

For ROSS CANN of the US 'Citizen's Climate Lobby' (CCL) 17th July 2014

Ross, I can see from your remarks about carbon tax and so forth that: -

- you really care about this issue and
- are rightly worried about where this is going and
- are rightly angry about the death-wish response from the iron/oil triangle,

So for me it is relevant for you to know that I do recognize and appreciate this and also see this as fundamentally important as well and I am grateful you feel this way.

As you experience perhaps, one is often dealing with outright 'deniers' or the people James Hansen rightly accuses of 'crimes against humanity'.

However, you probably need to change the law. What your analysis says is this: -

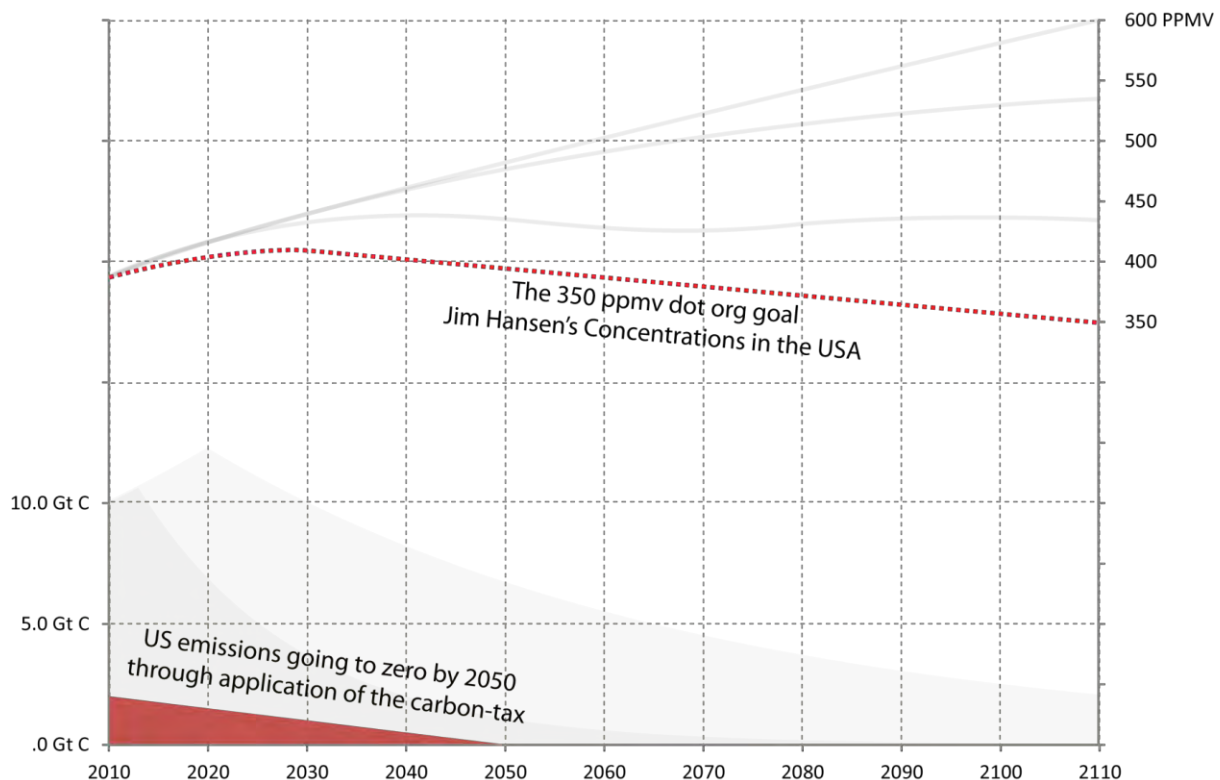
- while it is apparently legal in the US to cause the, *"100s of millions of deaths,"* worldwide (you told Annette 'not to feel optimistic about' this earlier - noting she was prepared to get arrested for apparently breaking the law), and also that
- *"literally millions of people are going to lose their jobs in this transition process and we must hope it can be accomplished in a reasonably orderly fashion."*
- *But it is going to be very expensive and disruptive to our citizens,"*
- Nonetheless, we must follow *"the only legal option in the US"* & frame a US carbon-tax, *"to get zero emissions in the US by 2050"*, while (and this is the real problem);

Failing to recognize that: -

- While James Hansen advocates a 171 Gt C Carbon Budget in the USA for 350 PPMV
- He went to China in February & sold you all out (especially including the 350.org) by saying to the Chinese; actually it is OK to have zero emissions globally by around 2200, because it will all be the same in the long run. (Really? What's he smoking?).

Now more recently you add the points listed, which I will answer: -

1. *"If we don't get a carbon tax with 100% rebate, there is no chance that the U.S. will have significant carbon emission reductions until it is too late to avoid worldwide chaos."* (You called this the US "Bottom Line"; the Chaos point is correct).
2. Adding, *"My premise - if the U.S. doesn't lead no-one else will follow."* (Really?)
3. Saying further that, *"Carbon budgets are the Kyoto treaty"* (that's exactly what it wasn't) & that *"No nation is meeting their commitments & they are trivial."*
(I agree – this is largely due to Al Gore's influence at COP-3)
4. And *"The U.S. refused to sign because the U.S. cannot implement a carbon budget, with the excuse that China wouldn't sign,"* (can't compute) adding finality with . . .
5. *"If treaties are your hope through the UN, it is game over."*
(I disagree with this statement and what follows is why).



Here's the US going to zero emissions by 2050 with everybody else (forgive me) following your somewhat heroic premise, *"if the U.S. doesn't lead no one else will follow."*

The outcome of this scenario is actually wholly impossible to ascertain. This is inescapably true as any global arithmetic of the "Contraction Concentrations" CARBON BUDGET & "Contraction Conversion" rates (GREEN GROWTH) is entirely absent (why I sent you this): <http://www.gci.org.uk/AECB.html>

However, let's speculate a moment that you are successful in the US and that using a US carbon tax, you achieve this outcome in the US by 2050. Retiring carbon use in equal steps between now and 2050, you get a total over time of ~ 40 Billion Tonnes of Carbon (Gt C).

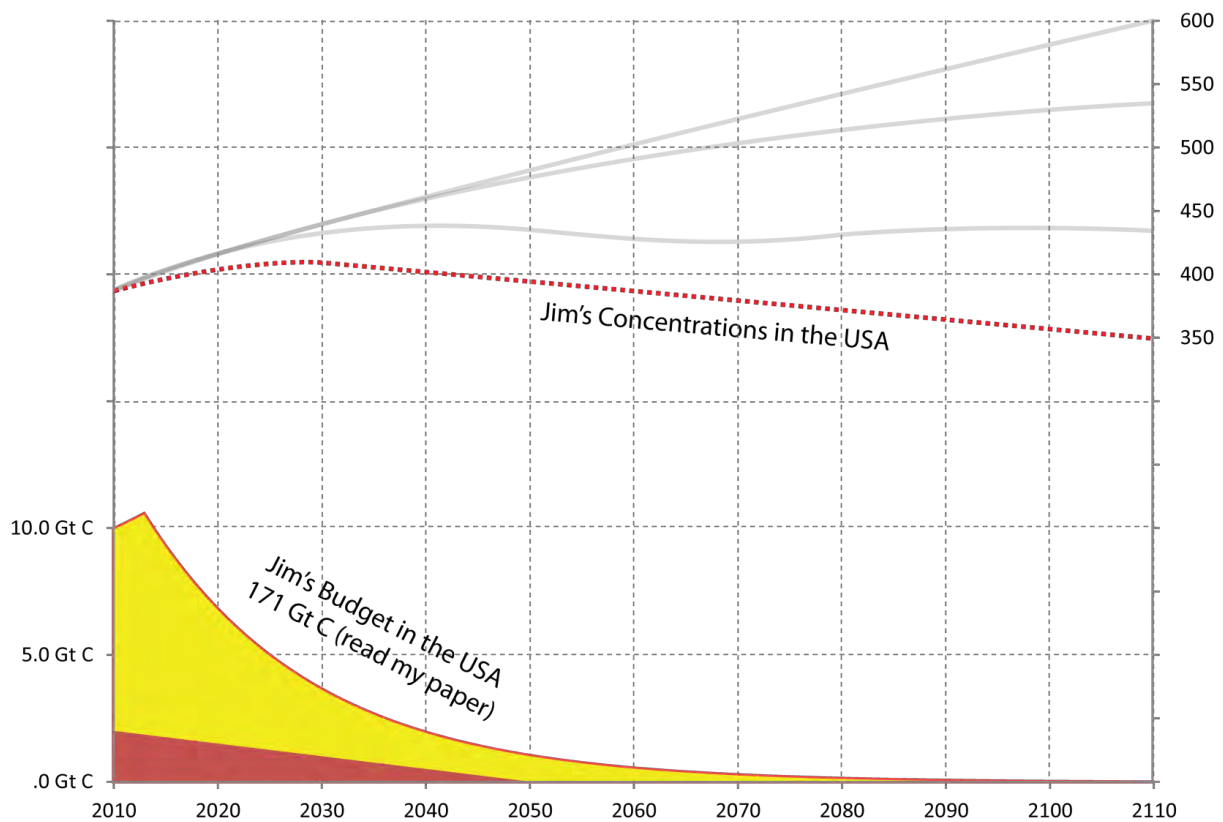
During this transition you have been taxing to achieve this outcome despite,

