

# **FOSSIL FUELS AND HUMAN PROSPERITY**

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# GHG & ENERGY REALITIES

- Fossil fuels are the driver of economic growth & jobs.
- Economic value of fossil fuels is ~ \$2 trillion dollars/yr. just for U.S.
- Proposals to drastically reduce GHG emissions in coming years would devastate economies of U.S. & world.
- 2015 Paris Agreement: “Limit global temperature increase to no more than 2°C above current levels.” To achieve this: Reduce GHGs to 80-95% **below 1990 levels** by 2050, beginning in 2020.
- EU committed to reduce GHGs to 80-95% < 1990 levels by 2050; USA “committed” to reduce GHG emissions 80% < 1990 level by 2050.
- These emissions reductions are impossible – ludicrous.

# FOSSIL FUELS = MODERN CIVILIZATION

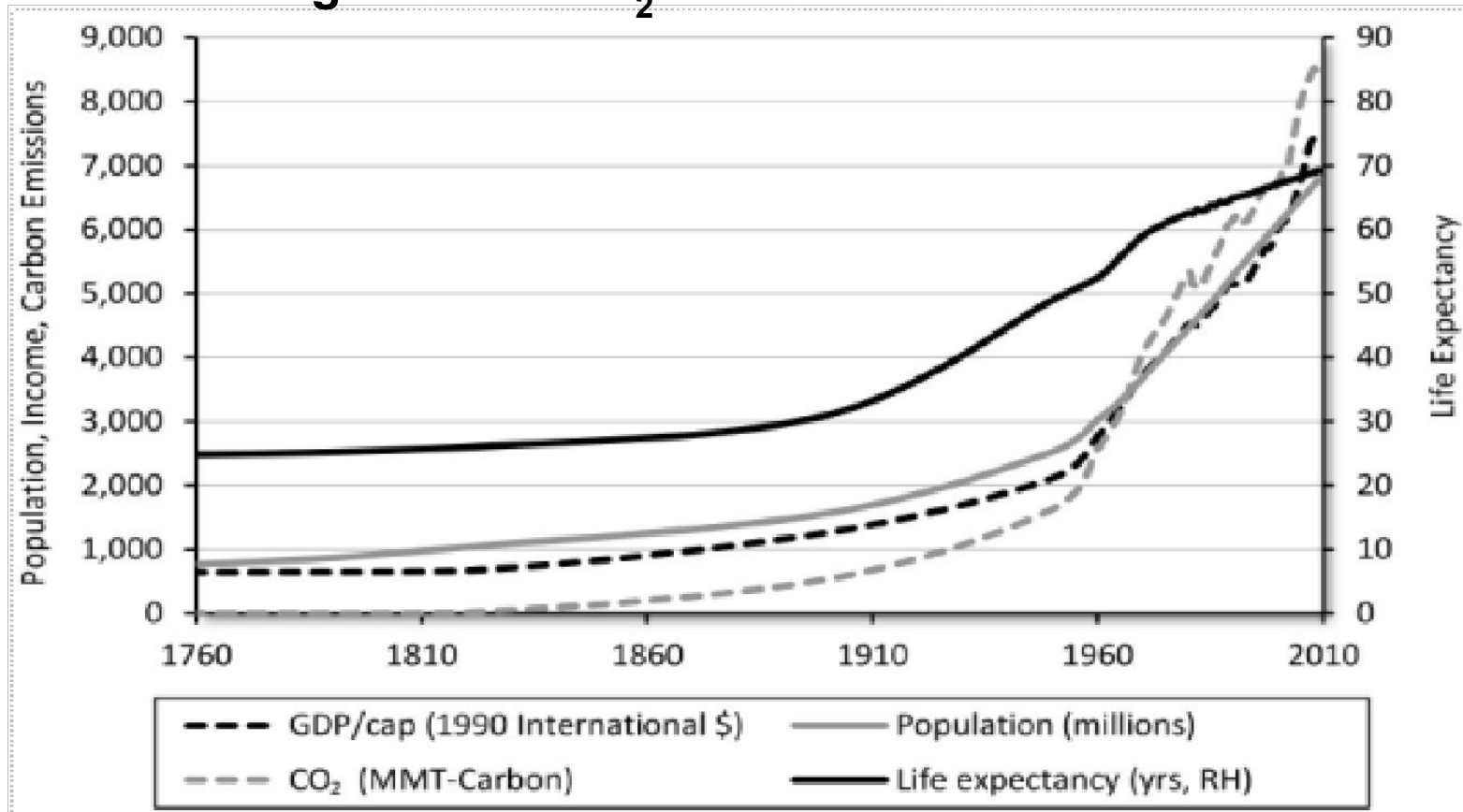
- Fossil fuels:
  - Facilitated successive industrial revolutions (including 21<sup>st</sup> century)
  - Created modern world
  - Permit current high quality of life
- Over past 250 years:
  - Global life expectancy increased > 2X
  - Population increased 8X
  - Incomes increased 11X
- CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations increased from ~ 320 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> to ~ 400 ppm (from 0.032% of the atmosphere to 0.040%)



