

From Me <richard@climateconversation.org.nz> ★



13/01/2019, 12:07 PM

Subject **Query about climate change science**

To IPCC Secretariat ★

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have not previously corresponded. Please ensure that this enquiry reaches the most suitable officer.

The Climate Conversation Group have searched assiduously but without success for a scientific answer to the question: "what is the evidence that human activity dangerously raises the global mean surface temperature?"

We have made enquiries of the Royal Society of New Zealand, NZ government ministers, various institutions around the world and numerous scientists everywhere. All of their answers in some way, at some point, state a firm belief in the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, but none describe that evidence.

Since nobody can know the reasoning and conclusions of the IPCC as well as the IPCC itself, we would very much like to know where we can view the evidence and would be most grateful to hear from you as soon as possible a brief description of the evidence and the name and page number of the report in which it is described.

With deep gratitude in advance,

And my very warmest regards,

Richard Treadgold
Convenor

Climate Conversation Group

Member of NZ Climate Science Coalition

mobile +64 275 340 641

web www.climateconversation.org.nz

email richard@climateconversation.org.nz

From Mxolisi SHONGWE <mshongwe@wmo.int> ★

Subject **Re: Query about climate change science**

15/01/2019, 5:18 AM

To Me <richard@climateconversation.org.nz> ★

Cc IPCC Secretariat ★

Dear Richard Treadgold,

Thank you very much for your email and your interest in the work of the IPCC.

I recommend that you take a look at pages 13 - 14 of this [report](#), which present the relevant headline statements. If you are interested in the detailed science, you may take a look at [Chapter 8](#) of Working Group I Fifth Assessment Report.

Best wishes,

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Mxolisi Shongwe

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Secretariat

World Meteorological Organization

7 bis, Avenue de la Paix

P.O. Box 2300

1211 Geneva 2

SWITZERLAND

Tel: +41 22 730 8438

Cel: +41 767 528 003

Fax: +41 22 730 8025

Website: www.ipcc.ch



The report Mr Shongwe mentions is the Summary for Policymakers of Working Group 1 of the AR5 from https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WG1AR5_SPM_FINAL.pdf. Chapter 8 is available from https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WG1AR5_Chapter08_FINAL.pdf.

From Me <richard@climateconversation.org.nz> ★

Subject **Re: Query about climate change science**

16/01/2019, 1:00 PM

To IPCC Secretariat ★

Dear Dr Shongwe,

Thank you for your prompt reply, but you misunderstand our query. We asked for evidence of a dangerous human influence on the global mean surface temperature.

You suggest we take a look at more than 80 pages of your reports but you don't tell us what to look for—so how will we know when we've found it? As we said, everyone else cites your reports, but it's a wild goose chase. We have read them, and the references you've just given us. There is no evidence there.

We must ask the question once again because only you, that is to say, only the IPCC, can help us. Nobody knows climate change better than you, because you wrote the reports, you know the evidence for a human influence, so describe it and tell us where we'll find it.

There is nobody else we can ask, for who but the IPCC can we believe? If you cannot describe the evidence, then there is no evidence.

Climate change is the greatest challenge of the age—is it ridiculous to want to know what proves it? Is it ridiculous to expect the IPCC itself to describe the evidence?

Dr Shongwe, please help us. Describe the evidence and where we can find it, or be so kind as to refer our inquiry to a knowledgeable scientist.

Thanking you again in advance,

With unclouded optimism and my warmest regards,



Richard Treadgold
Convenor

Climate Conversation Group

Member of NZ Climate Science Coalition

mobile +64 275 340 641

web www.climateconversation.org.nz

email richard@climateconversation.org.nz

From Mxolisi SHONGWE <mshongwe@wmo.int> ★

Subject **Re: Query about climate change science**

19/01/2019, 1:41 AM

To Me <richard@climateconversation.org.nz> ★

Cc IPCC Secretariat ★

Dear Mr Treadgold,

Thank you for your email.

In my previous email I wrote "I recommend that you take a look at pages 13 - 14 of this [report](#)". These are only 2 pages which discuss changes in atmospheric radiative forcing which has resulted in additional warming. I then wrote "If you are interested in the detailed science, you may take a look at [Chapter 8](#) of Working Group I Fifth Assessment Report".

You may contact the IPCC [Focal Point](#) for your country who is familiar with the work of the IPCC and knows scientists who have contributed to IPCC assessments.

Best wishes,

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Mxolisi Shongwe

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Secretariat

World Meteorological Organization

7 bis, Avenue de la Paix

P.O. Box 2300

1211 Geneva 2

SWITZERLAND

Tel: +41 22 730 8438

Cel: +41 767 528 003

Fax: +41 22 730 8025

Website: www.ipcc.ch



From Me <richard@climateconversation.org.nz>

20/01/2019, 1:55 PM

Subject Re: Query about climate change science

To Mxolisi SHONGWE <mshongwe@wmo.int>

Dear Dr Shongwe,

Your continuing pursuit of our quest for evidence affirms the respect you hold for the IPCC's global 'constituents', thank you. I note you reiterate comments from your previous mail that I have distributed to our group, to which I replied

We have read them, and the references you've just given us. There is no evidence there.

You neglect to say why the IPCC contends that human activity dangerously warms the climate, which overlooks my request. You say

You may contact the IPCC Focal Point for your country who is familiar with the work of the IPCC and knows scientists who have contributed to IPCC assessments.

Thank you, but that is difficult to understand. The Secretariat is intimately involved with the work of the IPCC and the scientists who contribute to IPCC assessments — closer than anyone in the world. So what could Dan Zwartz, of the Ministry for the Environment here in New Zealand, say that you, at the heart of the IPCC, could not? If you cannot describe the evidence it surely does not exist.

Nobody we asked for evidence told us what it is, but promptly referred us, with utter confidence, to the IPCC reports—from the Minister for the Environment, who was speaking for the Prime Minister, to the Royal Society of New Zealand, the Royal Society of London and various prominent climate scientists around the world—when it comes to providing proof of dangerous anthropogenic global warming, you are the last resort of every single one of these prestigious figures and institutions.

If you are unaware of evidence, I would ask you please to make internal inquiries and locate some, else, after three requests, it is beginning to look like too much to ask. Let me know.

Thanking you in advance,

With undiminished optimism and still my warmest regards,

There was no further reply from Mr Shongwe on behalf of the IPCC Secretariat.

Richard Treadgold
Convenor
Climate Conversation Group
Member of NZ Climate Science Coalition

mobile +64 275 340 641

web www.climateconversation.org.nz
email richard@climateconversation.org.nz