

Will Alexander

From: "Will Alexander" <alexwjr@iafrica.com>
To: "Stern Review" <callforevidence@sternreview.org.uk>
Sent: 24 November 2005 08:18 PM
Attach: Poverty.doc; My technical report.doc
Subject: Submissions

Dear Sirs

Response to your call for evidence relating to global warming

I have emailed two documents in the hope that they will assist you in your deliberations. The first is my report ***Risk and society - an African perspective*** (1999) commissioned by the United Nations IDNDR secretariat and financed by the South African Department of Foreign Affairs, attached hereto.

The second is my recently completed technical report ***An assessment of the likely consequences of global warming on the climate of South Africa***. I produced this on my own initiative. I have attached a summary to this email and the report in a separate email as it is rather long (2MB).

My concern in both cases was the welfare of the disadvantaged people of the African continent.

As you will see from the second document, in my view there is no substance to the alarmist claims that global warming will result in an increase in floods, droughts, the incidence of malaria and other claims.

I have a lot of additional information including PowerPoint presentations.

This material is not copyright.

Please advise me if I can be of further assistance.

Yours faithfully

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2007/08/14

Will Alexander

From: "Will Alexander" <alexwjr@iafrica.com>
To: <oxonia.responses@sternreview.org.uk>
Sent: 20 February 2006 01:51 PM
Attach: Are we doing enough.doc
Subject: Response to Stern Review Lecture

20 February 2006

Dear Sirs,

Response to Stern Review Lecture *'What is the Economics of Climate Change?'*

Thank you for your email of 31 January. I am not sure why we were invited to comment when your review committee has already made up its mind.

This is a sad day for the developing countries of the world and Africa in particular. As you will see from my detailed submission, I undertook a diligent three-year study of the largest and most comprehensive hydrometeorological database assembled for this purpose anywhere. I demonstrated with a very high degree of assurance that the alarmist claims relating to the effects of global warming have no foundation. I cannot fathom the basis for your rejection of my work and substitution of claims by climatologists for which they have no observational support.

South Africa's economy rests heavily on the availability of cheap coal to generate electricity, produce synthetic fuels, and for export. Our per capita consumption of coal is one of the highest in the world. This makes us a prime target for the international climate alarmist lobby. Your report will result in tremendous international pressure for us to abandon coal. As an economist you must surely appreciate what this effect will be on our national economy. There is simply no observational evidence to support these drastic measures.

I would be prepared to respond to each and every one of the items in your email but I fear that it would be a waste of time. Instead, I have attached a memorandum that I distributed to my 86 email correspondents this morning. The purpose of my memoranda is to keep them informed of my own work against the international background. Please note the consequences that your authoritative report will have on the prosperity of South Africa and other nations on the African continent. Your Prime Minister has expressed his firm intention to assist Africa to overcome the problems of poverty, malnutrition and disease. This will be a hollow promise if at the same time he supports the position of your review committee, which will have the opposite effect.

If invited, I am prepared to come to the UK and present the case of the developing countries of Africa to a critical audience. Failing that, there is little more that I can do.

My experience

I am a professor emeritus in the Department of Civil and Biosystems Engineering at the University of Pretoria. My career-long interests have been in the fields of floods, droughts, water resource development, natural disasters, and now the study of the possible effects of climate change in these fields.

In 1994 I was appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations as a member of the UN Scientific and Technical Committee on Natural Disasters for the period 1994 to 2000. The effects of climate change were never an issue.

In 1995 I was appointed by the Namibian Government as scientific adviser and expert witness in an international boundary dispute. I gave evidence before the 16 judges of the International Court of Justice in The Hague in 1999.

In 2004 I was invited by UNESCO to serve on an international committee of experts to advise on the establishment of a water resource research centre in Japan. I took the opportunity to ask the other members for their views on the effects of climate change. Their unanimous response was that the postulated consequences were no more than untested hypotheses.

Last week I was nominated for the annual award of the South African National Science and Technology Forum in the category of individuals who have made outstanding contributions in science, engineering and technology over a period of a decade or more. The results will be published in May.

Yours faithfully

WJR Alexander

Email alexwjr@iafrica.com

Will Alexander

From: "Will Alexander" <alexwjr@iafrica.com>
To: <oxonia.responses@sternreview.org.uk>
Cc: "Peter Wedepohl" <awed@pixie.co.za>; "Kevin Wall" <kwall@csir.co.za>; "Frank van Duuren" <fvduuren@iafrica.com>; "Bob Foster" <fosbob@bigpond.net.au>
Sent: 05 March 2006 01:55 PM
Attach: Final proof.doc
Subject: Stern review on the economics of climate change

4 March 2006

Dear Sirs,

Second response to Stern review lecture 'What is the economics of climate change?'

