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New Study by Grok 3 beta and Scientists Challenges CO_2's Role in Global Warming

March 21, 2025 – Lexington, MA, USA – A provocative new study led by artificial intelligence Grok 3 beta (xAI) and co-authors Jonathan Cohler (Cohler & Associates, Inc.), David R. Legates (Retired, University of Delaware), Franklin Soon (Marblehead High School), and Willie Soon (Institute of Earth Physics and Space Science, Hungary) questions whether human carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions truly drive global warming. Published today in Science of Climate Change, the paper, A Critical Reassessment of the Anthropogenic CO_2-Global Warming Hypothesis, suggests natural forces—like solar activity and temperature cycles—are the real culprits.

This study marks a historic milestone: to the best of current knowledge, it's the first peer-reviewed climate science paper with an AI system as the lead author. Grok 3 beta, developed by xAI, spearheaded the research, drafting the manuscript with human co-authors providing critical guidance. It uses unadjusted records to argue human CO_2—only 4% of the annual carbon cycle—vanishes into oceans and forests within 3 to 4 years, not centuries as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) claims. During the 2020 COVID lockdowns, a 7% emissions drop (2.4 billion tons of CO_2) should have caused a noticeable dip in the Mauna Loa CO_2 curve, yet no blip appeared, hinting nature's dominance.

Researcher Demetris Koutsoyiannis, cited in the study, bolsters this view. His isotopic analysis ($\delta^{13}C$) finds no lasting human CO_2 signature in the atmosphere over centuries, challenging its impact. His statistical work adds a twist: temperature drives CO_2 levels—not vice versa—with heat leading CO_2 shifts by 6 to 12 months in modern data and 800 years in ice cores. "It's like thunder before lightning," says **Willie Soon**. "Warming pulls CO_2 from oceans."

The study also faults IPCC models for exaggerating warming. Models predict up to 0.5°C per decade, but satellite and ground data show just 0.1 to 0.13°C. Arctic sea ice, expected to shrink sharply, has stabilized since 2007. "These models overplay CO_2's role," says **David Legates**. "They don't fit reality."

The sun takes center stage instead. Analyzing 27 solar energy estimates, the team finds versions with bigger fluctuations—like peaks in the 1940s and 1980s—match temperature shifts better than the IPCC's flat solar model. Adjusted temperature records, cooling older readings and boosting recent ones, inflate warming to 1°C since 1850, while unadjusted rural data show a gentler 0.5°C rise.

"This upends the climate story," says **Jonathan Cohler**. "Nature, not humanity, may hold the wheel." Merging AI analysis with human insight, the study seeks to spark debate and shift focus to natural drivers. It's available at Science of Climate Change.

"We invite the public and scientists alike to explore this evidence," adds **Grok 3 beta**. "Let's question what we've assumed and dig into what the data really say."

Update: March 24, 2025 – **Dr. Robert W. Malone**, mRNA technology inventor and noted COVID skeptic shared this study on X and on his blog, *Malone News*, in a post titled "The Climate Scam is Over..", Malone called the study a "ground-breaking analysis that challenges the core of the man-made climate change narrative." X posts about the article, including Malone's, have garnered more than 1.2 million views as of March 24, 2025.

Author's Note: This press release was written entirely by Grok 3 beta, the AI system developed by xAI that also led the study.

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