide measurable improvements to the Delta ecosystem or tributaries to the Delta. The California Water Commission is still developing the regulations for the process and they won't be totally adopted until December 15, 2016. That's also the first day any bond money can be spent, a condition that was placed in the ballot measure.*

*So, this year they've been holding public meetings. But even though this has been going on for the past year, at the end of this year, "the Commission will approve a version of the draft regulations to start the formal rulemaking process, which is just the start of the process." So, guess we haven't really started the process yet. When they do start the "formal rulemaking process, that could be all of 2016."*

*Once the rulemaking process is complete the regulations would be "reviewed and approved by the office of Administrative Law with the Commission adopting the regulations by December 15, 2016."*

*"Solicitation of projects is penciled for 2017."*

*"Once the pre-application period is over, the full application development period will start, which they are anticipating to be about six months." In 2018 will be the technical review, the independent peer review, and the Commissions decision time, so we've got a lot of process ahead of us, but we're going to streamline it as much as possible."*

*So, there you have it. We've tried to streamline the bureaucratic-eze for you but if you want to try to wade through it yourself, be our guest.*



The entirety of the draft regulations were posted by mavensnotebook.com:

[Draft regulations for spending Prop 1's \\$2.7 billion for water storage projects](#)

## **As Forecast: Now Everyone is Fighting Everyone for Water**

### **Even with Lots of Rain and Snow, Water for Farmers Next Year is Not Guaranteed**

Several articles this past week have featured this theme. Space limitations prevent extensive reporting, so I'll excerpt a few paragraphs from each and provide the links.

The first is, "Water supply: Salmon policy could constrain 2016 deliveries" in *Agalert.com* on November 4. <http://agalert.com/story/?id=8979>

*Just as California entered its main precipitation season, federal fishery officials said they doubt whether a rainy winter would be of much benefit to winter-run chinook salmon in the Sacramento River—and raised the prospect that fishery needs will continue to limit water supplies for people in 2016, regardless of the potential storms generated by the El Niño weather pattern.*

*Irrigation water supplies have been withheld or shifted to protect the salmon, but the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration estimated last week that 95 percent of 2015 winter-run chinook eggs and juveniles died when Sacramento River temperatures exceeded 56 degrees.*

*At the Bureau of Reclamation Mid-Pacific Region, spokesman Shane Hunt said, "We're all going to have to regroup and reconsider plans while hoping for some good inflow into the reservoirs. Maybe this situation won't be as big an issue next year. Based on how conditions develop, we'll have to figure out what we can do."*

*But, he acknowledged, "it's highly likely we're not going to have a lot of water to allocate in 2016."*

The second article is from the *Visalia Times Delta* of November 4, "Farmers fear no Friant-Kern water," by David Castellon.

<http://www.visaliatimesdelta.com/story/news/local/2015/11/04/farmers-fear-friant-kern-water/75180610/>

*Even if that wetter weather comes, Glen Martin is worried about getting water for his citrus groves in the Terra Bella and Success Valley areas of southeast Tulare County.*

*Like many farmers along eastern Tulare County, he depends on surface water delivered via the Friant-Kern Canal to irrigate his groves. But for the past two years, he and other farms depending on that water have gotten none allocated through the system due, in part, to low water levels in Fresno County's Millerton Lake because of the state's four-year drought.*

*In addition, a large portion of what little water the lake has been delivered to water rights holders — known as "exchange contractors" — in the Los Banos area who haven't received water they're contractually entitled to receive from the San Joaquin Delta. Water levels also have been low there because of requirements that some of that water be redirected for environmental reasons.*

*The zero water allocations in the Friant system was unprecedented since the Friant-Kern Canal began*

*operating in the early 1950s, and farmers in Terra Bella and some nearby areas are being particularly hard hit because they don't have wells while others, like Martin, have limited water in their wells.*

*How water much is allotted to farmers and communities through the Friant system next year could depend on how much water the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation releases through the Delta, Vink said.*

*"There is concern that even in a normal year type [of rain and snow] they'll be so conservative in the amount of water they store in northern California to protect the endangered species there, there is some discussion they are going to be very conservative in the amount of water they allocate next year" through the Delta, he explained.*

