

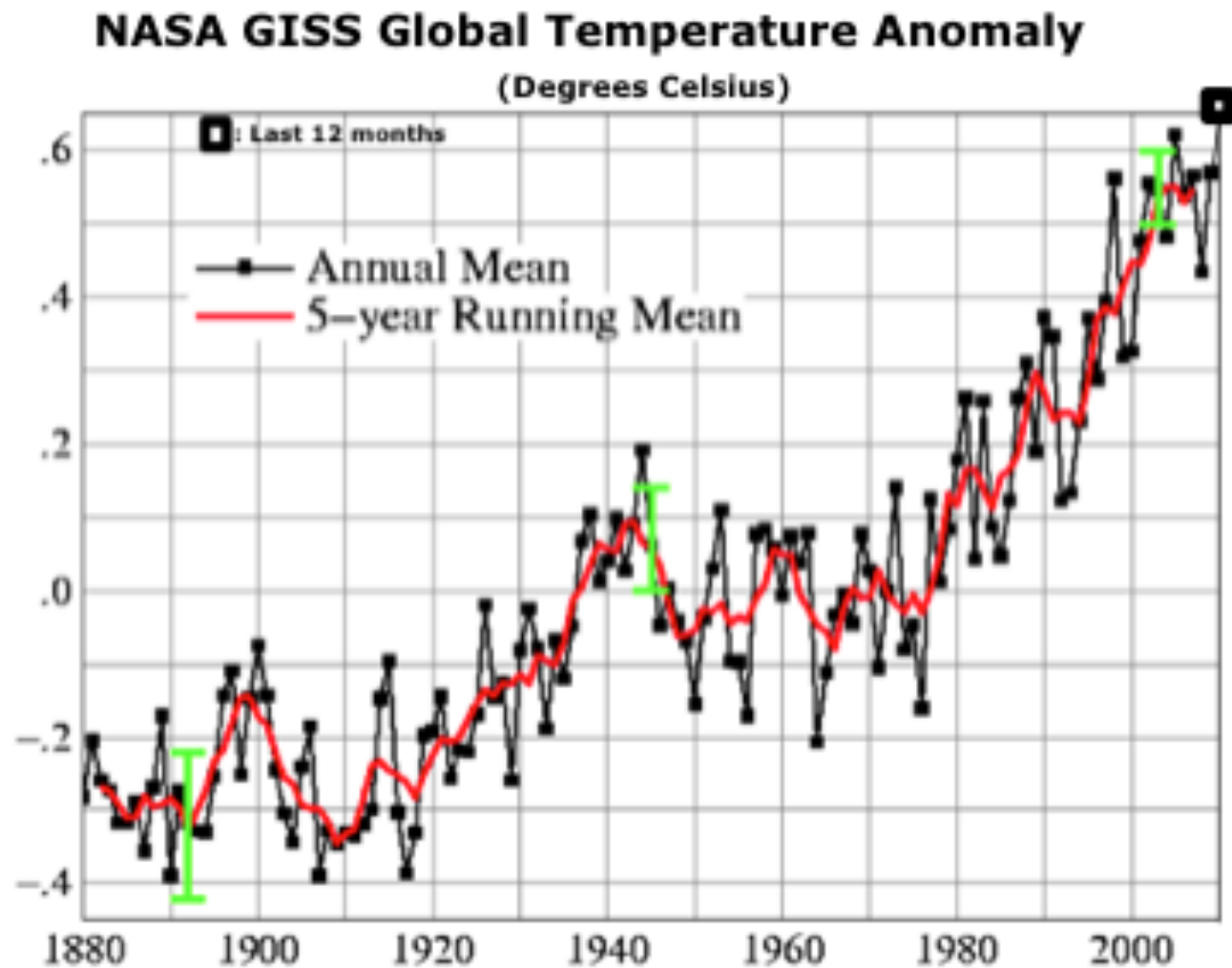
After Copenhagen?

What Should We Do? A Four-Part Plan

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The Hottest Twelve-Month Period in at Least 1000 Years



The World in 2100

- Three scenarios:
 - 2.3C, or 4.1F warmer: New York gets the climate of Washington; San Francisco gets the climate of Santa Barbara; Santa Barbara gets the climate of San Diego; Oslo gets the climate of Munich
 - 4.6C or 8.2F warmer: New York gets the climate of Atlanta; San Francisco gets the climate of San Diego; Oslo gets the climate of Milan
 - Hope: things don't change much
 - Magic energy technology bullet
 - Magic climate sensitivity bullet
 - Magic geoengineering bullet
- Hope is not a plan

My Four-Part Plan

- Pour money like water into research
- Beg the rulers of China and India to understand their situation
- Nationalize the U.S. energy industry
- Restrict future climate negotiations to a group of seven

Pour Money Like Water into Research

- Three research directions:
 - Closed carbon cycle energy
 - Carbon-free energy
 - Geoengineering
 - Sunshades, dust, carbon sinks, etc.
- Hope is not a plan
 - But no reason that part of the plan can't be to maximize the chance that we will get lucky

Beg the Rulers of China and India

- Global warming in the North Atlantic not a huge deal
 - It's expensive, but
 - We move two miles north a year
 - We turn down our heaters and turn up our air conditioners
 - We mourn the extinction of polar bears, coral reefs, giant sequoias
 - Life goes on
- Global warming in the great river valleys of Asia is very different
 - “Climate change” means climate change
 - More or less precipitation and river flow in the great river valleys of Asia?
 - If less, famine; if more, flood
 - 3 billion people at risk: won't move Asian river valley populations for a millennium; too poor to perform the North Atlantic adaptation shuffle
 - And if the floods and the famines start, the current rulers of China and India and their descendents end up with their heads on pikes
- Thus the current rulers of China and India have the greatest interest in dealing with global warming
 - But they don't seem to recognize that
 - Let's beg them to do so
 - And point out that future superpowers have a lot of long-run power

Nationalize the U.S. Energy Industry

- Three reasons the U.S. should already have a very healthy carbon tax:
 - Congestion and pollution externalities
 - Geopolitical externalities from the dependence on oil from the unstable Middle East
 - Global warming
- Yet the Oil Lobby has blocked action for nearly fifty years
- Nationalize the U.S. energy industry:
 - Yes, it produces economic inefficiencies
 - But it removes political inefficiencies that have been an order of magnitude greater

Restrict Future Climate Negotiations to a Group of Seven

- International consensus as a way of reaching agreement is fraught with difficulty
- Copenhagen teaches us that in climate negotiations it is more than usually fraught
- Time to abandon it
- We have the Security Council veto powers; we need a Climate Council
- Seven
 - U.S., E.U., Japan, China, India, Brazil, Indonesia
- Enforce their agreement via substantial and painful trade sanctions

Agenda too Radical?

- You may think so
- But what is the alternative?
 - Walking down the same road we have been walking
 - Once again bruising our nose when we run into the stone wall
- Hope is not a plan
- This is, at least, a plan