

EARTH REGENERATION SOCIETY, INC.

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P R E S S R E L E A S E For Immediate Release 11-19-87

AFL-CIO ACTION ON CLIMATE, FOOD AND JOBS

The AFL-CIO at its Seventeenth Convention, October 26-29, 1987, Miami, Florida, passed Resolution No. 18 on the Environment, which includes: "...The following measures are needed to provide a safe and healthy environment: ... Constructive efforts in the areas of reforestation, energy conservation, soil remineralization and alternative energy technology development to address problems related to climate, food and energy and to create new areas of employment."

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Alden Bryant, an observer at this Convention, stated: "The door is now opened by the AFL-CIO to proceed with a program for earth regeneration. We can initiate and support attempts to re-establish a stable climate and protect our food supply, and our way of life in general, from growing climate extremes. The next 10 to 15 years are critical." Bryant is President of the Earth Regeneration Society, Inc. (ERS) as well as a member of the Peralta Federation of Teachers, Local 1603, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, and delegate to the Alameda County Central Labor Council (California). The Council was the originator of the resolution.

The AFL-CIO resolution contains the elements of an earth regeneration program. An earth regeneration program is a counter program to reverse the effects of increasing carbon dioxide on climate, and its relation to glacial cycles.

The ERS is a nationally based organization dealing with the effects of carbon dioxide in the environment. The Society is available for further information.

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CLOUD COVER AND COOLING IN HIGHER LATITUDES

Four leading German scientists published a study in the September 10, 1987, issue of Nature magazine citing evidence that the effects of carbon dioxide on cloud cover in the atmosphere may in fact cool the atmosphere and not create the overall warming as has been discussed by most groups during the last ten years.

The authors are E. Roeckner and U. Schlese of the Meteorological Institute, University of Hamburg, and J. Biercamp and P. Loewe of the Max-Planck Meteorological Institute also located in Hamburg.

The Editor of Nature summarizes: "With increasing CO₂ concentrations the cooling effects of cloud optical properties will dominate over the greenhouse effect." The authors conclude in their article: "In the global and annual mean the net cloud effect is a cooling of the planet because the albedo effect (54 watts per square meter) dominates over the greenhouse effect (31 W/sq.m.) by 23 W/sq.m." They further state that: "A feedback analysis of the simulated climate change supports earlier suggestions of the importance of cloud optical depth feedbacks. The net effect of clouds is to provide a negative feedback on surface temperature, rather than the positive feedback found in earlier general circulation model studies without considering cloud optical depth feedbacks."

The implication of this work is that the world's computer models on climate will be significantly altered. Most but not all of these models currently project a worldwide warming from the greenhouse effect and present only a limited analysis of increased cloud cover, snow, and ice — the albedo factors (reflecting heat away from the earth).

The Earth Regeneration Society (ERS), based in the U.S., is involved in national and international efforts to develop counter programs for CO₂ reduction and climate stabilization, and is available for further background information. ERS is concerned that computer models, relating to climate, do not yet have the extent and condition of the world's forests or the mineral content of the soil that supports the forests, as this effects the CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere.