

MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

Letter: Consensus

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Responding to the apparently profound position that the pundits of climate change denial perpetually purport .

Of course, consensus is not what makes science true. Yes, Galileo did go against the consensus of his day by saying the Earth goes around the sun. Yet is going against the consensus essential to know the truth?

In any case, well and good that Galileo bypassed the "nonessential consensus." We, however, are very lucky that there was no fundamentalist-dominated Republican Party to refute Galileo's findings once they did become the

"consensus," or we might still yet be back at the dawning of the Renaissance.

In our era several "Galileos" have introduced non-consensus truths on global climate change. In the 1800s we learned that CO₂ is a greenhouse gas that builds up in our atmosphere, and if we double it we'll raise Earth's temperature by about 4 degrees Celsius. Unfortunately for us, climate change deniers treat these "Galileo-like" truths as our "consensus," which must therefore be denied. Fortunately for us, every single scientific institution working with Earth processes and university textbooks on oceanography, climatology, meteorology,

geophysics, etc., from here to Europe to Japan is not dissuaded by finally being in consensus that our climate change is human caused.

So let's make progress towards reducing fossil fuel usage by distributing dividend checks to all adults derived from a fee on CO₂ output. Simple: dividend from a fee. This will be a financial benefit for two-thirds of America households. Other nations including China are planning on doing this, which will incentivize the world to use sustainable energy. Citizens Climate Lobby; the new consensus.

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