**“Ours is a high energy civilization based largely on fossil fuels.” Dr. Vaclav Smil**

# FOSSIL FUELS = GROWTH & PROSPERITY

## Global Progress and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions From Fossil Fuels

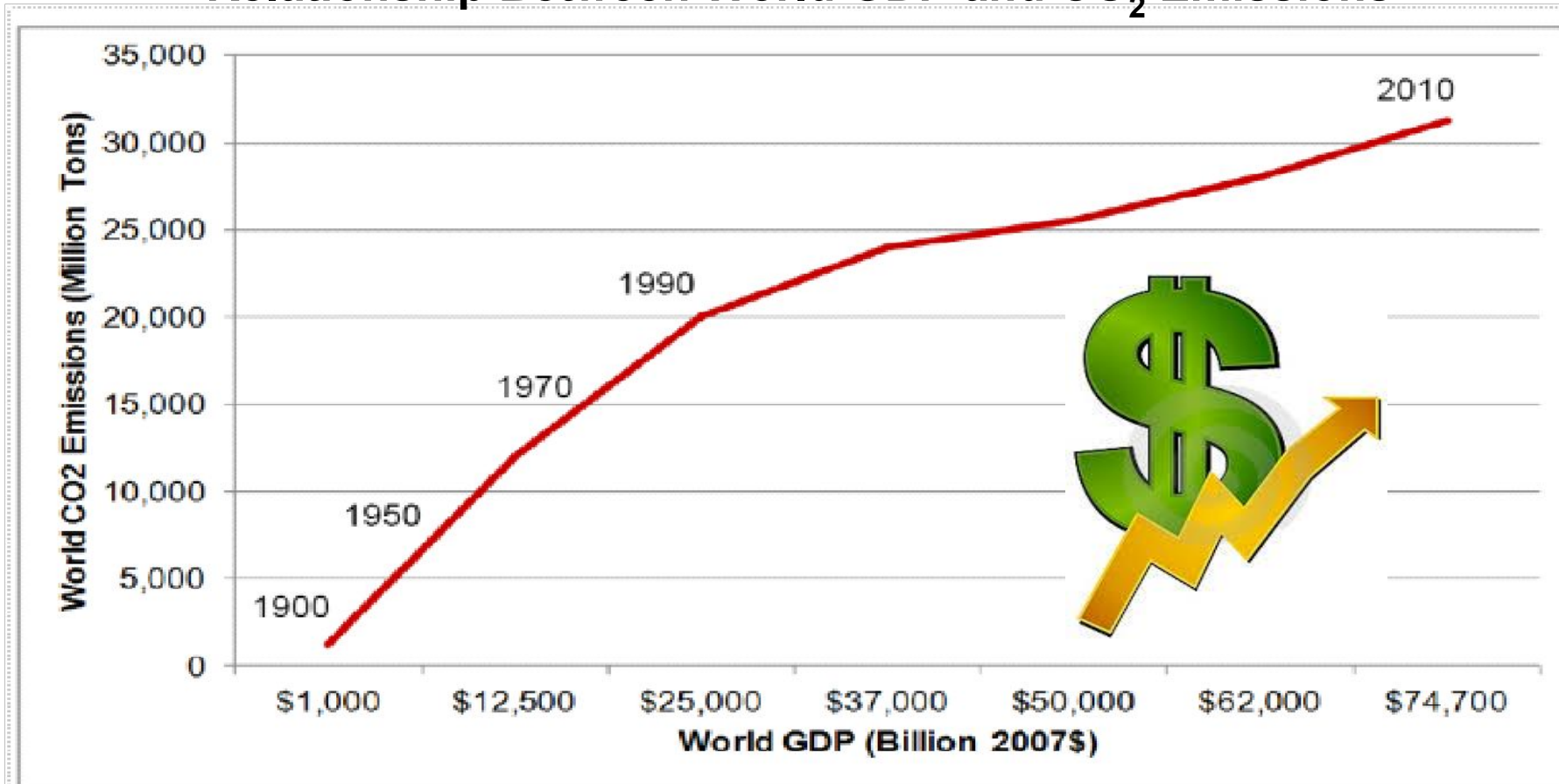


Source: Indur Goklany.

