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For Immediate release

Fraser Institute “Analysis” of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report Out of Date, Oil-Soaked and Incorrect

DeSmogBlog.com Leaks Advance Copy of Think Tank’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Attack

Vancouver, BC – A Canadian think tank’s “independent” analysis of the upcoming IPCC report is based on out-of-date information and is specifically misleading about the nature of the scientific summary that it presumes to criticize, **DeSmogBlog.com** President James Hoggan said Wednesday. The analysis, which the Fraser Institute had planned to release Feb. 5 at a press conference in the United Kingdom, can be read on **DeSmogBlog.com** today.

The Fraser Institute, a right-wing think tank that has recently received annual grants from oil-giant ExxonMobil, promised an independent summary of the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Institute claimed that the IPCC’s own summary is a political document “neither written by nor reviewed by the scientific community,” while the Fraser Institute version was “prepared by qualified experts in fields related to climate science.”

In fact, the IPCC summary was written *and* reviewed by some of the most senior climate scientists in the world, without political or bureaucratic input. And the Fraser Institute’s “scientific” staff – which is led by an economist – includes a group of junior or retired scientists, most of whom have direct connections to energy industry lobby groups.

Andrew Weaver, the Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis and a lead IPCC author called the Independent Summary “highly ideological,” adding that he was stunned by the Fraser Institute conclusion that “there is no compelling evidence that dangerous or unprecedented changes are underway.”

“I was most surprised that this analysis was written based on our second draft” (released in Spring 2006), said Weaver. “We incorporated changes in response to well over 1,000 reviewers’ comments before preparing a final draft last fall.”

“The IPCC report presents 1,600 pages of compelling evidence, that’s the whole point.” Weaver also criticized the Fraser Institute’s contention that climate change may not be happening or that if it is happening, it may be “a good or bad thing.”

A complete copy of the Fraser Institute report as well as a background briefing paper can be obtained at www.DeSmogBlog.com

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