

**From:** Mark List  
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It should not be lost on anyone that the biggest opponents to the gas industry and those in the agriculture and cattle industries, claiming "environmental disaster" as the reason the gas industry should be stopped at all costs.

But let's not kid ourselves:

### **Nitrogen pollution: the forgotten element of climate change**

<http://theconversation.com/nitrogen-pollution-the-forgotten-element-of-climate-change-9348>

Nitrogenous gases also play an important role in [global climate change](#). Nitrous oxide is a particularly potent greenhouse gas as it is over 300 times more effective at trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide.

Nitrogen from fertiliser, effluent from livestock and human sewage boost the growth of algae and cause water pollution. The [estimated A\\$8.2 billion damage bill](#) to the Great Barrier Reef is a reminder that our choices on land have big impacts on land, water and the air downstream.

AND

Are cows the cause of global warming?

<http://timeforchange.org/are-cows-cause-of-global-warming-meat-methane-CO2>

A cow does on average release between 70 and 120 kg of Methane per year. Methane is a greenhouse gas like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). But the negative effect on the climate of Methane is 23 times higher than the effect of CO<sub>2</sub>. Therefore the release of about 100 kg Methane per year for each cow is equivalent to about 2'300 kg CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

Let's compare this value of 2'300 kg CO<sub>2</sub>: The same amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is generated by burning 1'000 liters of petrol. With a car using 8 liters of petrol per 100 km, you could drive 12'500 km per year (7'800 miles per year).

World-wide, there are about 1.5 billion cows and bulls. All ruminants (animals which regurgitates food and re-chews it) on the world emit about two billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalents per year. In addition, clearing of tropical forests and rain forests to get more grazing land and farm land is responsible for an extra 2.8 billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission per year!

According to the *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations* (FAO) **agriculture is responsible for 18% of the total release of greenhouse gases world-wide** (this is more than the whole transportation sector). Cattle-breeding is taking a major factor for these greenhouse gas emissions according to FAO. Says Henning Steinfeld, Chief of FAO's Livestock Information and Policy Branch and senior author of the report: "Livestock are one of the most significant contributors to today's most serious environmental problems. Urgent action is required to remedy the situation."

MAYBE THE INQUIRY IS LOOKING AT THE WRONG INDUSTRIES???

But the reality is that all industries have some negative consequences. ALL INDUSTRIES!  
So let's not kid ourselves by singling out one of them as the cause of all our problems.

So, here are some cold hard truths:

1. Climate is always changing - always has been, always will, and nothing we can do will stop it - in fact, I believe it's rather arrogant to think we can.
2. We may or may not be having an impact on climate - I think we may be, albeit small, too small to be at the top of our list of problems, because
3. There are far worse problems than changing climate, such as disease, homelessness, poverty, lack of clean water, which are just as much "environmental" problems as climate change
4. We can get a MUCH GREATER bang for our buck by attacking other problems than by wasting money trying to limit temperatures
5. Climate change as a concept has been institutionalized in government and "climate change" organizations, such that anyone who wants research grants can get them most easily by linking it to climate change - there are literally billions of dollars chasing this - follow the money and you'll see an unbelievable waste of limited resources that could otherwise be used to better mankind
6. The biggest problem, and biggest solution, lies in technical, scientific knowledge. Only through advanced learning in science and engineering can we advance our society the best. I am strongly opposed to the belief that global warming is a "moral issue" - quite the contrary, it's a scientific issue that must be viewed as dispassionately as possible, through cold hard study

Thank you for your time. I sincerely hope you all adhere to the scientific facts as you have stated you would do.

Sincerely,

Mark Edward

Pro-economic prosperity and affordable energy proponent

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