**“The economic system is essentially a system for extracting, processing, and transforming energy.” Professor Robert Ayres**

# CLOSE LINK BETWEEN CO<sub>2</sub> & GDP

## Relationship Between World GDP and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

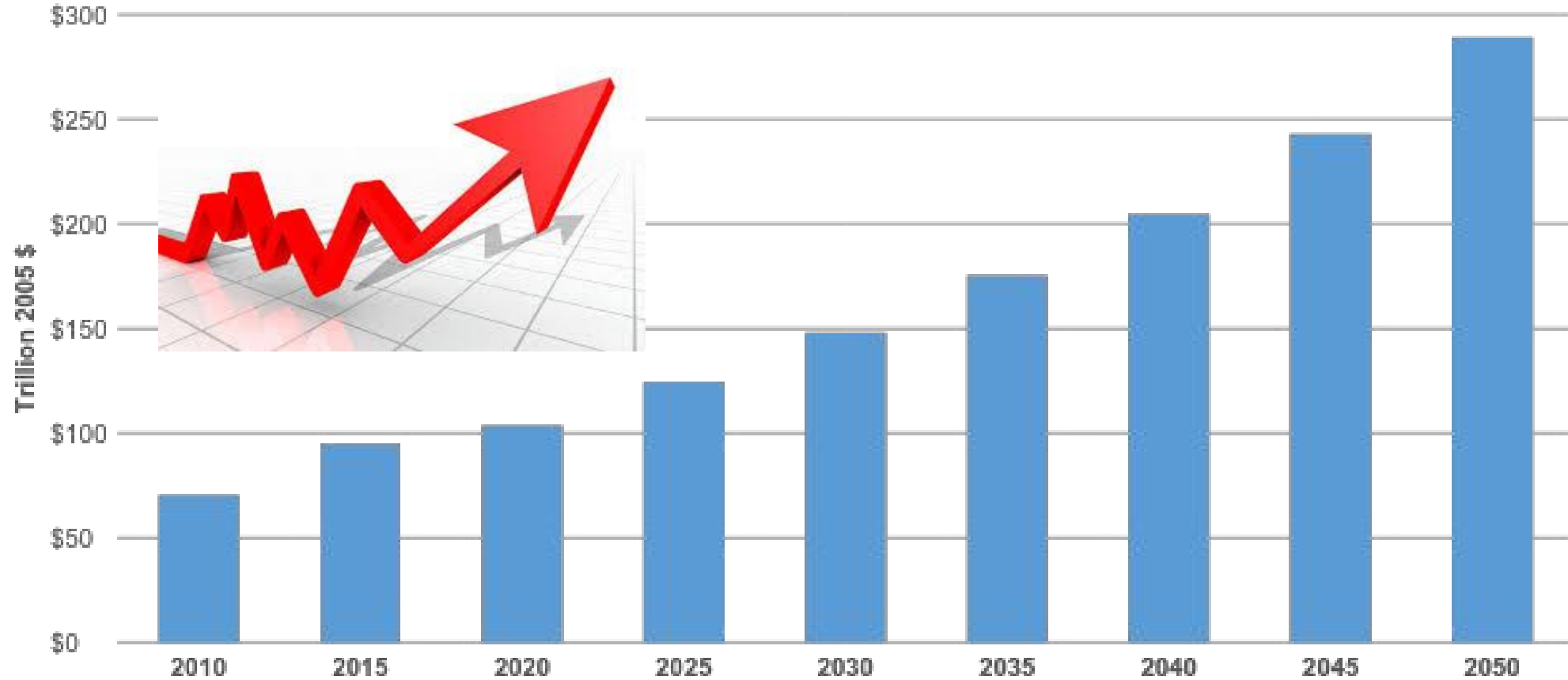


Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, International Energy Agency, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, and Management Information Services, Inc.