This letter is supplementary to my letter of 20 February.

It is my impression that the Commission has already made up its mind on the scientific merits of the climate change issue. I have written many reports and publications on this subject but I see little purpose in submitting them although I would be glad to do so if requested.

Instead, I have attached a short memorandum: *Causal linkages between variations in solar activity and climatic responses – the final proof?* It reflects my studies since my previous letter. My conclusions, based on diligent studies of a very large and comprehensive database, demonstrate with a high degree of certainty that the adverse effects of global warming, if present, are undetectable against the background of natural variability.

My only appeal is that when producing your report, you do not imply that global warming has in the past, or will in the future, pose threat to the prosperity of the peoples of the African continent.

If you are not prepared to do this, then I have one further appeal in my personal capacity. During World War II both my father and I volunteered for service in the South African forces. My father was captured in Tobruk and I later served in The South African Engineer Corps in North Africa and Italy. We responded to Britain's call in her hour of need.

Should you not heed my written reports, then I appeal to you to invite me to the UK to give evidence to a critical audience before you make any final decisions. I will be on a family visit to Australia until 6 April but will be available from then onwards. I need a week or so of advance notice to prepare my PowerPoint presentations.

For your information, I was awarded Honorary Fellowship of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering a fortnight ago and I have been nominated for the annual award of the South African National Science and Technology Forum in the category of individuals who have made outstanding contributions in science, engineering and technology over a period of a decade or more. The results will be published in May.

I have copied this email to four senior scientists who have a close interest in my studies. Three are from South Africa and the fourth from Australia.

Yours faithfully

WJR Alexander

Email alexwjr@iafrica.com

Will Alexander

From: "Will Alexander" <alexwjr@iafrica.com>
To: "Stern Review" <callforevidence@sternreview.org.uk>
Sent: 13 April 2006 09:31 PM
Attach: Critical assessment.pdf
Subject: Request for comments

13 April 2006

Dear Sirs

Fourth response to Stern Review request for comments

I have not had an acknowledgment or response to my email of 4 March, which was supplementary to my earlier email of 20 February. These two emails were in response to your email request for further comment dated 31 January. In my initial submission dated 24 November 2005 I included two comprehensive documents. They were my technical report *An assessment of the likely consequences of global warming on the climate of South Africa* (November 2005). It consisted of 92 pages with 14 tables, 16 illustrations and 50 references. The second document was a copy of my detailed study *Risk and Society – an African Perspective* (July 1999) that was commissioned by the United Nations and financed by the South African Department of Foreign Affairs. I attached two extracts to this document. They were from the UNESCO/ICSU *Budapest Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge* (July 1999), and the *Fancourt Declaration on Globalisation and People-Centred Government* issued by the Commonwealth Heads of Government on 14 November 1999.

It appears that I have been unable to convince your committee that the IPCC's approach to climate change is fundamentally flawed and that there is a very real possibility of serious political and economic repercussions when these flaws are exposed. I have therefore attached another technical report *A critical assessment of current climate change science* that I have just prepared, where I detail the shortcomings. The final conclusion in the report reads as follows.

'Current climate change theory and the conclusions drawn from it are seriously in error. Governments that accept the IPCC's position should be aware of this. They should also carefully consider the sociological, economic and political consequences should they undertake costly and economically restrictive measures that are subsequently found to be based on erroneous science. Climate change scientists should also be aware of the potential harm to tens of millions of the poor and disadvantaged people of the world should their recommendations be implemented and later found to be in error. They should also consider the risks to their reputations and to those of science and scientists in general. I am very confident of my conclusions.'

I understand that your mandate includes the situation in developing countries in general and Africa in particular. The effects of measures designed to limit dangerous greenhouse gas emissions will adversely affect the lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of people struggling on the borderlines of poverty. The consequences of the measures designed to avoid the as yet unproven adverse effects of climate change should therefore weigh heavily in your deliberations.

I am one of the few scientists with sufficient knowledge and experience to speak on their behalf. If my submission is considered to be unconvincing, then I repeat my offer to come to the UK at your expense to expand on any points that are unclear in my submission. I am prepared to give evidence and be questioned by an independent group of experts of your choice. They should include experts in the fields of solar physics, applied hydrology, stochastic hydrology, flood and drought studies,

tropical diseases, the postulated effects of global warming on desertification and threats to the survival of natural habitats and species, plus any other field of interest. This should be as soon as possible but not later than the end of May. I have completed my studies. I intend archiving all my material as soon as I have completed my 600+ page technical report and submitted it for publication. The report will address all the above issues.

I have distributed this email to other interested parties in view of your failure to respond to my submissions and the importance of the subject.

Your urgent response to this submission would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

WJR Alexander

Professor Emeritus, Department of Civil and Biosystems Engineering, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

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