



Written by [Rebecca Terrell](#) on January 10, 2024

No, 2023 Was NOT the Hottest Year Ever

Here we go again; the sky is officially falling.

“Global warming in 2023 hit 1.48 degrees Celsius ... as the hottest year on record propelled the world just hundredths of a degree away from a critical climate threshold,” shrieks [CNN](#).

All major media outlets are screeching in chorus, citing [Copernicus](#) — the European Union’s Climate Change Service — which published a report on Tuesday. It warns that Earth is dangerously close to a warming limit set by signatories to the United Nations [Paris Agreement](#).



no_limit_pictures/iStock/Getty Images Plus

President Barack Obama entangled the United States in that agreement at the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference (COP21). President Trump announced United States’ withdrawal in 2017, but President Joe Biden rejoined the fray in 2021.

The agreement’s goal is “to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels” and pursue efforts “to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”

It doesn’t specify exactly what will happen if we pass that threshold. It just warns ominously that 2023 “sets a dire precedent.”

The New American has expended barrels of ink evincing the inanity of such climate alarmism. For example, our January 29, 2024 Special Report features articles by senior editors [Alex Newman](#) and [Steve Bonta](#), who attended November’s COP28, the latest iteration of United Nations Chicken Little conferences. Additionally, it includes a [photo journal](#) illustrating that current conditions are well within the bounds of natural climate variation throughout history.

We have also revealed the [statistical tricks](#) that climatologists use to promote their nefarious agenda. Worth noting as well is the U.S. National Aeronautic and Space Administration’s (NASA) logical [explanation](#) of 2023’s warmer-than-average temperatures: “a little-publicized but massive underwater volcanic eruption that took place in the South Pacific last year.” It spewed an unprecedented amount of water into the stratosphere. The agency predicts a temporary warming effect that will “dissipate when the extra water vapor cycles out.”

Simply put, there is no catastrophic climate change or out-of-control global warming. What, then, is the point of the hysteria? Let’s let emboldened alarmists answer that question.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres opened COP28 by admitting that they are literally out to destroy life as we know it. “The 1.5-degree limit is only possible if we ultimately stop burning all fossil fuels. Not reduce. Not abate,” he said. And he wants this to happen over the course of just a few years.

“There really shouldn’t be any more coal fired power plants permitted anywhere in the world,” harped President Joe Biden’s climate czar and former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.



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Ironically, COP28 President Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber — who also serves as the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Special Envoy for Climate Change and is the chief executive of UAE’s state oil company, ADNOC — was caught contradicting Guterres and Kerry just days prior to the conference. “There is no science out there, or no scenario out there, that says that the phase-out of fossil fuel is what’s going to achieve 1.5C,” he said during a live online event called “SHE Changes Climate.” “Please help me, show me the roadmap for a phase-out of fossil fuel that will allow for sustainable socioeconomic development, unless you want to take the world back into caves.”

It is regrettable that he did not use his leadership position at COP28 to stress those points, but he was right. Elimination of fossil fuel use “is literally impossible and would destroy the lives of billions of people who depend” on it daily.

[So writes Christopher Talgo](#) at American Thinker, who described the “rhetoric of COP28” as “terrifying.” He notes that 80 percent of the world’s energy comes from fossil fuels, while wind accounts for just 2.2 percent and solar, a paltry 1.1 percent.

This means that if we were to follow Guterres’ call for the elimination of fossil fuels, the world would grind to a screeching halt and life as we know it could not continue.

A world without fossil fuels would be a very different place, completely unrecognizable compared to what we have grown accustomed. Travel would be nearly impossible.

Manufacturing would be severely crippled. Our daily life would be turned upside down. The technologies and almost everything we rely upon to make life comfortable would vanish in an instant. Simply put, we would literally go back to a pre-industrial existence.

Life before the advent of fossil fuels is almost inconceivable for those of us in the modern age. Our health care system would be devastated. Our average lifespans would plummet. Sheer survival would be the order of the day.

This picture is terrifying, indeed, and illustrates the supreme hypocrisy of climate zealots. “Let’s destroy humanity to save the Earth,” seems to be their mantra. Thanks, but no thanks. What is the solution? [Get US out of the UN.](#)



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