- *"Oil companies fighting you tooth and nail all the way" and with (your words) . . .*
- *"Literally millions of people losing their jobs in this transition process (but hoping) it can be accomplished in a reasonably orderly fashion (while acknowledging) it is going to be very expensive and disruptive to our citizens," (Ain't that the truth).*

But I ask you now, do you not imagine that during all this suffering, US citizens might be saying, *"What's the point? What about everybody else? What are they doing? We can't do this on our own. It's a global problem that needs a global solution! Where is it?"*

Fear not, say the 350/carbon-tax partisans, James Hansen, our movement's leader has told us (at least in the US) that the global Contraction:Concentrations arithmetic goes like this . . .

The US 40 Gt C Budget is 24% of the Global 171 Gt C that is necessary to get emissions to zero by 2100 with concentrations returning to 350 PPMV to keep temperature below 1.5° C and here is that result in the Chart below; (as Jim is fond of saying, “*Read My Paper!*”).



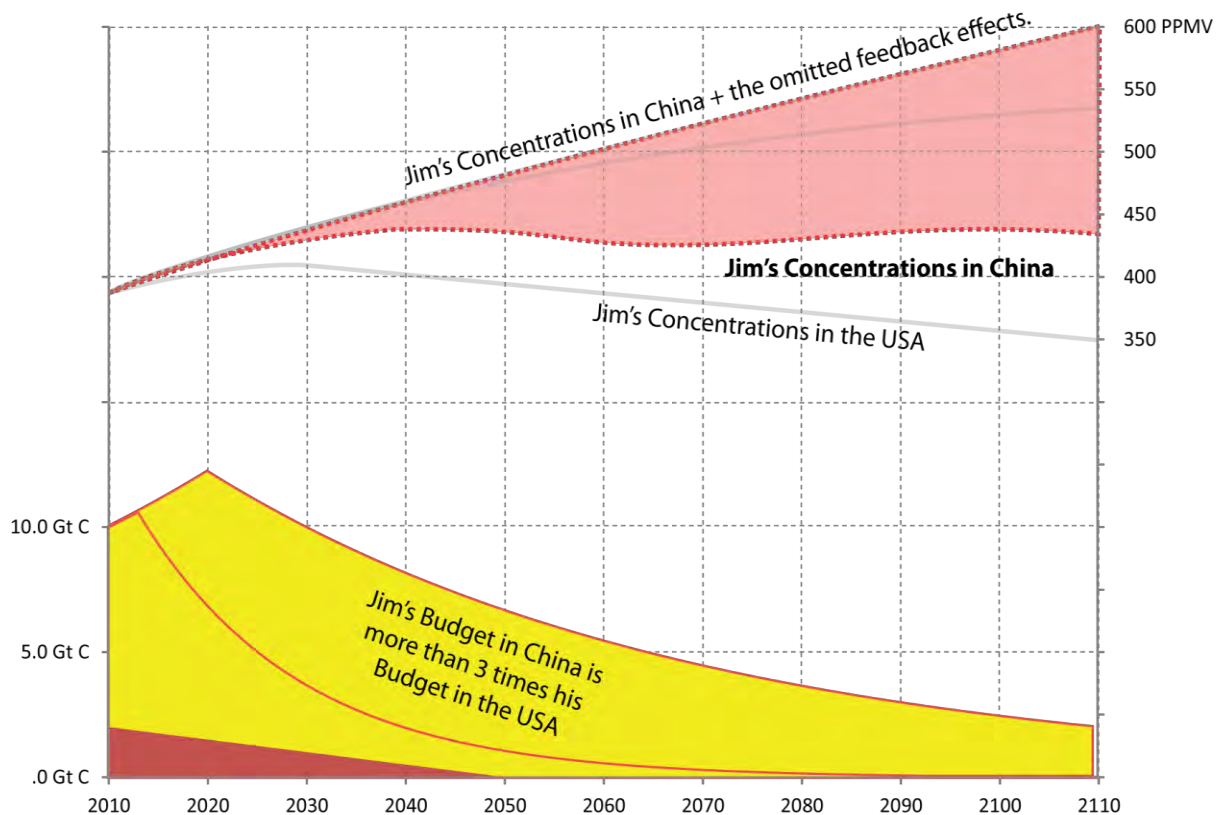
Let them eat cake. At least the other 96% of the world's population get 76% of the global carbon budget. What's wrong with that? And, as: -

