Preface

This report is the result of collaboration among three organizations: Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change, Science & Environmental Policy Project, and The Heartland Institute. Three lead authors -- Craig D. Idso, Robert M. Carter, and S. Fred Singer – assembled and worked closely with nearly 50 chapter lead authors, contributors, and reviewers from 15 countries. This volume was subjected to the common standards of peer-review. Reviewers who agreed to be identified are listed on the title page.

The material presented in this volume builds on three prior NIPCC reports, *Nature, Not Human Activity, Controls the Climate* (Singer, 2008), *Climate Change Reconsidered: The 2009 Report of the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change (NIPCC)* (Idso and Singer, 2009), and *Climate Change Reconsidered: The 2011 Interim Report of the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change* (Idso, Carter, and Singer, 2011).

Like its predecessor reports, this volume provides the scientific balance that is missing from the overly alarmist reports of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which are highly selective in their review of climate science and controversial with regard to their projections of future climate change. Although the IPCC claims to be unbiased and to have based its assessment on the best available science, we have found this to not be the case. In many instances conclusions have been seriously exaggerated, relevant facts have been distorted, and key scientific studies have been ignored.

A careful reading of the chapters below reveals *thousands* of peer-reviewed scientific journal articles that do not support, and indeed often contradict, the IPCC's alarmist perspective on climate change. This is not an exercise in "cherry picking": There are simply too many articles by too many prominent scientists, reporting too much real-world data and not merely opinions. Either the IPCC purposely ignores these articles because they run counter to their predetermined thesis that man is causing a climatic crisis, or the IPCC's authors are incompetent and failed to conduct a proper scientific investigation. Either way, the IPCC is misleading the scientific community, policymakers, and the general public by telling only half the story about the science of climate change.

If the IPCC truly considered and acknowledged *all* pertinent science in its assessment reports, there would be no need for a NIPCC. Until such time as the IPCC changes its ways (or is dissolved), NIPCC will continue to inject balance into the scientific debate by finding and reporting the scientific research that the IPCC overlooks. Much of it deals with natural climate processes or variability, weaknesses in climate models and data sets used to measure temperatures or forecast future climate conditions, or with data that raise serious scientific questions about the IPCC's attribution of climate change to human greenhouse gas emissions. Our sole goal in presenting this information is to enable fellow scientists, elected officials, educators, and the general public to make up their own minds about what the science says, to *understand* climate change rather than simply *believe* in it.

Each of the seven chapters in this volume begins with a list of key findings that contradict those of the IPCC. These findings are then discussed in detail using in-depth reviews and analyses of literally thousands of scientific papers. Full citations to the

work reviewed are presented at the end of each section. Some of the material is repeated from the 2011 Interim Report and from the earlier 2009 Report, though material from the oldest report is highly abridged and mostly consists of supporting references.

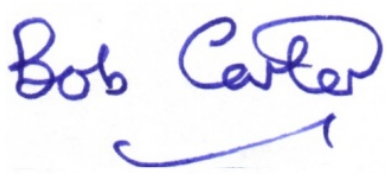
NIPCC scientists have worked hard to remain true to the facts in their representations of the cited studies. Quotations from the original authors are frequently used in discussing their findings and the significance of their work, while editorial commentary in each chapter section is generally limited to an initial introduction and/or conclusion.

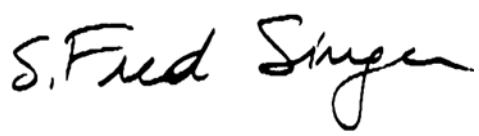
Not every scientist whose work we cite is skeptical of the IPCC positions. In fact, there may be many among the thousands we quote who fully embrace the IPCC's claims and projections who may be bothered to see their work quoted in a book written by "skeptics." In scientific research and writing, this is not unusual and is even to be expected. Climate change is a complex topic spanning many disciplines. Climatology as a field is young and new discoveries are being made seemingly every day that reveal how little we actually know about how the climate works. So an expert in one field may not understand or follow the latest developments in another field, and depends on an organization like the IPCC to report accurately and truthfully on the overall picture of the human impact on climate. One important finding from our work is that the IPCC has abused that trust and misled countless scientists and policymakers.

A related but different matter is that some of the authors whose papers we cite may not agree with our interpretation of their work. We are not infallible, so it may be the case that honest mistakes were made. More common, though, are instances noted in the text where we point out that an author's actual findings disagree with the opinions he or she express in introductions and conclusions. By providing ample quotations from the actual findings, we think readers can make up their own minds about who is right.

Finally, we acknowledge that none of NIPCC's scientists knows the truth of all matters related to the global change debate, nor can we say with certainty that this volume doesn't contain a mistake or two in our interpretations of the available evidence. Understanding climate change involves research in many branches of science across a multitude of spatial and temporal scales. We lay no claim to any special source of knowledge that is not available to anyone else on the planet, nor do we pretend to possess superlative powers of discernment. We just look at the data like everyone else does (or should) and then do our level best to decide what they mean. The fruits of that labor are contained in the NIPCC reports we produce, including the present volume.

We wish to thank all those who participated in the writing, reviewing, editing, and proofing of this volume. Our sincere hope is that this report will mark a return to a more balanced and factually-driven analysis of an issue that is in desperate need of much fuller and open discussion, and that it will help policymakers and politicians make rational decisions on climate and energy policy based on *all* the pertinent science, not just the one-sided narrative produced by the IPCC.





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