**“Access to energy is absolutely fundamental in the struggle against poverty.” Rachel Kyte, vice president, World Bank**

# GLOBAL GDP INCREASES 3X THROUGH 2050

World GDP Forecast Through 2050  
(Based on EIA Reference Case)

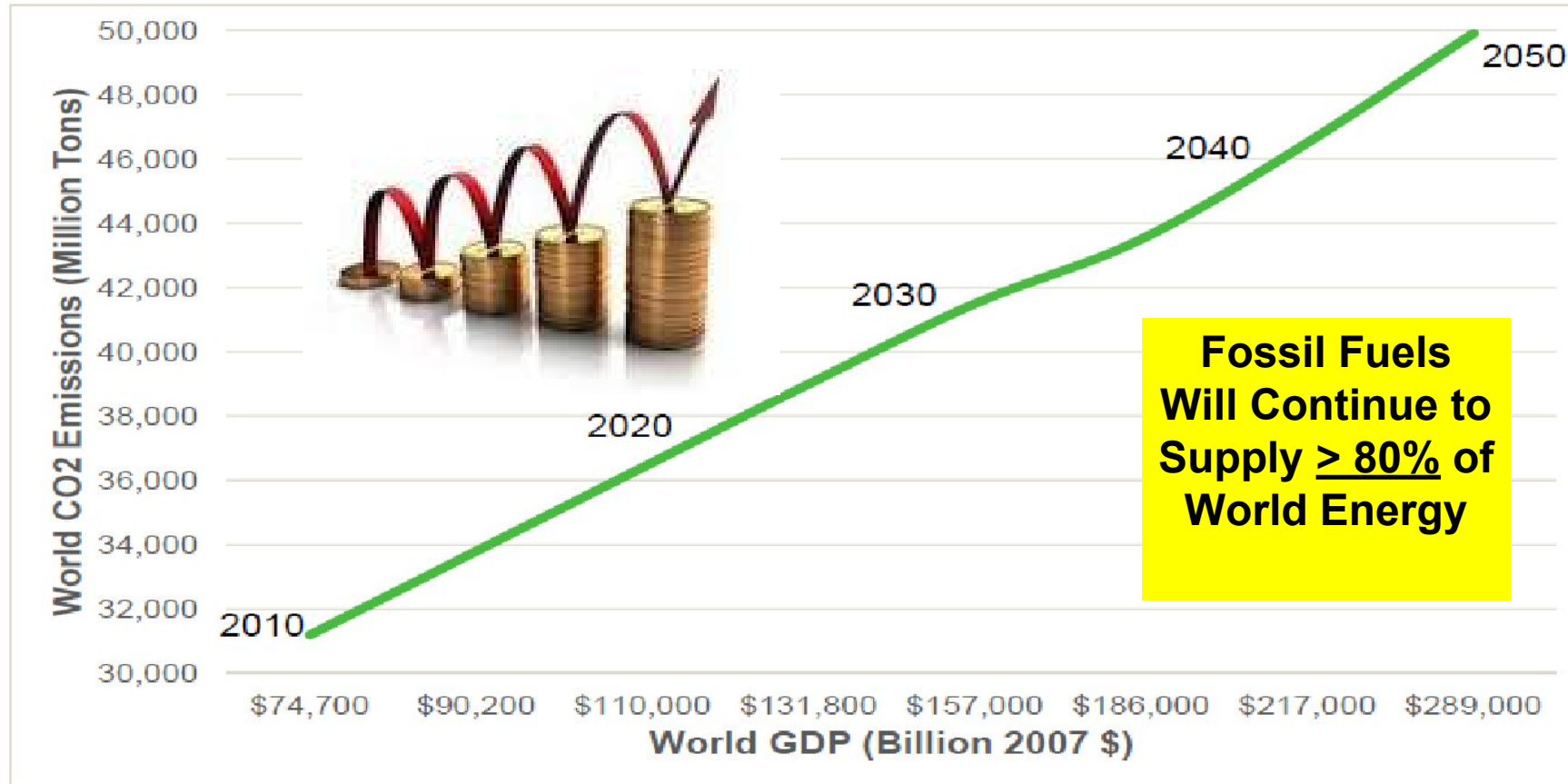


Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration and Management Information Services, Inc.

**In 2050, fossil fuels still provide > 80% of world energy**

# CONTINUED LINK BETWEEN GDP & CO<sub>2</sub>

Forecast Relationship Between World GDP and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions  
(EIA Reference Case)



