

IPCC: integrity intact, onto the Fifth Assessment

Scientists at the University of East Anglia (UEA) have emerged from the latest ‘Climategate’ inquiry with their reputations intact.

The Independent Climate Change Email Review in the United Kingdom, led by Sir Muir Russell, a former top civil servant, concluded in its report in July that ‘the rigour and honesty’ of the UEA scientists ‘was not in doubt’ and that there was no evidence ‘that might undermine the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessments’.

There also was nothing found in the leaked university emails to undermine the reports of the world’s leading climate change science research bodies or the IPCC.

A report by the Netherlands Environment Agency released a few days earlier also found the IPCC was ‘robust’, and that the handful of mistakes did not alter the conclusions that modern climate change is occurring and is caused in large part by human actions.

Work is now underway on the Fifth Assessment report by the IPCC (<http://ipcc.ch>). More than 800 experts have been selected to lead work on the report, which will take almost four years and is due to be published between 2013 and 2014. Thirty-seven Australian scientists, including eight from CSIRO, will be contributing.

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