



Pacific Calling Partnership information sheet

Climate change: denial versus science

Denial Argument	What the Science Says
"Antarctica is gaining ice"	Satellites measure Antarctica losing land ice at an accelerating rate.
"The climate has changed before"	Climate reacts to whatever forces it to change at the time; humans are now the dominant forcing.
"It's the sun"	In the last 35 years of global warming, sun and climate have been going in opposite directions
"It's not bad"	Negative impacts of global warming on agriculture, health & environment far outweigh any positives.
"There is no consensus"	97% of climate experts agree humans are causing global warming.
"The earth is cooling"	The last decade 2000-2009 was the hottest on record.
"Computer models are unreliable"	Models successfully reproduce temperatures since 1900 globally, by land, in the air and the ocean.

Denial Argument	What the Science Says
"Temperature records are unreliable"	The warming trend is the same in rural and urban areas, measured by thermometers and satellites.
"Animals and plants can adapt"	Global warming will cause mass extinctions of species that cannot adapt on short time scales.
"It hasn't warmed since 1998"	Every part of the Earth's climate system has continued warming since 1998, with 2015 shattering temperature records.
"It's not urgent"	A large amount of warming is delayed, and if we don't act now we could pass tipping points.
"It's soot"	Soot stays in the atmosphere for days to weeks; carbon dioxide causes warming for centuries.
"It's too hard"	Scientific studies have determined that current technology is sufficient to reduce greenhouse gas emissions enough to avoid dangerous climate change.
"Coral atolls grow as sea levels rise"	Thousands of coral atolls have "drowned" when unable to grow fast enough to survive at sea level.

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