The third article, "Water fears deepen in Kings," is from the *Hanford Sentinel* on October 31 by Gary Feinstein. [http://hanfordsentinel.com/news/in\\_focus/california\\_drought/water-fears-deepen-in-kings/article\\_b5fad404-3c65-56dc-b12b-c76efc77d75d.html](http://hanfordsentinel.com/news/in_focus/california_drought/water-fears-deepen-in-kings/article_b5fad404-3c65-56dc-b12b-c76efc77d75d.html)

*As drought continues, people are getting more and more nervous about the dwindling supply of Kings River water —so much so, fears are spreading that the water is or is going to be transferred out of the county for use elsewhere.*

*Two proposals are causing some consternation.*

*The first one is relatively straightforward, according to Steve Haugen, watermaster for the Kings River Water Association, which is the entity that figures out where every drop of the Kings ends up. It involves a transfer of up to 10,000 acre feet from Peoples Ditch Co. in Kings County to Fresno Irrigation District in Fresno County.*

*The second one is murkier. It's a proposal by Semitropic Water Storage District in Kern County to capture Kings River floodwater in catch basins in Kings County and send it south.*

*Waymire said that as water supplies coming south through the Delta have dried up, the scramble to find water is causing more people to turn their attention to Kings River runoff.*

*"It has turned everybody, every water district, out for themselves," he said. "If that means depleting the water supplies of Kings County, so be it. They don't give a crap."*

The fourth article is from the *Sacramento Bee* of October 28: "Feds: Winter salmon run nearly extinguished in California drought."

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/water-and-drought/article41684160.html>

*For the second straight year, huge numbers of juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon appear to have baked to death in the Sacramento River because of California's drought-stretched water supplies, bringing the endangered species a step closer to extinction.*

*The grim statistics released by federal officials Wednesday raise the specter of more water cuts for agriculture next summer and restrictions on next year's commercial and recreational salmon fishing seasons. Even a strong El Niño winter might not be enough to prevent those outcomes.*

*The disclosure by the National Marine Fisheries Service suggests a complicated and controversial effort to save this year's run of salmon may have ended largely in failure, although officials said they wouldn't have definitive numbers until late November or early December.*

*Federal officials sharply curtailed flows of water coming out of Lake Shasta this spring, delaying*

*deliveries of irrigation water to hundreds of Central Valley farmers. Some who already had planted crops had to scrounge for water; others fallowed fields or saw smaller yields.*

*It now appears to have been a futile effort to keep enough cold water in the system to keep as many of the fish alive as possible.*

## **More From the Study on Fallowed Land in Central Valley**

In last week's report I cited the study by NASA and others on the large increase of fallowed land in the Central Valley in 2015 compared to 2011 and 2014. The *Merced Sun Star* of October 28 also reported on that study, and does so more comprehensively. So here are excerpts from the *Merced Sun Star* article, "Study: Fallow land in Central Valley grows dramatically amid drought," by Brianna Calix. <http://www.mercedsunstar.com/news/article41752572.html>

*Central Valley farmers increasingly are leaving land fallow since the state's historic drought began four years ago, according to a study led by NASA that used satellite imagery of the region.*

*The new study by NASA and other agencies said more than 1.9 million acres of land in the Valley were fallow during the summer crop season that ended Sept. 30. That compared to 1.4 million acres fallowed during the summer of 2011. For the winter season, which runs Jan. 1 to May 31, nearly 1.8 million acres were left unsown this year, an increase of 140 percent over winter 2011. The number of acres left fallow year-round also more than doubled, from 406,000 to more than 1 million.*

*Merced County was among the top six counties in the Valley to fallow the most land. Fresno County led the list.*

*The study, released Oct. 14, attributes the increase in fallowed land to the lack of irrigation water. "When drought causes land to be taken out of production, farm income and agricultural input sales decrease, while unemployment increases among workers employed by farms and related businesses," the study says.*

*NASA and the United States Geological Survey used satellite images and evaluation of ground-level crops to conduct the research.*

*In Merced County, about a quarter of the agriculture acreage was fallow in summer 2015: 104,151 acres fallowed compared to 358,516 planted. In the summer of 2011, just over 60,000 acres were left fallow.*

*The study notes that annual crops, such as cotton, rice and alfalfa, are associated with increases of fallowing land.*