**Renewable energy will be able to supply only a small % of world energy.**

# SUMMARY OF ENERGY-GDP ELASTICITY ESTIMATES

Yr. Published	Author	Type of Energy	Elasticity Est.
2010	Lee and Lee	Energy and electricity	-0.01 and -0.19
2010	Brown and Huntington	Oil	-0.01 to -0.08
2010	Baumeister, Peersman, and Robays	Oil	-0.35
2009	Blumel, Espinoza, and Domper	Energy and electricity	-0.085 to -0.16
2008	Kerschner and Hubacek	Oil	-0.03 to -0.17
2008	Sparrow	Electricity	-0.3
2007	Maeda	Energy	-0.03 to -0.075
2007	Krishna Rao	Energy	-0.3 to -0.37
2007	Lescaroux	Oil	-0.1 to -0.6
2006	Rose and Wei	Electricity	-0.1
2006	Oxford Economic Forecasting	Energy	-0.03 to -0.07
2006	Considine	Electricity	-0.3
2006	Global Insight	Energy	-0.04
2004	IEA	Oil	-0.08 to -0.13
2002	Rose and Yang	Electricity	-0.14
2002	Klein and Kenny	Electricity	-0.06 to -0.13
2001	Rose and Ranjan	Electricity	-0.14
2001	Rose and Ranjan	Energy	-0.05 to -0.25
1999	Brown and Yucel	Oil	-0.05
1996	Hewson and Stamberg	Electricity	-0.14
1996	Rotemberg and Woodford	Energy	-0.25
1996	Joutz and Gardner	Energy	-0.072
1996	Hooker	Energy	-0.07 to -0.29
1995	Lee, Ni and Ratti	Oil	-0.14
1995	Hewson and Stamberg	Electricity	-0.5 and -0.7
1982	Anderson	Electricity	-0.14
1981	Rasche and Tatom	Energy	-0.05 to -0.11

**Average elasticity is about - 0.15.**



# 6 WAYS TO ESTIMATE ECONOMIC VALUE OF FOSSIL FUELS

1. **Comparison of LCOEs:** Compare estimates of levelized cost of electricity (LCOE) of fossil fuels v. alternative energies.
2. **Existence Impacts:** Estimate value of economic activity attributable to low cost & high reliability of fossil fuels.
3. **Historical Relationships:** Compare historical relationships between electricity costs or per-capita energy consumption & GDP & other prosperity measures.
4. **Bottom-up Estimates:** Use data on cost of existing & new production capacity & transmission to estimate cost of reducing reliance on fossil fuels.
5. **Macroeconomic Models:** Estimate impacts of policies designed to reduce use of fossil fuels on GDP, jobs, & economic growth.
6. **Model as Tax Increase:** Model harmful energy policies as tax increases.

# BOTTOM LINE: FOSSIL FUELS DRIVE ECONOMY & JOBS

All 6 methods yield similar results:

- Fossil fuels currently deliver economic benefits to U.S. of at least \$1.8 trillion/yr. & create > 15 million jobs.
- Use of fossil fuels in 2050 will be worth 42% of global GDP: ~ \$125 trillion (2016 \$).
- Artificially reducing dependency on fossil fuels would be costly: Trillions \$ GDP & millions of jobs annually.

Thus: Fossil fuels are essential to world economy & jobs.



