

Open Letter to Mr Pete Wishart, MP

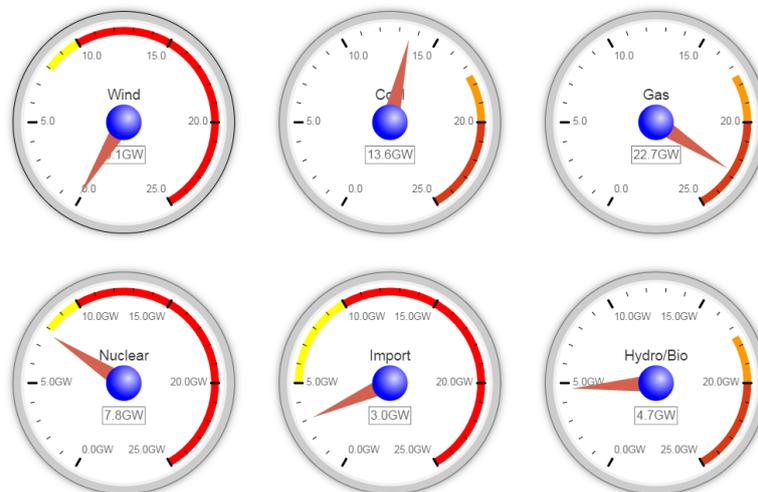
Introduction

I am writing to you in your capacity of SNP House of Commons Business Manager, a position which I assume gives you some say in SNP policymaking. A contribution you made in a recent House of Commons flooding debate was far out of line with public opinion and cannot be left unchallenged. It has led me to write this note to show how unpopular, misguided and damaging the SNP's climate and energy policies are, as are those of the UK government. My conclusion tells you how, instead of encouraging policies which are leading the nation into economic and social disaster, you could become a national hero.

Our Delusional, Failing Energy Policies

I realise that energy is not a devolved issue although the SNP often acts as if it is and its own energy policies are even more extreme than the clearly unattainable UK Climate Change Act targets. The [snapshot](#) below of UK electricity supply at peak demand in cold January shows just how delusional our national climate and energy policies are:

Live Power for National Grid- 19/1/2016 @ 17:45:2



Total UK Demand = 52GW

Of the so-called renewables, wind power with its [insignificant](#) net CO₂ emissions savings supplied a negligible 0.2% of UK demand while [unsustainable biomass](#) (wood) with net CO₂ emissions worse than coal supplied just 4%. In fact UK wind supply was at near zero for several days around this snapshot. Emissions-free nuclear supplied 15% yet most of the UK nuclear fleet is due to be retired within a decade and UK government efforts to commission new nuclear plants have floundered for years (the SNP is against building nuclear replacements). Imports supplied 6% but can we always rely on this supply in emergencies? **Fossil fuels supplied 70% of total demand.** Coal supplied 26%, almost double nuclear, yet the UK government wants to close down all coal completely within less than a decade. In fact 6.8GW of coal is due to close down this March, about half the coal supply in this snapshot. Gas supplied 44% but current policies are making gas power stations commercially unviable. Many have been shut down or mothballed in recent years and suppliers are reluctant to build new plants under the current incoherent regime, made worse by the DECC decarbonisation plans which call for all CO₂ emitting gas plants to be phased out after 2030. The UK is facing a [fast-looming power crisis](#).

UK decarbonisation is going nowhere (the "plan" is 80% by 2050), with our economically and environmentally unsustainable joke renewables making up just 7% of the UK energy supply in 2014. As a nation we are sleepwalking into a disaster, all because of a faked consensus on fictional man-made global warming, coupled with engineering delinquency. Further analysis is given in my paper [Why the Climate Change Act should be Repealed](#).

Climate Change Political Baloney and Public Opinion

In a recent House of Commons debate on flooding [you said](#):

" ... I am grateful she [Secretary of State Liz Truss] has acknowledged that climate change plays a significant part in the problems we are experiencing. So why are the Government stopping the investment in renewable technologies? Will they review the catastrophic decision to stop the support for onshore wind, a technology that will help us and that we desperately need in Scotland?"

Your statement shows how misguided and out of touch you and your party are on these issues. In fact when it comes to alleged man-made climate change and related energy policies it is clear that you (and most other politicians) are talking absolute baloney. The general public is sick and tired of your irresponsible, hysterical behaviour on this topic.

