

### **Target paper**

The final version of "Target Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>: Where Should Humanity Aim?" in The Open Atmospheric Science Journal is available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.2174/1874282300802010217>. You can click on the main paper and supporting material individually. The two are combined in one pdf on the GISS web site at [http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Hansen\\_etal.html](http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Hansen_etal.html). BTW, I think that the Supporting Material contains some interesting stuff.

NASA decided not to make a press release for the paper, but Yale did one

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2008-11/you-rtts110708.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2008-11/you-rtts110708.php)

The draft press release that I wrote and "Q&A" about the paper are at

[http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081030\\_Target.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081030_Target.pdf)

It is difficult to generate the attention that the topic deserves because the basic conclusions were already presented in my talk at the December 2007 AGU meeting. Also the first draft of the paper (available in arXiv, as is the final version) appeared on several blogs and was discussed in several newspapers, which discourages media attention to the final improved version.

The long delay between first draft and final paper was my fault. The principal demand of the journal referees, addition of a "caveats and uncertainties" section (section 4.5 in the main paper and section 18 in the Supplementary Material), could have been completed in a week or two, but it took me ~two months because of other obligations. I caused another delay by not checking typesetting in the proofs carefully enough, requiring an extra iteration of proofs. Bottom line: I think that the "Open" publication method, which includes full peer review but results in a paper freely available throughout the world, is promising and I intend to pursue it further.

### **Switzerland**

Even countries among those that we think of as the most educated and progressive in environmental matters, such as Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Sweden, are condoning actions that, if consummated, make it almost impossible to avoid climate tipping points with disastrous consequences. Letters to Swiss authorities, in English, French and German, are at

[http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113\\_Switzerland.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113_Switzerland.pdf)

[http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113\\_Switzerland\\_French.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113_Switzerland_French.pdf)

[http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113\\_Switzerland\\_German.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1/mailings/20081113_Switzerland_German.pdf)

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The simple fact of the matter is that the only hope for keeping a planet that resembles the one of the Holocene, the past 10,000 years, is to halt any new CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from coal and to phase-out existing coal emissions promptly. I suppose it is possible that some people honestly do not understand that no goal for future CO<sub>2</sub> emissions allowing construction of new coal plants will solve the problem and that "capture-ready" is a subterfuge. Fortunately, young people are beginning to catch on to what is happening, and I do not think they will allow the shenanigans to continue much longer. More on that later.

Jim