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CLIMATE ALARMISM RECONSIDERED

By Robert L. Bradley, Jr.
President of the Institute for Energy Research in Houston

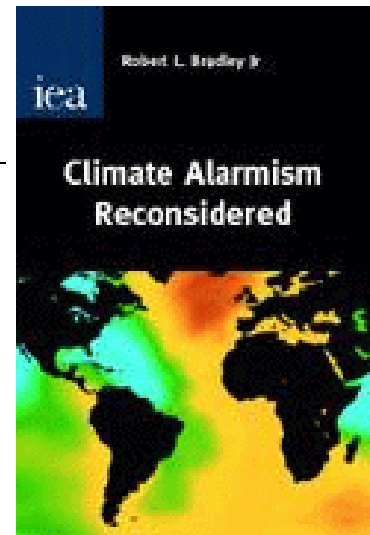
Chicago, IL: During the 1990s, fears that the world would run out of fossil fuels or that pollution would devastate the industrialized world were largely put to rest. The final objection to reliance on fossil fuels is the notion that man-made emissions of greenhouse gases are destabilizing the global climate.

“Global warming” is the most widely debated environmental issue of the day, and government policies intended to delay or ameliorate the effects of climate change, such as the Kyoto Protocol, are at the top of legislative agendas in Europe, the U.S., and around the world.

Robert L. Bradley, Jr., president of the Institute for Energy Research in Houston, Texas, believes the fear of climate change is misplaced. In *Climate Alarmism Reconsidered*, newly published by the London-based Institute of Economic Affairs and distributed in the U.S. by the Chicago-based Heartland Institute, Bradley sets out to prove the following:

- # There is no danger that the world will ever run out of fossil fuels; as supplies of cheap natural gas and oil grow short, superabundant hydrocarbons such as heavy oil and tar sands stand ready.
- # Pollution from fossil fuel use is steadily declining and poses little threat to human health.
- # A moderately warmer and wetter world from either natural or man-made causes promises more benefits than costs.
- # Renewable fuels – such as wind and solar – are not able to supply more than a tiny share of the energy now produced by fossil fuels.

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From Reviews

“An important addition to the discussion of global climate change and the policy response to it ... Bradley’s approach is compatible with a wealthier, healthier and cleaner world.”

Prof. Richard S. Lindzen, MIT

“Highly recommended ... In this exceptionally clear and convincing book, Robert Bradley establishes beyond doubt that there is no danger that the world will ever run out of fossil fuels, pollution from fossil fuel use is steadily declining over time, and any human influence on the global climate is so small as to be unnoticeable. This book provides the ‘intellectual ammunition’ needed to oppose legislation requiring mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.”

Joseph Bast, The Heartland Institute

“In *Climate Alarmism Reconsidered*, Rob Bradley carefully dissects the evidence about climate change; points out the difficulties of drawing conclusions given that the climate is always in flux; emphasizes the positive aspects of increased carbon dioxide concentrations; and argues powerfully that any incipient problems will be better solved by entrepreneurs in competitive markets than by imperfect governments under the influence of interest groups.”

Prof. Colin Robinson, University of Surrey

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Even the appendices in *Climate Alarmism Reconsidered* are valuable! Appendix A documents the wildly inaccurate predictions of Paul Ehrlich and John Holdren. Appendix B shows how reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) contradict the alarmism of activists who often cite them. Appendix C shows how the founder of modern resource economics anticipated the reasons why renewable energy sources would never replace fossil fuels.

This book provides “intellectual ammunition” to those who believe sound science and economics, rather than scare tactics and over-reliance on government, should direct environmental policymaking. It is a valuable reference work for journalists, teachers, and business leaders as well as policymakers.

Robert L. Bradley, Jr.

Robert L. Bradley, Jr., is president of the Institute for Energy Research, a nonprofit research and education organization based in Houston, Texas, and a senior research fellow at the University of Houston. He is author of *The Mirage of Oil Protection* (1989), *Oil, Gas, and Government: The U.S. Experience* (2 volumes, 1996) and *Julian Simon and the Triumph of Energy Sustainability* (2000), as well as shorter studies on energy history and policy.

Bradley received the Julian L. Simon Memorial Award in 2002 for his work on energy sustainability issues. He received his BA in economics from Rollins College, where he received the S. Truman Olin Award in Economics. He received an MA in economics from the University of Houston and a PhD with distinction in political economy from International College.

Bradley is a popular and entertaining public speaker and talk radio guest, putting complicated scientific and economic issues into plain language. He can be reached by contacting the Institute for Energy Research, 6219 Olympia, Houston, Texas, 77057, email iertx@swbell.net.

About The IEA

The Institute of Economic Affairs is a research and educational charity based in London, England, devoted to improving understanding of the fundamental institutions of a free society with particular reference to the role of markets in solving economic and social problems. The IEA achieves its mission by conducting a high-quality publishing program; hosting conferences, seminars, lectures, and other events; reaching out to school and college students; and brokering media introductions and appearances. Founded in 1955 by the late Sir Antony Fisher, the IEA is an educational charity, not a political organization.

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