

The New Zealand Climate Science Coalition

Hon Secretary, Terry Dunleavy MBE, 14A Bayview Road, Hauraki, North Shore City 0622
Phone (09) 486 3859 - Mobile 0274 836688 - Email - terry.dunleavy@nzclimatescience.org.nz

7 December 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Climategate 3 emails reveal scandalous attack by NZ scientists on a Kiwi colleague

‘Climategate 2’ the second release of emails written by IPCC scientists puts New Zealand climate scientists at centre stage of a major scientific scandal. An anonymous New Zealand blogger has published a series of Climategate 2 emails. He was shocked at what he found:

“The most staggering email was Jim Salinger, a NIWA scientist proposing to his colleagues that they should send a letter to the University of Auckland that would damage the reputation of Professor Chris de Freitas. They wanted to see him sacked from his job, because, as an editor of the journal *Climate Research*, Professor de Freitas had allowed the publication of a scientific article in *Climate Research* that challenged the IPCC message that ‘the science was settled’ on dangerous man-made global warming.”

The emails include correspondence between IPCC luminaries such as Phil Jones, Mike Hulme and Michael Mann. The emails show how irritation turns to attack, with the aim of removing Professor de Freitas from his editorial position at *Climate Research*. A NIWA scientist then proposes escalating the attack on Professor de Freitas. Noting that the vice-chancellor of Auckland University is “monitoring the performance of ALL his senior staff” he proposes scientists that they jointly sign and send a letter to Auckland university to complain about Professor de Freitas.

A draft of the proposed letter attacks Professor de Freitas for allowing publication of poor science and “using his position to promote ‘fringe’ views”. More ominously, the letter later says “de Freitas brings the name of your university and New Zealand into some disrepute” and “We leave it to your discretion what use you make of this information.” Several of the Climategate 2 email authors appear to endorse sending the letter, for example with one saying that he would sign the letter despite it being an “*ad hominem*” attack.

The Climategate 2 emails provide a broad context which suggests an attempt was made to smear de Freitas in order to prevent him continuing in his role as a journal editor. There is little doubt that the underlying cause of the attack on de Freitas was that the publication provided evidence of the existence of the Medieval Warm Period (MWP). The IPCC scientists would have been well aware that existence of the MWP shows that the world was warmer than now, and the whole hypothesis of man-made global warming can no longer be tenable.

Professor de Freitas has recently published the result of an official review of his editorial role on the paper they had objected to which concluded that “Chris de Freitas has done a good and correct job as editor.”

Professor de Freitas is a highly accomplished climate scientist, with an outstanding record of academic publication, and is a recipient of multiple awards for science communication.

http://web.env.auckland.ac.nz/people_profiles/defreitas_c/

The full details of the Climategate 2 emails can be found at

<http://newzealandclimatechange.wordpress.com/>