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Bernie Sanders's Windy Letter Blows a Lot of Hot Air

Sen. Bernie Sanders's [Jan. 3 Letter](#) in defense of the wind industry blows a lot of hot air and deploys an array of smoke and mirrors.

"Create American jobs" and "help avoid the planetary calamity of global warming," Sen. Sanders offers, except that the real-world record shows that the majority of solar and wind-turbine manufacture has moved to China. Sen. Sanders ignores the fact that renewable-energy imposition needlessly drives the cost of energy up for all consumers. Renewable-energy leader Germany claims such sources provide about 25% of energy needs. What is not mentioned is that it is also building 23 new coal-fired plants; also not mentioned is the number of industries dealing with automatic process shut-downs because of instabilities in grid-power secondary to the erratic nature of solar and wind energy. Last year the German press reported that 600,000 households per year are getting their power cut off because of unaffordable electricity bills.

Sen. Sanders rants over the tax code and subsidies for conventional power. He decries business write-offs/deductions used by all businesses. He implies unfairness in federal subsidies going to fossil-fuel and nuclear industry, and not to wind energy. He misses the fact that fossil-fuel/nuclear plants deliver reliable power 24/7, unlike intermittent wind and solar, and are a more cost-effective investment. Based on kWh produced per dollar subsidy, renewables are grossly inefficient.

There is no "calamity of global warming." The U.K. Met Office reports no global warming for the past 16 years, even as CO2 levels rise. Scientists cannot "foresee" the temperatures in 2100 because they do not have validated computer models. Current models produce a variety of answers based on incomplete or erroneous understanding of the inherently chaotic nature of climate, first documented by MIT scientist E. Lorenz in 1964.

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