**“Energy is the ‘oxygen’ of the economy and the life-blood of growth.” World Economic Forum**

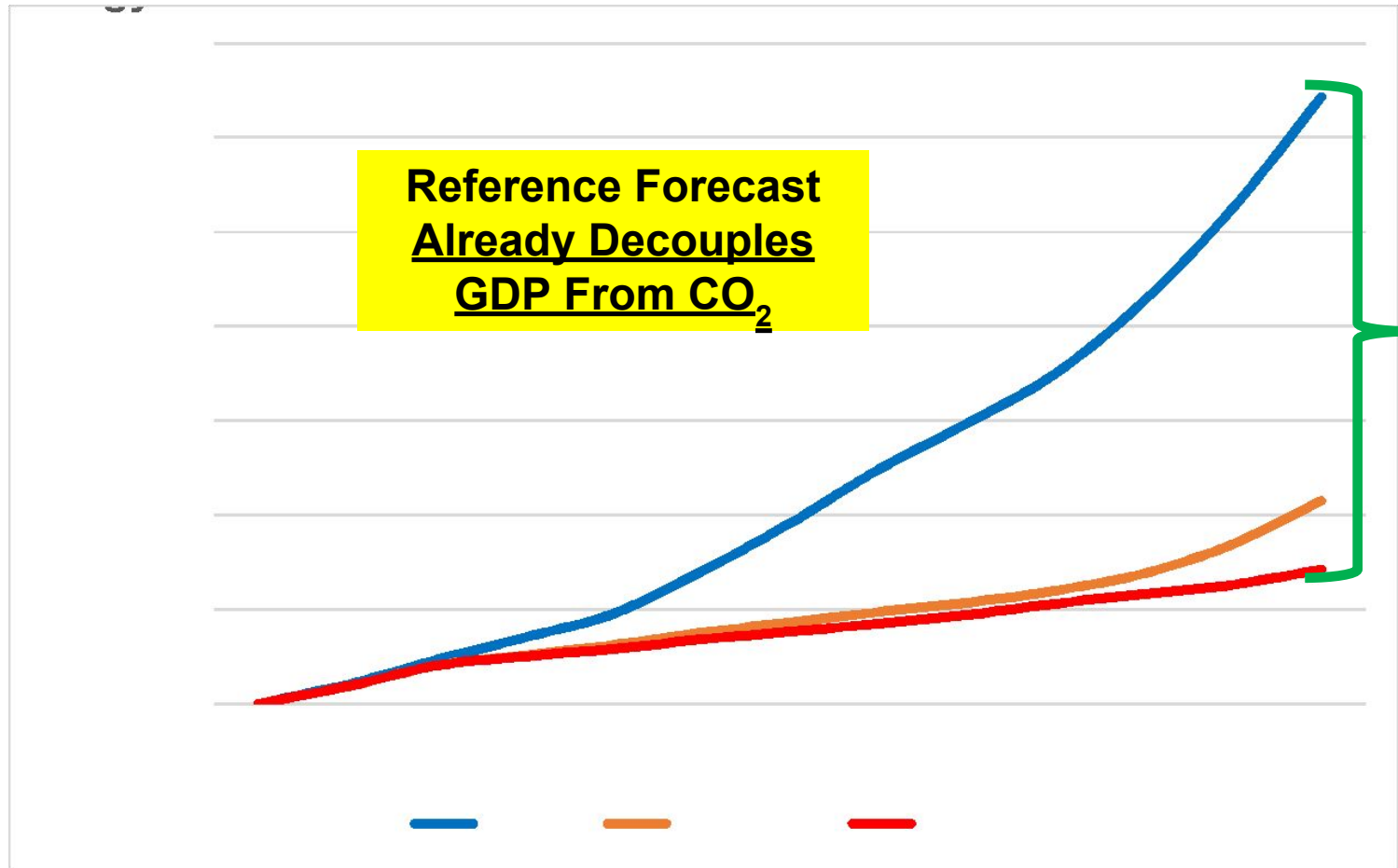
# UNRECOGNIZED CONSEQUENCES OF GHG REDUCTIONS

- Two critical factors are not recognized:
  1. All 2050 forecasts already include massive energy efficiency & decarbonization; they are not “business as usual”
  2. Emissions reductions recommended, 80-95% < 1990 levels compared to 2050 forecast emissions, are draconian.
- Reducing 2050 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by this magnitude would within 30 years reduce world per capita GDP to only ~ 4% of what it is otherwise forecast to be.
- Would reduce 2050 world per capita GDP to < that of UK in 1800 or of that currently in world’s poorest nations.

“Energy use and output are tightly coupled, with energy availability playing a key role in enabling growth. Professor David Stern

