



Dr. Ben Santer  
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

27 March 2017

Dear Dr. Santer,

As co-authors of the Fyfe *et al.* Commentary published in 2016 in *Nature Climate Change* we thank you for your letter clarifying what our Commentary actually says and does not say. We are in full agreement with your scientific characterization of our Commentary and how it pertains to the Karl *et al.* paper published in 2015 in *Science Magazine*.

As you correctly point out our Commentary reiterates that the rate of global surface temperature increase in the early-2000s was slower than during the latter part of the twentieth century. Our Commentary does not say that the recent correction to observations of surface temperature has led to disagreement over whether the human influence on climate change is real or ongoing. Nor does it say that that human-caused global warming has stopped, paused, or even slowed.

It is well understood that human influence has been the dominant cause of observed warming since the mid-20th century, and that future increases in greenhouse gases will lead to further warming. Nothing in our Commentary contradicts this understanding.

Sincerely,

For Drs. John C. Fyfe, Gregory M. Flato, Nathan P. Gillett and Neil C. Swart.  
The Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis, Environment and  
Climate Change Canada