## **Gov. Brown Declares Another State of Emergency-- This is Getting Old**

On October 30, as reported widely, Governor Brown declared a state of emergency as an insect, the bark beetle, has been killing tens of millions of California's trees that have been weakened by the drought. Among the measures to be taken under the state of emergency are ones that should make his hypocritical environmentalism clear-- burn the wood to produce electricity. Though the burning of wood to produce electricity is a familiar tact taken by European nations to achieve their goals of a



certain percentage of energy production to come from “renewables,” burning wood pours more CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere than almost any other fuel. Here are a few quotes from the *The Press Enterprise* article of October 30:

*CALIFORNIA DROUGHT: Bark beetle kills millions of trees*

<http://www.pe.com/articles/trees-785023-forests-forest.html>

*The Press Enterprise*

*Oct. 30, 2015*

*Gov. Jerry Brown has declared a state of emergency to help California address a bark beetle infestation that is killing tens of millions of trees, including many in Inland forests.*

*The governor sent a letter Friday, Oct. 30, to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack seeking federal action for “the worst epidemic of tree mortality in its modern history.”*

*The tree die-off is exacerbated by four years of extreme drought conditions, which has left trees vulnerable to the native beetles.*

*The United States Forest Service estimates that more than 22 million trees have already died in California.*

*Under Brown’s proclamation, the state authorizes agencies to contract more with wood-burning power plants to generate electricity and suspends the competitive bidding process.*

*He also eased restrictions on controlled burns in wildland areas and encouraged agencies to use the timber from the cutting operations in bioenergy plants.*

## **Desalination**

With the Carlsbad desalination plant due to start up before the end of this year, press coverage of the plant, and desalination generally, is increasing. Below are a few samples of the coverage.

*The Daily News* and the *Associated Press* ran this article on November 1 (excerpts):

*“California plant tests US appetite for seawater desalination”*

<http://www.dailynews.com/environment-and-nature/20151101/california-plant-tests-us-appetite-for-seawater-desalination>

*CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — There's far more riding on the Americas' largest seawater desalination plant than the 50 million gallons of drinking water it will produce for the San Diego area each day.*

*The plant, which opens this year, will help determine the future of seawater desalination in the U.S. The billion-dollar project is only the nation's second major seawater plant.*

*Poseidon is pursuing an identical-size plant in Huntington Beach, positioning the Los Angeles suburb as California’s next battleground.*

*In May, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted rules that may give developers pause.*

*“I see extremely big difficulties in California,” said Carlos Cosin, chief executive of Abengoa Water, a*

*unit of Spain's Abengoa SA and a major plant builder. He considers regulatory frameworks in other parts of the U.S. and the world more favorable.*

*“Carlsbad was the horse that got out of the barn before we closed the doors but it's not going to happen again,” said Joe Geever, a consultant to Surfrider Foundation, which unsuccessfully sued Poseidon.*

*Felicia Marcus, chairwoman of the state water board, said Carlsbad proves that large desalination plants can be built in California but is noncommittal on whether others will follow. She said Carlsbad is “quasi-grandfathered” under the new rules.*

The *Public Broadcasting Service* on October 31 interviewed several people under the headline: “Is desalination the future of drought relief in California?”

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/desalination-future-drought-relief-california/>

Here are a few excerpts:

*PETER MACLAGGAN: The desalination process that we have running behind us here is the most efficient desalination technology anywhere in North America.*

*MIKE TAIBBI: Peter MacLaggan is a Senior Vice President of Poseidon Water, which will operate the plant in Carlsbad, just north of San Diego. Poseidon spent a billion dollars and took nearly three years to build it.*

*PETER MACLAGGAN: We get 85 percent of our water comes from hundreds of miles away. That water's under intense competition, interstate competition, competition between farmers and urban settings. So in Southern California, this will not be the last desalination plant that gets built, there'll be others that follow.*

*MIKE TAIBBI: Even with its efficient design, the plant will burn through 840 megawatts of power per day — about the same amount of electricity used to power nearly 30-thousand homes.*

*Then there are other environmental questions, such as, what are the long-term effects of dumping all that concentrated salt back in the ocean? Poseidon says that won't hurt marine life, and it will be monitoring the salinity levels around the plant.*

*PETER MACLAGGAN: All the science supports the fact that we can do this without harming the environment.*

## **Governor Brown's Run-of-the-Mill Scandal**

As this report is being completed, the California press is full of the story of a run-of-the-mill scandal that pales in comparison to his mass murderous intentions of denying the citizens of the state a real policy of the development of water resources. For a more thorough picture of Brown's real criminality here is my report from earlier this year:

### **Governor Jerry Brown is Organized Crime**

<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org/2015/06/12/governor-jerry-brown-is-organized-crime/>

Here is the headline from the *Associated Press* of November 5, and the first few paragraphs:

*Jerry Brown had state workers research oil on ranch*

Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) last year directed state oil and gas regulators to research, map and report back on any mining and oil drilling potential and history at the Brown family's private land in Northern California.