You are talking baloney because your false "climate change" assertions and mantras are so obviously wrong and can be so easily disproved. Almost the entire political class has become so obsessed with so-called climate change that they are evidently suffering a collective cognitive dissonance which causes them to reject all the clear evidence which runs counter to their climate change beliefs. Either that or they know it is baloney and are taking the public for fools. Either way they are serving the electorate very badly.

Taking the first point of your statement that "climate change" played a significant part in the recent flooding, there is simply no credible evidence to support that claim. Even the biased, politicised UN IPCC admits there is no evidence of any human causation of alleged extreme weather events. In contrast there is a wealth of solid evidence to show that the recent bad weather was not unprecedented and that [the same and much worse](#) weather has been experienced many times in the past, including the long-distant past before any man-made CO₂ emissions. Details on this rebuttal are given below.

Your second claim that we "desperately need more onshore wind in Scotland" is simply bizarre. What desperate need? I believe that at least 97% of electricity billpayers would disagree with you on that! What good would more expensive wind power do to keep the Scottish lights on when the output of the entire UK wind fleet can fall to just 0.1GW, as shown above? Further major disadvantages of wind power are listed below.

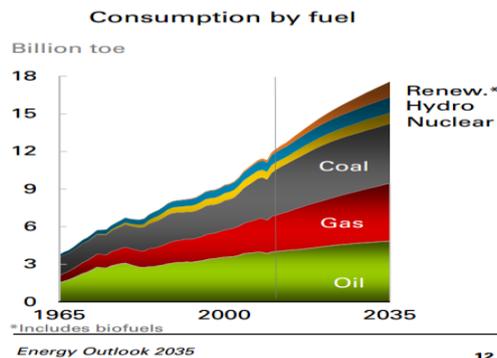
Living and working within your establishment bubble you are probably unaware of any groundswell of opposition to your dysfunctional climate and energy policies. However in the real world of the general public there is deep and growing scepticism. A simple indicator is given by reader comments under online press articles on climate and energy matters. Most show that your policies are hugely unpopular, in the case of The Scotsman typically by a commenter ratio of 4 to 1 against. This is despite the fact that the articles themselves, mostly written by "green" environmental journalists, are usually supportive of your policies. It is also despite the weight of establishment propaganda in support of these policies. For example see this article on [climate change](#) (4:1 against), this on [wind power](#) (5:1 against), this on [energy policy](#) (3:1 against), this on [renewables](#) (20:1 against). The ratios in papers like The Daily Mail and The Telegraph are usually [overwhelmingly against](#) your policies, which only have the support of a [small minority](#) of mostly unscientific, often dogmatically fanatical, even anti-capitalist dreamers. The financially and career motivated "follow the money" support from science, academia, business and the media is a different matter (see Conclusion).

The Problems with Wind Power

You said in the House of Commons that Scotland "desperately needs" more onshore wind power. How on earth can you justify that statement against the following damning facts?

The electricity supply snapshot above shows how totally useless wind power is during UK-wide anti-cyclonic conditions. What politicians also never mention is that wind power costs much more than gas power (before green taxes are applied) when account is taken of overall system costs, including the huge wind subsidies, the supply of fossil fuel backup for when the wind fluctuates or stops blowing, the constraint payments when the wind is too strong and the cost of providing grid connections to wind farms built in the outer reaches. The unsurprising result is Scottish fuel poverty of a shocking 39% in 2014, up hugely from the bad 16% in 2004 before all the climate change policies started.

They also never mention the instability dangers of loading the grid with too much intermittent wind, nor the fact that the net CO₂ savings from using wind power are meagre, nor the fact that any minor CO₂ savings in Scotland will make no difference globally since, despite all the delusional Paris hype, the more populated developing countries will continue to use more and more fossil fuels for the foreseeable future:



They also never mention that the performance of the current fleet of wind turbines will fall off rapidly as they degrade with age. When they finally expire it is probable that they will not be replaced as they are not economically sustainable without the huge billpayer-funded subsidies which have now (onshore) been axed by the UK government.

They also never mention that wind power acts like a parasite, stealing market share from fossil fuel plants because of its preferential grid access to make them uneconomic. Because of this and the Carbon Price Floor green tax on fossil fuel plants, designed to force them out of business, suppliers are reluctant to build new gas power stations under the current incoherent regime. The UK Capacity Market auctions to date have mostly procured supply from old mothballed gas plants, with just one new gas plant. An essential technology that works is being driven out by an antiquated one that doesn't, panicking the DECC to procure a fleet of expensive, dirty diesel backup generators.

On top of these technical problems, wind farms despoil vast tracts of our precious landscapes, supposedly the unique selling point of our tourism industry, and blight the health and welfare of householders unfortunate enough to live in the near vicinity.

