|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **Bob Carter <glrmc42@gmail.com>** | |  |  |  |
| |  | | --- | | To: Letters at The Press (published in truncated form, Dec. 4)  Dear Editor,  The new report by Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Jan Wright, claims that New Zealand is likely to experience a sea-level rise of 30 cm by 2050, a presumed rate of rise of 8.3 mm/yr.  In contrast the Auckland tide gauge record, one of the longest and most accurate in the world, indicates an average rate of long-term rise of just 1.5 mm/yr between 1899 and 2009, which is over 5 times less than the Commissioner's estimate. Furthermore, the average rate of rise in the Tasman Ocean region has now been decelerating since about 1950, in complete contrast to the UN IPCC's predictions of accelerated rise.  Dr Wright's exaggerated calculations appear to be based upon the experimental estimates of sea-level change that are provided by satellite altimetry. NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which launches the satellite platforms, views these estimates as containing errors larger than the sea-level signal being claimed. Consequently, NASA proposes to spend more than US$100 million on launching a new GRASP satellite to rectify the matter as soon as possible.  It is surely significant that, informed of these facts, the Shoalhaven Shire Council in NSW has recently determined to use only their nearest long tide gauge record (from Sydney harbour) to set future planning policy, meanwhile specifically ruling out the use of satellite or model-generated sea-level estimates unless and until such estimates can be shown to be accurate.  Yours etc.  Bob Carter  https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/images/cleardot.gif | | | |