Subject: Re: Global Warming: Katrina, Rita, Wilma: Whats next? Posted by rm5248 on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 02:37:33 GMT

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So anyways I don't really feel like looking through 2 pages of posts here, but I just saw this program on PBS about global warming. Here's some important data that I found out:

- 1. The 1 degree F rise in world temperature (in the past 50 years I think) has had a big impact on the world. Dry places are getting drier (midwest US). Summers are getting hotter. This leads to many people dieing. (Think summer '03 Europe. Many people died from heat stroke.)
- 2. There's so much solar energy from the sun, that every day, we get enough solar power to supply the power needs for the entire planet for several years.
- 3. In some town in Conneticut, the entire cost for their recycling center's electricity bill is \$7 a month. They get their electricity from Methane from an old dump nearby. (\$7 a month is probably the cost of sending the bill out to be paid.)
- 4. This wasn't actually in the video, but in Alaska, houses in the southren part of the state have had to be moved because the permafrost that their foundation is on is actually melting, making the houses unstable.
- 5. Also, winters in Alaska are getting shorter. The snow is coming later and going earlier.
- 6. Glaciers in the Alps are dissapearing at the rate of 30 to 40 meters a year... 2x what they dissapeared at less then 200 years ago.
- 7. The Earth's climate can change very quickly. A rise in ocean levels could drastically change the climate to freezing cold or burning hot in under 10 years. That's not a long period of time.

My opinion: even if this is a natural cycle, we're not going to hurt it by polluting less.

Linky: http://www.shoppbs.org/product/index.jsp?productId=2121561