

HALTING AND REVERSING THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

By Richard Duffee

To stabilize global temperatures and allow the poorer half of the world's people to live out their potential life spans will require cutting consumption in developed countries to allow for some expansion of consumption in poor countries. The average American consumes 80 times the energy of the average Indian; it is both necessary and good for us to cut our energy consumption.

A new energy policy is essential. Nuclear power should have no part of it because no government can guarantee the safe storage of spent fuel rods with half-lives of 250,000 years. The US is more than 20 years ahead of all other countries militarily, so I advocate shifting the entire military research and development budget to energy research.

Since 2004 the Democrats have not even advocated the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol. Of course we must ratify and implement it. More importantly, we must reverse the effects of US impact on international environmental negotiations over the last 25 years. Since 1981, the US has watered down ALL international environmental accords. We should propose that every one of them be accepted on terms other countries wanted before we interfered.