

By "run-away" he means after a certain point nothing that human can do will stop the temperature increase.

It's a totally false solution to say our current fossil fuel driven "growth" is the only solution to poverty. It's not too crazy to call our present way of expansion more like a cancerous growth than a healthy way of increasing the general good.

The International Energy Agency says we're on track for a 3.6 Centigrade degree increase in world temperature, a catastrophic increase, far above the 2.0 degree increase the U.N. considers acceptable. Climate expert James Hansen said in a paper released in July that our current use of fossil fuel is leading to a "different, practically uninhabitable planet" by triggering a "low-end runaway greenhouse effect."

We don't have to continue with old dangerous fuels. Engineer and professor **Marc Jacobson** has published plans to get off fossil fuel completely and move to renewable fuel in less than 20 years. It can be done. It will cost trillions, but it will also save money as we cut down the pollution that kills millions yearly.

We need to stop spending trillions on war, to move to 100% renewable energy, put a stiff tax on carbon and to call on the well-off to sharply cut carbon consumption. We need to put the jobless poor to work by creating a planned system where everyone is guaranteed a decent job.

Is this a wild-eyed radical dream? Maybe, but it's one increasingly necessary for the welfare not only of the poor, but of our whole species

The New York Times opened its pages on Dec. 4, 2013 to a Bjorn Lomborg who wrote a piece with the title "The Poor Need Cheap Fossil Fuel". He says dealing with global warming is an "important" issue, but the world's poor have more immediate problems. They are "desperately poor, and many cook and heat their homes using open fires or leaky stoves that burn dirty fuels like wood, dung, crop waste and coal." He says the dirty air in these homes cause 3.5 million deaths a year (World Health Organization).

That is indeed an awful situation, but Lomborg's solution is peculiar. He want the poorer countries to expand their use of natural gas and to use more coal to make electricity. That's how he'd solve the problem. Lomborg is dead wrong. Global warming isn't just an "important" issue. It's a crucial life and death issue for all of humanity.

Don't Use Poverty as an Excuse for Digging Up More Coal

EconomicUprising.com

info@EconomicUprising.com