- *"Oil companies fighting you tooth and nail all the way" and. . .*
- *"literally millions of people are going to lose their jobs in this transition process and we must hope it can be accomplished in a reasonably orderly fashion. But it is going to be very expensive and disruptive to our citizens,"*

. . . you will all know it's worth it because we get the outcome we were told was needed.

But was it? Do you? There's a snag! James Hansen finally realized it when he went to the Beijing Politburo in February this year. He saw that there was little prospect of the Chinese and the rest of the world following the tax example you say they will follow. What he saw was that they follow the standard of consumption that the US achieved over the Century past, (going shopping on an average that is 400% over the global average), saying when is it our turn? This was all defended by POTUS Bush & Son who said defiantly, *"be like us if you can, but the US lifestyle is not up for negotiation."* Again fear not carbon-tax/350 ppmv partisans, because of this little matter of sharing the global carbon-budget that includes everyone else & saves us all, because Jim fixed it. Our movement's leader gave a 'Pekinese Yelp' and told the Chinese that actually the global arithmetic now goes like this . . .

"We can peak emissions in 2012 and then decline fossil fuel use globally at 2% per annum and still get the same outcome of 350 PPMV with temperature not rising above 1.5° C. I kid you not (as he not fond of showing in the US) the result now looks like this.



- A global budget that weighs well over three times the 171 Gt C (c. 5/600 Gt C (Where - phew - at least the US is now only using 6% of *this* Carbon Budget)
- That declines to zero some time maybe in the 22nd/23rd Century
- With concentrations rising to around 440/450 PPM *without* feedback effects and potentially to over 600 PPMV *with* the feedback effects (*that he left out*);
- And temperature rising probably at the runaway rates that are generated.
- While Jim Hansen tells everyone, 'relax' it'll all end in 1.5° C, ("read my paper");
- & in your words, with this, "*it is too late to avoid worldwide chaos.*"

Faced with that do you suppose US citizens will say, "*Oh well, that's OK.*" Won't they start saying, "*actually, to avoid that chaos, we need a proper, collective, precautionary global agreement*" & "*I guess (even reluctantly) the UN is where we'll negotiate that.*"

- **We must solve this problem faster than we create it.** That's what we need . . .
 - So obviously sharing a global carbon budget is central to that agreement.
 - The US was always right to say it was global warming and not US warming.
 - We need to take the political consequences of that with a global agreement.
- So again I say, "*With or without tax, if treaties are **not** part of your hope through the UN, it DEFINITELY is game over*" (with more billions than mere millions of deaths).