Talk about cognitive dissonance! Enthusiastic political support for these ineffectual climate and energy policies has hastened the closure of Cogenzie and now Longannet is due to close this March. With replacement nuclear power stations ruled out we Scots could be left with little more than aging wind turbines when our two aged nuclear plants reach the end of their lives, possibly within a decade. How many businesses will be keen to invest in a country with such a rickety, insecure yet expensive electricity system?

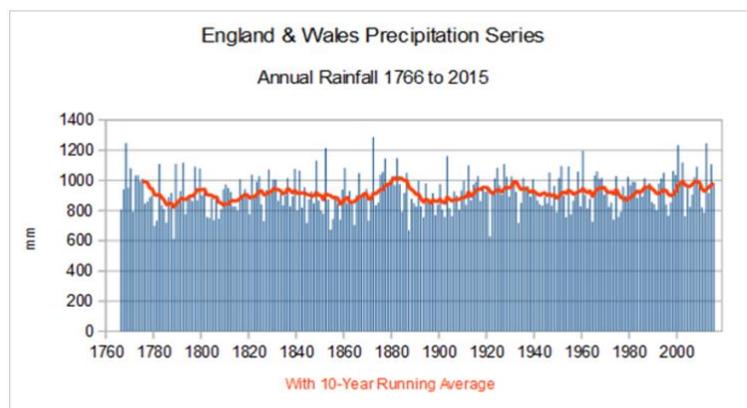
The problems with wind power and our futile, failing attempts to "decarbonise" are described in detail in my paper [Why the Climate Change Act should be Repealed](#).

The Facts about Extreme Weather

You claimed in the House of Commons that recent bad weather was due "in significant part" to climate change. Do you even understand what you are claiming? Your use of the blanket term "climate change" suggests muddled thinking because climate change in the form of global warming has been going on [for centuries](#), since long before any man-made CO2 emissions. You obviously seek to blame alleged, unproven **man-made** global warming which even the alarmist UN IPCC implies, without a shred of empirical evidence, to have been only about [0.25°C](#) since around 1850. In reality it is most likely that all of the global warming to date, around [0.8°C](#), has been entirely natural (see below). Clearly we can do nothing about conditions resulting from natural global warming, other than adapt.

Even the biased, exaggerating IPCC says there is [no evidence](#) that alleged man-made global warming is causing alleged extreme weather events. It is only hysterical, gullible politicians and propagandist bodies like the Met Office and the BBC who constantly try to insinuate a connection, without any credible evidence. Indeed, winter storms should happen less frequently in our warmer world with its reduced temperature differential between the tropics and Arctic. Conversely, storms were very bad when the higher latitudes were colder, as evidenced by the severe storms of the Little Ice Age period.

Analyst Paul Homewood posted recently that, contrary to all establishment propaganda, [2015 was not unusually wet](#). He shows graphs produced from the Met Office's own data which, shockingly, contradict their own press releases, including their surely deliberately deceptive claim that December 2015 was the [wettest England December](#) on record:



Further examples of the steady stream of dishonest "climate change" brainwashing propaganda put out by the Met Office are given [here](#) and by the BBC [here](#).

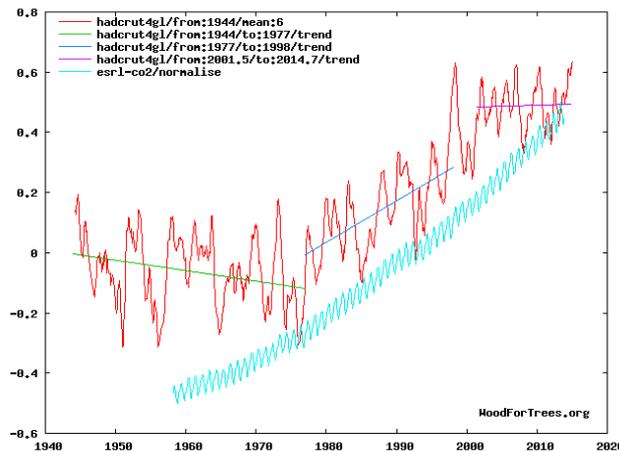
Scientist Dr Euan Mearns recently posted [Unprecedented Weather: is Climate Change Happening Now?](#) His post corroborates the Paul Homewood conclusion that recent weather was not unprecedented (although Scottish rainfall records only began in 1931) but goes much further. He gives extracts from a book by climate historian Professor Alistair Dawson on the "catalogue of disasters" of Scottish "fearful, catastrophic" weather from about 1600, including the storm which blew down the Tay Bridge in 1879.

