

Obama's Climate Action Plan will add to more tyranny

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by [Randy Bright](#)



Randy Bright

Last week I wrote in general terms regarding The President's Climate Action Plan (TPCAP), Obama's newly released plan to battle climate change. Now I would like to speak more to specifics about what is included in the plan.

TPCAP begins with a statement from Obama's second inaugural address this year: "We, the people, still believe that our obligations as Americans are not just to ourselves, but to all posterity. We will respond to the threat of climate change, knowing that the failure to do so would betray our children and future generations. Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires and crippling drought and more powerful storms. The path towards sustainable energy sources will be long and sometimes difficult. But America cannot resist the transition, we must lead it. We cannot cede to other nations the technology that will power new jobs and new industries, we must claim its promise. That's how we will maintain our economic vitality and our national treasure – our forests and waterways, our croplands and snow-capped peaks. That is how we will preserve our planet, commanded to our care by God. That's what will lend meaning to the creed our fathers once declared."

Let's start with "We, the people" – which is an obvious reference to the Declaration of Independence. The Declaration of Independence was not just a statement proclaiming that we were no longer a subject of the king, but a list of grievances explaining why our forefathers sought to free themselves from the tyranny of the crown. TPCAP will create more tyranny in the form of more onerous and unnecessary regulations, all to free us from a fictional tyrant, climate change.

Responding to the "threat of climate change" implies that climate change is our enemy, when in fact we know that climate change is a natural, ongoing condition of the planet; it has nothing to do with human activity.

Failing to respond to this imagined enemy is described as a betrayal to "our children and future generations", and with TPCAP, what is next? Will those who deny that climate change is man-

made be declared to be traitors, just as the king declared our forefathers to be traitors to the crown when they would no longer accept the tyranny of the king?

Obama points to those who deny the “overwhelming judgment of science” as those who refuse to believe that “raging fires and crippling drought and more powerful storms” are a reality. In reality, forest fires are a natural event that can actually benefit the ecosystem, but the over-management of government has set the stage for devastating fires by preventing natural or controlled fires.

Droughts have always been with us, from the droughts of Old Testament times to the Dust Bowl, and “more powerful storms” only seem more powerful because there are more densely populated areas for them to hit.

When the tornado hit the city of Moore, Oklahoma, several months ago, there was also a tornado that hit a rural area of Oklahoma north of Tulsa – yet which one got the attention? Was it really more powerful than those that have hit our country before the time that tornados have been measured and recorded, or do some scientists – through government contracts – conveniently estimate those as smaller than the ones we have now?

Obama states that for the economic vitality of the nation, we must lead the sustainability movement (defined according to progressive philosophy) through our “national treasure – our forests and waterways, our croplands and snow-capped peaks.”

The implication here is that these assets belong to the country, not to individuals. Look for future regulations that further erode property rights for the benefit of the world, and look at the next statement, “that is how we will preserve our planet.” This is made out to be an edict of God, as he says that we must do so because it is “commanded to our care by God” That is hardly what God meant when he told Adam to “subdue” or “govern” the earth.

I agree that we must all play a part in managing the health of the earth, but one of the very best ways to do so is through personal property rights, not by ceding control of all property to the government.

This document says nothing about personal property rights, or about liberty, or about personal freedoms, only that “we” (meaning the government) must solve all of these ills, imagined or not.

More on TPCAP next week.

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Randy W. Bright, AIA, NCARB, is an architect who specializes in church and church-related projects. You may contact him at 918-582-3972, rwbrightchurcharch@sbcglobal.net or www.churcharchitect.net.

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