# 1. FORECASTS ALREADY INCLUDE MASSIVE DECARBONIZATION

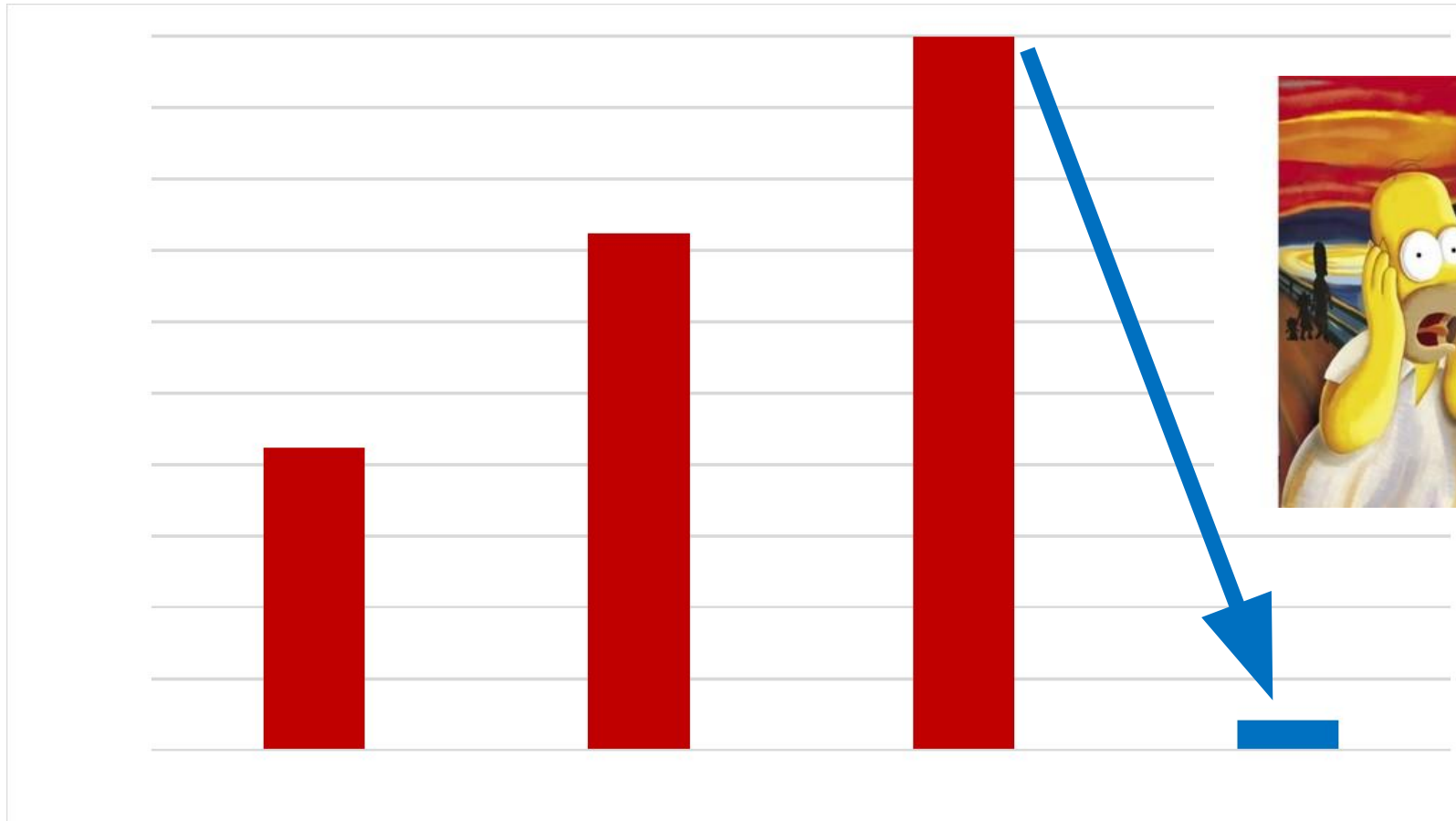
## Reference Case Forecast of GDP, Energy, and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration and Management Information Services, Inc.

## 2. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS ARE DRACONIAN -- LUDICROUS

Emissions Reductions Required Are 96% < Forecast 2050 Levels



Source: Management Information Services, Inc.

