

Meeting with Climate Minister Wong & Advisors

15 June 2009

Experts

Dr David Evans - Carbon Modeller

Dr David Evans worked for the Australian Greenhouse Office (now the Department of Climate Change) from 1999 to 2005, building FullCAM (<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/ncas/activities/modelling.html>).

FullCAM is a leading carbon accounting model that estimates carbon in plants, debris, mulch, soils, and forestry and agricultural products. It is used to calculate the land-use portion of Australia's Kyoto Protocol compliance, calculating carbon emissions and fixations from each 25 meter by 25 meter plot across Australia, using geographical maps of climate and soils data and maps of land cover changes derived from NASA satellite imagery.

Evans is a mathematician and engineer, with six university degrees including a PhD from Stanford University in Electrical Engineering. The evidence supporting the idea that CO₂ emissions were the main cause of global warming dropped away from 1999 to 2003, and by 2007 had reversed itself. The evidence unequivocally shows that the IPCC's 1984 estimates of future temperature increases (which they hold almost unchanged in 2009) were exaggerated at least twofold or threefold (for example, <http://sciencespeak.com/MissingSignature.pdf>). During this period Evans changed his mind and moved from being an alarmist to a sceptic.

Associate Professor Stewart Franks – Hydro-climatologist

Stewart Franks is an Associate Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of Newcastle. His PhD thesis addressed issues of uncertainty in modelling land surface – atmosphere interactions for atmospheric/climate models.

Stewart's research interests primarily centre on the quantification and reduction of uncertainty in environmental modelling and hydro-climatic risk assessment. He is currently President-elect of the International Commission on the Coupled Land-Atmosphere System, a commission of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences. The remit of the commission is to organise symposia and workshops on dealing with hydrological variability and the interactions between the land surface and the atmosphere. A special focus is directed toward building knowledge and capacity in developing countries. Stewart has edited a number of books documenting examples of historic hydro-climatic variability across the globe.

He is perhaps guilty of adopting a more philosophical approach to climate modelling than most. Stewart prefers to believe that if we don't understand the physics of climate, then we might be premature in building models of it and blindly believing their colourful output. He is also a firm believer that the politicization of climate science by politicians, scientist-advocates and environmental pressure groups is a particularly dangerous development in a modern technological society.

Professor Robert (Bob) M. Carter – Geologist/Environmental Scientist

Professor Robert (Bob) M. Carter, Hon. FRSNZ, is an Adjunct Research Fellow at James Cook University (Queensland). He is a marine geologist and environmental scientist with more than 40 years professional experience, and holds degrees from the University of Otago (New Zealand) and the University of Cambridge (England). He has held tenured academic staff positions at the University of Otago (Dunedin) and James Cook University (Townsville), where he was Professor and Head of School of Earth Sciences between 1981 and 1999. Bob Carter's current research on climate change, sea-level change and stratigraphy is based on field studies of Cenozoic sediments (last 65 million years) from the Southwest Pacific region, especially the Great Barrier Reef and New Zealand, and includes the analysis of marine sediment cores collected during ODP Leg 181. Carter has wide experience in management and research administration, including service as Chair of the Earth Sciences Discipline Panel of the Australian Research Council, Chair of the national Marine Science and Technologies Committee, Director of the Australian Office of the Ocean Drilling Program and Co-Chief Scientist on ODP Leg 181 (Southwest Pacific Gateways). He has acted as an expert witness on climate change before the U.S. Senate Committee of Environment & Public Works, the Australian and N.Z. parliamentary Select Committees into emissions trading and in a climate change briefing in parliament house, Stockholm. Carter was also a primary science witness in the U.K. High Court case of *Dimmock v. H.M.'s Secretary of State for Education*, the 2007 judgement from which identified nine major scientific errors in Mr Al Gore's film "*An Inconvenient Truth*".

Mr William Kininmonth – Meteorologist/Climatologist

Qualifications: B.Sc (UWA), M.Sc (Colo State U), M.Admin (Monash U).

Experience: William Kininmonth is a consulting climatologist with more than 45 years professional experience. He worked with the Australian Bureau of Meteorology for 38 years in weather forecaster, research and applied studies; for 12 years until 1998 was head of its National Climate Centre. He has worked closely with the World Meteorological Organization since 1982 as Australia's delegate to the Commission for Climatology, in expert working groups, lecturing at regional training seminars, and later as a consultant. He has been a member of Australian delegations to international conferences and intergovernmental negotiations relating to climate, including for the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change (1991-92). William Kininmonth participated in the Australian Public Service Executive Development Scheme (1977) and was leader of an Australian Government project of assistance to the Meteorology and Environmental Protection Administration of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (1982-85). William Kininmonth is author of the book, *Climate Change: A Natural Hazard* (2004, Multi-Science Publishing Co, UK).