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Inside Track

Plastic Barriers Don't Stop COVID-19 Transmission, May Make It Worse



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All those plastic screens that have been erected to stop the spread of COVID-19 are useless and may even make viral transmission more likely, the *New York Times* reported August 19.

Businesses and schools hastily put up the clear barriers last year at the urging of so-called public-health experts such as the bureaucrats at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The barriers were supposed to prevent the coronavirus from being transmitted from person to person by blocking tiny, virus-laden particles exhaled by infected individuals from entering others' airspace.

The concept of germ-proof barriers, however, runs smack into the laws of physics. Unless people are completely enclosed in such barriers, air can still get around them; and eventually it, and the particles it carries, will. Furthermore, by changing the airflow pattern in a space, the barriers may redirect the particles to other people and even concentrate those particles in their space, making them more likely to contract COVID-19 than they otherwise would be.

As is often the case with government-recommended policies, barrier erection tackles a visible problem without considering the invisible side effects. Yes, barriers will stop large droplets that are spewed when someone coughs or sneezes, but they won't do a thing to prevent the distribution of the aerosol particles that are emitted when a person speaks.

In a classroom with barriers around each desk, the problem could even be worse. "If there are aerosol particles in the classroom air, those shields around students won't protect them," Richard Corsi, incoming dean of engineering at the University of California, Davis, told the *Times*. "Depending on the air flow conditions in the room, you can get a downdraft into those little spaces that you're now confined in and cause particles to concentrate in your space."

Other than the common-sense suggestion that people who feel sick should stay home, practically every COVID-19 mitigation measure our supposed experts have recommended has been found wanting. Why should we trust them when it comes to anything else?



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by [Michael Tennant](#)

China Set to Build 43 More Coal-fired Power Plants



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A Helsinki-based research group is reporting that Communist China is set to build another 43 coal-fired power plants along with 18 new blast furnaces as part of its newest five-year plan. These new projects were all been announced in the first half of 2021.

The report, produced by the Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) along with the U.S. group Global Energy Monitor (GEM), was released on August 13, just scant days after the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its Sixth Assessment Report on the current state of the climate, which UN Secretary-General António Guterres called a “code red for humanity.”

The new greenhouse-gas emitting projects are in line with the country’s latest five-year plan, which calls for hundreds of such plants to be built between 2021 and 2025. Oddly enough, the new plants are also in line with China’s pledge to the Paris Climate Agreement, which states only that the country will reach peak emissions by 2030.

Last September, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Xi Jinping pledged that China would reach carbon neutrality by 2060. The climate pledges China has made seem to be at cross-purposes with the building of the coal-fired plants and blast furnaces.

In China, it would seem, economic progress is still allowed to trump environmentalism.

“There is this desire in the Chinese political and economic system to keep on building, to continue the infrastructure fever,” said Li Shuo, a Greenpeace advisor based in Beijing.

Both CREA and GEM reported in February that “In 2020, China built over three times as much new coal power capacity as all other countries in the world combined — the equivalent of more than one large coal plant per week.”

The CREA report reveals that the 43 new coal-fired plants and blast furnaces will add some 150 million metric tons to China’s CO₂ emissions. That 150 million tons is roughly half of the U.K.’s total emissions.

by James Murphy



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Biden Gives Chinese Tech Giant Huawei Entry to U.S. Auto Industry



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The federal government under Joe Biden is allowing Huawei, the blacklisted Chinese telecom monolith, to enter the American auto industry by giving the company licenses to buy automotive chips.

Officials at the Department of Commerce gave applications worth hundreds of millions of dollars to Huawei in order to purchase the chips for its auto business, Reuters reported August 25. This is in contrast to the Trump administration, which in August 2020 placed restrictions on Huawei, limiting its ability to purchase chips in the United States. The Trump administration did so out of national-security concerns.

“We don’t want their equipment in the United States because they spy on us,” President Trump said at the time. “And any country that uses it, we’re not going to do anything in terms of sharing intelligence.” The Trump White House had previously banned vendors worldwide from using U.S. technology to produce components for Huawei. According to Trump, Huawei provided the communist Chinese with the means to spy on America.

A spokesman for Biden’s Department of Commerce would neither confirm nor deny a change in licensing restrictions for Huawei. Meanwhile, a spokeswoman for Huawei indicated that the company intends to move into the auto-manufacturing industry, which would potentially allow it to circumvent American sanctions.

As the Washington Free Beacon reported in June, Biden selected (and the Senate confirmed) Chris Fonzone, a lawyer who worked as a lobbyist for Huawei, as the top lawyer in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The Biden government’s ties to China run deep. Earlier this year, it took on more than 10 staffers from an advisory firm, Albright Stonebridge Group, that’s now partnered with China’s largest law firm.

China has been working hard to infiltrate Western governments and corporations. A leaked document identifying almost two million CCP operatives reveals that over 120 members of the Chinese Communist Party were employed by vaccine giants Pfizer, AstraZeneca, and GlaxoSmithKline. Chinese communist



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loyalists are also deeply embedded in military roles and academia.

by Luis Miguel

New E-mails Shed Light on Wuhan, Gates, China Role in COVID Outbreak



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Documents obtained August 6 by Judicial Watch through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit shed light on ties between the Wuhan Institute of Virology and the American taxpayer-funded EcoHealth Alliance.

The FOIA suit, which requested records of communications, contracts, and agreements with the Wuhan lab, also provided records showing that billionaire Bill Gates worked closely with the communist Chinese government to facilitate the sale of Chinese-produced medications outside of China.

Additionally, the set of records obtained by Judicial Watch includes a January 6, 2020, “Wuhan Pneumonia Update” report that describes how EcoHealth Alliance president Peter Daszak was tied to the Wuhan lab and was “funded for work to understand how coronaviruses evolve and jump to human populations.”

The report details a National Institutes of Health (NIH) coronavirus grant “portfolio” that funded 13 basic science research grants, two treatment research grants, and five vaccination research grants related to coronavirus.

On February 6, 2020, Han Koo, an executive assistant to the director of NIH who works in the Office of Grants Administration (OGA), e-mailed Dr. Ping Chen and Matthew Brown, then-director of the NIH China Office, and wrote of a “NIAID grant to EcoHealth ... studying coronaviruses in animals including bats.”

In 2017, Chen wrote, “Gates Foundation is working with Chinese government on donations to its neighboring countries and African countries such as anti-malaria medicines, bed nets, diagnostics etc. More specifically, it helps Chinese companies to gain pre-qualification on medications so that Chinese company manufactured drugs can be sold outside China, helps the Chinese to establish bilateral collaboration with specific countries in Africa, teaches the Chinese how to do resource mobilization, and



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helps raise China's voice of governance by placing representatives from China on important international counsels as high level commitment from China."

The Judicial Watch documents come as the World Health Organization stated August 25 that the window for discovering the origin of COVID-19 is closing.

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