

ICE, ICE... MAYBE?

A DEMOCRAT'S GUIDE TO TALKING TO CLIMATE CHANGE SKEPTICS

GLOBAL WARMING ISN'T REAL – IT'S FREEZING OUT TODAY!

Climate isn't the same as weather. Individual cold or hot days don't mean much – but the average global temperature has risen over the last century, and 14 of 15 hottest years on record occurred since the year 2000. The Arctic sea ice is melting, and sea levels are getting higher.

BUT IT'S NATURAL FOR THE EARTH TO GO THROUGH CYCLES OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

You're right! There are a lot of natural variations in Earth's climate with a lot of different causes (like El Niño). But for the last 800,000 years, the cycles have had normal highs and lows – and right now the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is higher than the natural cycle's peaks. Plus, the climate is currently changing faster than at ANY time in human history.

THE SCIENCE ISN'T SETTLED – WHO KNOWS WHAT EFFECT GREENHOUSE GASES IN THE ATMOSPHERE HAVE?

Actually, there is no scientific dispute over the validity of the greenhouse effect (the idea that gases like CO₂ in the atmosphere make the earth retain heat). Says who? NASA. What is still up for debate is how much temperatures will rise as greenhouse gases concentrations increase.

OKAY – BUT NOT ALL SCIENTISTS AGREE THAT HUMANS ARE CAUSING CLIMATE CHANGE.

97% of climate scientists believe human activity contributes to climate change. NASA, NOAA, and ton of other independent organizations think so too.

THEN WHY DO SCIENTISTS ADMIT CLIMATE CHANGE IS JUST A "THEORY?" NOTHING HAS BEEN PROVEN!

That's just how scientific terminology works. By definition, a scientific theory has been supported by repeated testing.

THE SUN IS WHAT WARMS THE EARTH, AND ITS ENERGY OUTPUT VARIES. THIS LATEST TEMPERATURE INCREASE IS CAUSED BY THE SUN.

Variations in the sun's energy output do affect climate. But there's been no correlation between recent warming and solar activity.

