

Interactive  
Comment

# ***Interactive comment on “Ice melt, sea level rise and superstorms: evidence from paleoclimate data, climate modeling, and modern observations that 2 °C global warming is highly dangerous” by J. Hansen et al.***

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“Can I suggest you go outside of a winters evening when the sky is clear and it is marginal for a ground frost. If your car is on the drive look for a thin layer of frost on it (car bodies are colder than both the air and the ground under clear skies. Wait for a layer of high level cloud to come over. What happens to the frost on your car? It melts my friend. Why? The GHE: Back-radiating from cloud at a temp well below freezing (Ci cloud may be near -30C) to one near freezing and causing it’s temperature to rise.

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Same thing happens on the ground but it's easier to notice on car bodies. In both things there is a flux of heat escaping to space that is slowed by the back-radiation, such that the flux from below the ground up (warming) or from the air to the car body overtakes the cooling to space. You might want to read up the science. All things emit AND absorb EM energy at temps above 0 Kelvin. The ground does NOT say, hey photon, you've come from a cloud/CO2 molecule that's colder than me .... so go away."

Nabil's reply:

Back-radiation does not exist and cannot exist and those photons that you are talking about do not head to surface in the first place. If a colder object radiates back to a warmer object, the warmer object will radiate more energy to the colder object and here we go, temperature spirals out of control. This of course is not observed. This very subject was discussed and settled by our forefathers in the 18th, 19th, and 20th century. Heat transfers from a warmer object to a colder object, period. To claim otherwise, you have to revise every book in world first. You cannot just make a fictional hypothesis based on which you conclude the end of the world is coming. This is reckless. The greenhouse gas effect is simply a fiction and its related radiative forcing approach is incorrect.

Clouds are not greenhouse gases, they are droplets of water. Clouds simply reduce radiation from the car to outer space, and the car gets warmer.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 15, 20059, 2015.

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