

The Hon Ian Macfarlane
Minister for Industry
216 Margaret Street
Toowoomba Qld 4350

17 September 2013

Dear Mr Macfarlane MP,

CC The Hon Scott Morrison MP; The Hon Greg Hunt MP

Questions for the CSIRO

First, my congratulations on being elected the Member for Groom with well over half of the primary vote and to the Coalition for such a resounding victory in the recent election

My congratulations to you also on your appointment as Minister for Industry and to Ministers Morrison and Hunt on their appointments.

In the past I have written to various Labor Ministers seeking from the CSIRO **authoritative answers** to basic questions on climate science (see http://www.dannavale.com/ministerial_correspondence_33.html).

Previous Labor Governments and the CSIRO refused to provide **authoritative answers** to my questions.

Since you are newly appointed as Minister for Industry and the CSIRO falls within your ministerial portfolio I am asking the questions again in the expectation that this time **authoritative answers** are forthcoming from the CSIRO, which now answers to a new Minister in a Coalition Government.

I respectfully draw to your attention that fact that as Minister you don't need to know anything about the science of global warming to instruct the CSIRO to give **authoritative answers**.

I use the term '**authoritative answers**' because within Australia the CSIRO is acknowledged as being an authority on global warming. Indeed former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said on the Bolt Report that for government policy on global warming he relied on advice from the CSIRO.

My questions are as follows:-

Question 1

Is there, in the CSIRO's considered view, a credible* published peer reviewed research paper in which the authors analyse observational data that shows evaporative cooling increases by only 2% to 3% in response to a 1-degree increase in surface temperature and, if so please provide a reference to that paper?

*It is a matter of fact that some published peer reviewed research papers, while they were approved for publication by a selected peer review panel, are subsequently found to contain significant errors in fact or methodology, when subjected to scrutiny by the wider scientific community. A credible research paper, having been cited by for example the CSIRO as a significant paper, would be able to survive scrutiny by the wider scientific community.

Question 2

Climate scientists are generally agreed that doubling the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would increase the amount of back radiation from the atmosphere to the surface by around 3.5 watts per square metre (excluding consequential changes).

Does the CSIRO agree that the above estimate of 3.5 watts per square metre is substantially correct and if not, then what is the CSIRO's authoritative estimate?

Question 3

NASA estimates that the current flow of latent heat from the surface to the atmosphere due to evaporative cooling is around 85 watts per square metre.

Does the CSIRO agree that the above estimate of 85 W/sqm is substantially correct and if not, then what is the CSIRO's authoritative estimate?

Question 4

Climate scientists are generally agreed that the amount of water vapour in the atmosphere increases by around 7% for each 1-degree increase in surface temperature.

Does the CSIRO agree that the above estimate of 7% per degree is substantially correct and if not, then what is the CSIRO's authoritative estimate?

Question 5

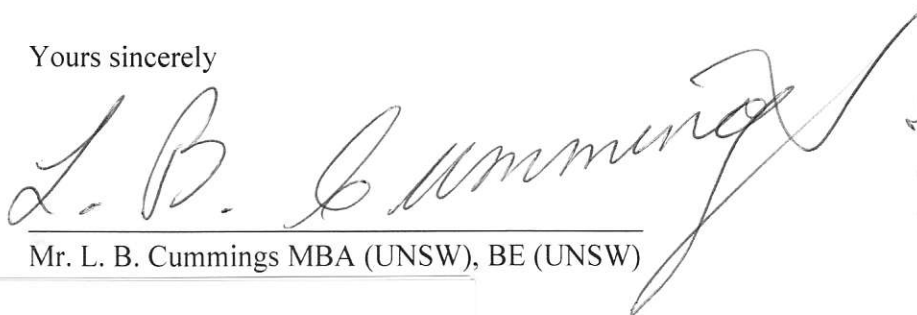
Climate scientists are generally agreed that following a doubling of carbon dioxide and an increase in surface temperature of say 2-degrees the following changes in radiation energy flows at the surface would take place:-

Increase in back-radiation [#] from the atmosphere to the surface	16 W/sqm
Increase in (cooling) radiation emitted by the surface	<u>11 W/sqm</u>
Net increase in downward (warming) radiation	<u>5 W/sqm</u>

Does the CSIRO agree that the above estimate of 5 watts per square metre is substantially correct and if not, then what is the CSIRO's authoritative estimate?

[#] Includes the additional back-radiation due to the increase in atmospheric water vapour (often referred to as positive water vapour feedback).

Yours sincerely



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