He also discusses natural drivers of climate which are [deliberately ignored](#) by the UN IPCC [with its ulterior political agenda]. He cautions that politicians and scientists could be making a huge mistake in thinking that the weather and climatic conditions of the past 80 years, a period of solar hyperactivity (waning since 2009), represent the norm. He suggests that we could be heading into an age not of global warming but of the appalling, harsh weather conditions that were the norm in centuries gone by.

The very bad weather of previous centuries is also described in [this post](#) with a book extract from climate historian HH Lamb. It has local interest for me as it mentions the sandstorm of 1694 which buried the nearby village of Culbin. Other such posts are [here](#).

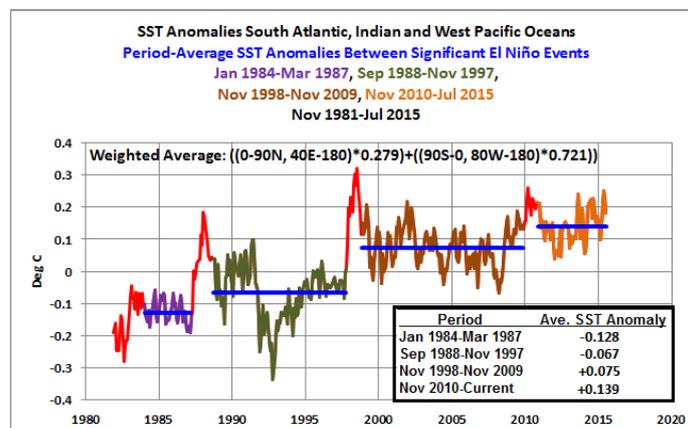
The Facts about Global Warming

For all your scaremongering about "climate change", are you aware that there have been just 20 years of sustained global warming in the past 70 years, and none at all for about the last 18 years? Thought not! The propagandist Met Office and BBC would never let on. It is shown clearly on this graph of Met Office global surface temperature data:



This shows steady cooling from around 1945 to 1977, steady warming from around 1977 to 1998 then a standstill (so-called "pause") leading to the sudden minor warming of the past year which is acknowledged to be due to natural El Niño weather and therefore not to man-made CO₂, and steadily rising atmospheric CO₂ as recorded since 1958 (in cyan).

What's more, a simple analysis of that not unprecedented warming spell shows that it was caused by natural solar and oceanic warming effects, not man-made CO₂; in fact by a preponderance of sunlight-fuelled warming El Niños over deep-ocean cooling La Niñas. This is seen in the sea surface temperatures where these oceanic events originate:



This analysis debunks the UN IPCC's man-made global warming theory as it is impossible for atmospheric CO₂ to cause such sudden step changes in sea surface temperatures.

These analyses are explained in more detail in my paper [Why the Climate Change Act should be Repealed](#), a synthesis of publicly accessible facts which refute the UN IPCC's simplistic, unvalidated man-made global warming theory. The El Niño/La Niña analysis is credited to Mr Bob Tisdale, a well-known expert on ocean climate thermodynamics.

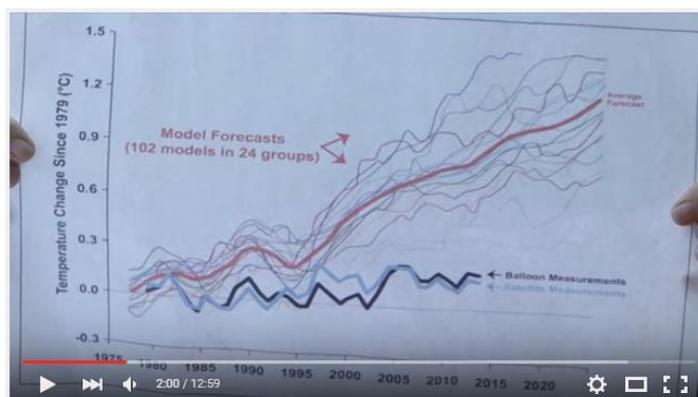
Even the UN IPCC concedes that the warming before 1950 was natural as atmospheric CO₂ levels at that time were too low. This means that **man-made** global warming is a non-problem; it doesn't even exist in the real world, only in the UN IPCC's virtual reality world of joke computer models where CO₂ is, unbelievably, [the main driver](#) of climate. The UN IPCC has created a CO₂ global scare through false pretences and alarmist predictions of **man-made** global warming which, since 1988, have all [failed dismally](#).

