

Antelope Valley Press

Letters from readers, July 26, 2021

Guy Marsh

July 26, 2021

In his “Magical thinking,” Ray Freeman quoted noted oil capitalist shill MIT meteorologist Richard Lindzen. Unfortunately, reproducing Lindzen’s statement would lend it the recognition it doesn’t deserve, so I haven’t.

However, I will say that Lindzen is a conman who has sullied his scientific credentials toward the service of capitalist interests for several decades. During the 1970s, he was a paid tobacco danger denier who said that the connection between cigarette smoking and cancer was “weak.”

Later, while accepting monies from the Cato Institute, Koch Industries, and Exxon-Mobil, Lindzen began making fallacious claims concerning the climate catastrophe, all of which have been debunked.

And 22 of his fellow professors from MIT wrote to Trump to say that climate change presents a perilous danger to humankind, thereby repudiating Lindzen’s paid claim to the contrary.

But let us suppose that Richard Lindzen is correct; that climate change has nothing to do with burning fossil fuels. Still, why would those who deny climate-change science not want to eliminate fossil fuels for no other reason than being highly centralized and expensive?

Why would such individuals not want to see the development of a carbon-free economy where everyone could power their homes and automobiles via rooftop solar? My wife and I do just that, and it is incredibly liberating, leaving us with more money with which to enjoy our lives.

Why would climate catastrophe deniers not want to live in a world with much less environmental pollution? Irrespective of whether fossil fuels are causing climate change, no one can logically deny that air and water pollution are harmful.

Either way, oil capitalists and their paid contrarians aren’t our friends. So, at the very least, let’s not allow them to continue to pick our pockets and poison our life support system.