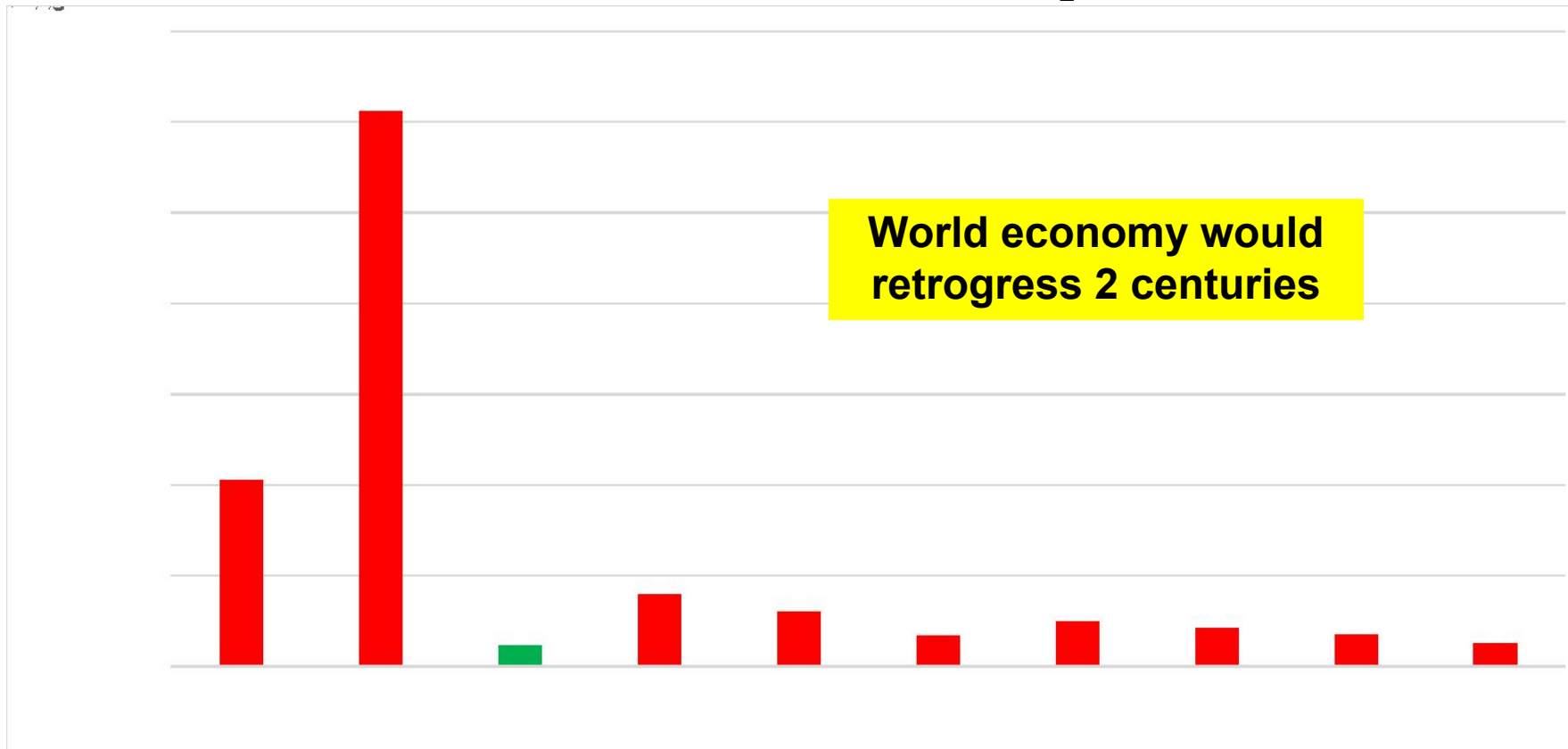
**“If you could pick just one thing to reduce poverty, by far you would pick energy.” Bill Gates**

# REAL IMPLICATIONS OF GHG REDUCTION GOALS

- To reduce GHGs to 80% < 1990 levels by 2050 will require that GHGs in 2050 be 96% < they are currently forecast to be in 2050.
- Relationship between GDP growth & CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is still critical.
- Thus, to achieve GHG reduction goal will require world 2050 GDP be reduced to ~ 4% of what it is projected to be in 2050.
- EIA's reference case forecasts world GDP in 2050 to be \$292 trillion (2005\$).
- UN "medium" 2050 population forecast is 9.55 billion.
- Thus, world per capita GDP in 2050 will be ~ \$30,600.
- 4% of this is ~ \$1,200.
- That is, 2050 world GDP would be ~ \$12 trillion instead of \$292 trillion, & per capita world GDP will be ~ \$1,200 instead of \$30,600

# WHAT DOES 2050 PER CAPITA WORLD GDP OF \$1,200 INSTEAD OF \$30,600 IMPLY?

## Per Capita GDP Implications of the 2050 CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Goal



Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, CIA, and Management Information Services, Inc.

**Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to 80% < 1990 levels by 2050 implies reducing 2050 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (& GDP) to ~ 95% < 2050 forecast levels.**

# IMPACT ON U.S. INCOMES

**U.S. 2050 Median Household Income Would be \$3,700 Instead of the Forecast \$92,000.**



Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration. U.S. Census Bureau, and Management Information Services, Inc.

**U.S. 2050 incomes would be reduced to well below current poverty levels.**



# CONCLUSIONS

- **Fossil fuels essential for economic growth & jobs.**
- Close relationship between fossil fuels and world economies will continue.
- **To reduce 2050 GHGs to 80-95% < 1990 levels implies world 2050 living standards would be reduced to levels of 1800s.**
- All economic gains of industrial revolution & later would be nullified.
- **Instead of people enjoying living standards of the 2050s, they would have to endure living standards of the 1850s.**
- Average **world per capita GDP would be reduced to levels currently < those of the most impoverished nations**, such as Bangladesh, Haiti, North Korea, and Yemen.
- These are the **real implications** of “reducing GHGs to 80-95% < 1990 levels by 2050.”
- They are so **draconian** as to be infeasible and impossible, and are truly **ludicrous**.
- **THIS CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN.**

# **REPORT AVAILABLE**

## **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF UN PARIS 2015 GLOBAL GHG REDUCTION MANDATES**

Management Information Services, Inc.

2015