CLIMATE ALARMISM CHALLENGED IN NEW ZEALAND

A dispute about evidence for climate alarmism has created a rift among scientists in New Zealand that threatens to undermine the integrity of the country's premier scientific institution, the Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ).

RSNZ had published reports, including *Climate Change Implications for NZ*, the *Transition to a Low Carbon Economy* and, most recently, the *Human Health Impacts of Climate Change for NZ*, all stating that human emissions are causing dangerous global warming. The Society was challenged by a group of members of the NZ Climate Science Coalition (NZCSC) to cite any accessible authorities for its strong attribution claims, reports Terry Dunleavy MBE, honorary secretary of NZCSC.

'The RSNZ first adverted to some incorrect sources and then, after several unsatisfactory exchanges, told NZCSC to 'find the evidence yourself' in the published IPCC reports. When NZCSC replied that the evidence was not to be found in those reports, the Society stopped talking to us.

"The offhand reference to IPCC publications was clearly a non-answer. Many members of NZCSC are also members of the RSNZ – scientists, engineers, scholars and friends of the Society. Our people have studied climate science for many years, and are amply familiar with IPCC reports – we know what they say and don't say about the detection and attribution of radiative forcing," says Dunleavy. "Eventually, we laid a formal complaint against the CEO for breaches of the Society's Code of Ethics."

In due course, RSNZ dismissed the complaint as "insufficiently grave", with its Committee stating resignedly that "contention on all aspects of climate change, including its existence and causes, is notorious." NZCSC contested the dismissal but was told that the decision stood, and was final.

"The letter dismissing our appeal quoted the elected President of RSNZ as supporting the stance of the appointed CEO, so we are now taking to the Council of RSNZ a complaint against the President for his breach of the Society's Code of Ethics, "Dunleavy concluded.