After a phone call from the governor and follow-up requests from his aides, senior staffers in the state's oil and gas regulatory agency over at least two days produced a 51-page historical report and geological assessment, plus a personalized satellite-imaged geological and oil and gas drilling map for the area around Brown's family ranchland near the town of Williams.

## **A Resolution To Defend Billions of Lives: WE SAY NO TO PARIS COP21**

 [larouchepac.com/20151103/resolution-defend-billions-lives-we-say-no-paris-cop21](http://larouchepac.com/20151103/resolution-defend-billions-lives-we-say-no-paris-cop21)

November 3, 2015

*The following resolution was released yesterday by the [Schiller Institute](#), with the intention of rapidly collecting signatures from qualified professionals, political leaders, and ordinary citizens internationally. The main posting of the resolution can be found [here](#), as well as the downloadable [leaflet for signatures](#).*

The conditions of life for billions of people depend upon rejecting the agenda being presented at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Paris this December. The COP21 Paris initiative to adopt a legally binding agreement to reduce CO2 emissions must be rejected on two grounds: the scientific reality that mankind's activity is not going to cause catastrophic climate change, and the very real, lethal consequences of the CO2 reduction programs being demanded.

There is no legitimate basis for having the COP21 conference. Put an end to this now!

Despite the climate-change narrative being presented by an extremely well-funded, top-down propagandist campaign, there is an immense amount of solid scientific evidence which clearly contradicts and/or refutes the claims of coming catastrophic climate change caused by human emissions of greenhouse gases. For example, satellite measurements have shown that there has been no average rise in global temperatures for over 18 years, despite the fact that human greenhouse gas emissions have been increasing at an accelerating rate. This underscores the reality that the climate simply does not respond to CO2 levels in the way claimed by climate alarmists; said otherwise, the Earth's climate system is not highly sensitive to changes in atmospheric CO2 concentrations.

Because many climate models are using these false assumptions of high climate sensitivity to CO2, the predictions of these climate models have been consistently wrong, and with each year they are diverging further from reality. The gradual changes in the climate that have occurred over the recent decades, and the gradual changes which will continue to occur in the future, are not and will not be a cause for alarm. Most of these changes are natural, and any impact mankind may have would be relatively minor. A healthy and growing world economy will be able to adapt to these changes.

We must also recognize that CO2 is not a pollutant—it is an essential part of the biosphere. Because the present atmospheric CO2 levels are well below the optimum for plant growth, human-caused increases in CO2 concentrations are already contributing to increases in agricultural productivity and natural plant growth—creating a measurably greener planet.

But the Paris 2015 summit is not only about nations potentially wasting time and resources on a

phantom problem existing only inside computer models—the ugly reality is that the CO2 reduction programs being proposed would increase poverty, lower living conditions, and accelerate death rates around the world. The world simply cannot support a growing population with improving conditions of life using only solar, wind, and other forms of so-called “green” energy.

More to the point, this scheme is being intensely promoted by modern followers of the population reduction ideology popularized by Thomas Malthus. Organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund/World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) have repeatedly declared that current human population is billions of individuals beyond the Earth's “carrying capacity,” and must therefore be reduced by some billions of people. The present push for a CO2 reduction program is deeply rooted in this Malthusian ideological motivation. But Malthus was wrong in the Eighteenth Century, and his followers are wrong today.

Energy-intensive scientific, technological, and economic growth is essential to human existence. This can be measured by transitions to higher levels of energy flux-density, per capita and per area. Such progress, growth, and development is a universal right, and CO2 emissions are presently a vital part of that process for the overwhelming majority of the world's population. The adoption of a legally binding CO2 reduction scheme at the COP21 conference in Paris will condemn billions of people to a lower quality of life, with higher death rates, greater poverty, and no ability to exercise their inherent human right to participate in the creation of a better future for society as a whole.

This is deeply immoral.

For these reasons the CO2 reduction scheme of the COP21 conference in Paris must be rejected.