

## Letter to the Editor, The Australian (unpublished)

(October 17, 2014)

Dear Editor,

In a speech to the National Press Club in December, 2013, Board chairman James Spigelman announced the implementation of four ABC audits a year, aimed at considering the impartiality of reporting on contentious public issues, and to be conducted by non-ABC employees.

A little over 6 months later, the ABC science programme, *Catalyst*, has just aired its first ever program that questions, albeit in a rather gentle and unfocused manner, the orthodox doctrine of dangerous global warming. Of course, only a cynic could suspect that this new-found attempt at balance might be related to the likely impending audit of ABC's environmental coverage.

Nonetheless, and while welcoming what is clearly a long-overdue ABC step in the right direction, one must despair at the lack of rigour of the programme producers in their choice of language. For global warming did not, as they claimed, pause in 1997; instead, it stopped - and that despite continuing strong increases awhile in human-related carbon dioxide emissions.

Yours etc.

Professor Bob Carter