Conclusion

Contrary to establishment protestations, the science of climate change is not settled in a way that demands the total upheaval of our society and way of life. The UN IPCC's claim of 95% certainty on man-made global warming in the face of the hopeless failure of its computer model predictions is unfounded, insulting make-believe. The false claim regularly quoted by climate alarmists that 97% of scientists believe in man-made global warming is a lie, a propaganda fiction created using gross statistical chicanery. In this bogus survey of 12,000 scientific papers, only 65 papers (0.5%) actually stated that man-made CO₂ had been a cause of global warming. The sad truth is that the phrase "follow the money" explains most of the scientific and business enthusiasm for alleged man-made climate change. Emeritus Professor of Physics Hal Lewis made that point explicitly in 2010 when he resigned from his biased professional society (the APS, akin to our biased Royal Society) because of its stance on so-called climate change:

"The global warming scam, with the (literally) trillions of dollars driving it, that has corrupted so many scientists ... is the greatest and most successful pseudoscientific fraud I have seen in my long life as a physicist."

Another independent scientist who shares these views is Piers Corbyn, brother of Jeremy Corbyn. He appeared recently on the BBC Andrew Neil This Week programme where he denounced the UN IPCC's climate change "con" in no uncertain terms, here on YouTube. He explained past examples of similar widespread erroneous beliefs and puts the current hysteria on climate change down to "UN IPCC fraudulent science" and mass brainwashing. In his opinion there is "no such thing as man-made climate change". He put up the graph below to illustrate the hopeless failure of the UN IPCC's man-made CO₂ global warming theory. Moreover he expects global cooling over the next 20 years:



BBCTW: Piers Corbyn on religion of climate change

The SNP could take advantage of the fact that almost the entire political class, and most establishment bodies, are evidently suffering from a collective Madness of Crowds delusion on alleged man-made climate change which causes them to deny all the clear evidence (like that above) which contradicts their unquestioning climate change beliefs.

The obvious truth, denied by most politicians, is that our current climate and energy policies are based on scientific unreality and engineering wishful thinking. They are leading the country into economic and social disaster yet will yield negligible climate or sustainability benefits. The high energy prices caused by these policies are hitting the poor hardest, with soaring fuel poverty and industries being closed down, exporting jobs and CO₂ emissions to China and India. The lack of discernible, proven **man-made** global warming since the start of industrialisation to the present means that the probability of dangerous **man-made** global warming happening in the future is almost certainly remote.

Much has changed since the Climate Change Act was drafted 8 years ago: the UN IPCC's man-made global warming theory has been thrown into even more doubt (e.g. the failed predictions above) and we now know that, contrary to all the delusional Paris hype, the fast-growing, more populated developing countries are [not going to slow down](#) their consumption of fossil fuels, so our unilateral, high-cost, failing decarbonisation will only lead to economic decline. This even applies against [other EU countries](#). The EU has "only" committed to a pointless 40% emissions reduction by 2030, to be fulfilled jointly, versus the even more pointless 50% target (by 2027) of the UK Climate Change Act. This could let other EU countries get away with doing less than 40%. The key point is that the post-Paris relevance of the Climate Change Act [needs to be reviewed](#), if not with a view to repealing it then at least to revising it as mandated under [Section 6, Part \(2\)](#).

Thus the SNP would be wise, and indeed owes it to its electorate, to quietly drop or at least suspend its CO₂ scare climate and energy policies, which are leading inexorably to disaster and/or humiliating policy failure, and instead challenge the UK government's dysfunctional pro-CO₂ scare climate and energy policies. The SNP could thereby take on the role of the boy hero of the fairytale **The Emperor's New Clothes** to point out that the "climate change movement" is not wearing a suit of fine clothes but is actually stark naked. This role could even earn the SNP the gratitude of the UK-wide general public.

The Labour Party appears to be a dogmatist lost cause on this issue (unless Piers Corbyn manages to convert his brother) but there is reportedly a significant number of climate realists amongst Tory backbenchers.

A first step could be to undertake a scientific review of global warming in the round, including all natural drivers of global climate and not just alleged human influences, the [restricted mandate](#) of the UN IPCC. However to be credible this would have to be done by [unbiased](#) professionals and would no doubt take years, by which time our energy infrastructure and industry could be in really dire straits. Alternatively, you could follow the approach taken by most of the general public and simply use your common sense to reach the easy conclusion that it is all just politicised "*pseudoscientific fraud*".

Douglas S Brodie BSc, Nairn, January 2016