

The segment used all the well-worn tactics from the alarmist guidebook—warning of heat waves, wildfires, droughts, melting glaciers, mass extinctions unless mankind put itself on a starvation energy diet and taxed emissions.

But that is no surprise—Blakemore was already on the record that there was no scientific debate about man-made catastrophic global warming.

You have to be a pretty poor investigator to believe that. Why would 60 prominent scientists this last spring have written Canadian Prime Minister Harper that “if, back in the mid-1990s, we knew what we know today about climate, Kyoto would almost certainly not exist, because we would have concluded it was not necessary.”

I believe it is these kinds of stories which explain why the American public is growing increasingly skeptical of the hype. Despite the enormous 2006 media campaign to instill fear into the public, the number of people who believe that weather naturally changes is increasing.

A Los Angeles Times/Bloomberg poll in August found that most Americans do not attribute the cause of recent severe weather events to global warming, and the portion of Americans who believe that climate change is due to natural variability has increased over 50 percent in the last 5 years. And that, my fellow Senators, is why the Hollywood elitists and the rest of the liberal climate alarmists are starting to panic.

I hope my other colleagues will join me on the floor and start speaking out to debunk hysteria surrounding global warming. This issue is too important to our generation and future generations to allow distortions and media propaganda to derail the economic health of our Nation.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I would like to discuss the urgent need for this legislation. The Nation’s wastewater treatment works—POTWs—provide a vital service to our Nation. They ensure that municipal and industrial waste is cleaned to a level safe enough to be released back into the Nation’s waterways.

After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, much more focus was placed on the Nation’s water and wastewater facilities. POTWs not only release treated effluent into the Nation’s waters but also consist of miles of pipes that run underground and are often large enough for someone to stand in. They are literally underground roadways.

In the 107th Congress, the House of Representatives passed by voice vote legislation—H.R. 5169—to provide POTWs with the resources they needed to conduct vulnerability assessments and secure their facilities. The bill, H.R. 866, was again introduced in the 108th Congress and passed by a vote of 413-2, with every Democrat who voted supporting the bill. I was pleased to in-

troduce the companion to this legislation, S. 1039 with my colleague and then subcommittee Chairman, MIKE CRAPO. Last year, despite reporting the bill on a bipartisan vote of 13 to 6, members of the Senate minority objected to Senate consideration of S. 1039.

S. 2781 is a variation of S. 1039 with some important improvements, like the addition of site security plans and a more streamlined grantmaking progress. Senator LINCOLN CHAFEE, chairman of the Fisheries, Wildlife and Water Subcommittee and Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, a distinguished member of the EPW Committee joined me in sponsoring S. 2781.

Our bill passed the EPW Committee on a voice vote. Unfortunately, once again, my colleague from Vermont has objected to consideration of wastewater security legislation by the full Senate.

My colleagues in the minority argue that my bill is insufficient because it does not impose on POTW’s unfunded federal mandates and because it does not assume that local officials are ignoring the security of their facilities.

POTWs are arms of local government. They are largely owned and operated by the Nation’s cities and towns. In 1995 Congress passed the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act in which we pledged not to impose costly regulatory burdens on our partners in local government. Just as it is our obligation as U.S. Senators to serve the public good, preserve the public trust and protect the citizenry, so it is the obligation of locally elected, appointed and employed officials.

Why do so many of my colleagues assume that we at the Federal level care more about the citizens of the Nation’s towns than the locally elected officials do? Why do so many of them assume that they know more about how to evacuate citizens, secure local treatment plants and protect local citizens than the very people who live in those towns whose jobs it is to protect them?

S. 2781 would simply provide towns with resources to conduct vulnerability assessments and to secure their facilities. It provides funds to research the means to secure the collection systems that are made up of the miles of underground pipes. There are logistical and financial problems with trying to secure these systems that need to be addressed, particularly before imposing an unfunded Federal mandate on the Nation’s towns. My bill would support the already ongoing activities of many of the national wastewater associations and the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, to develop assessment tools and industry security standards as well as conduct security trainings. The national water associations make up the Security Coordinating Council and regularly meet with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency charged with overseeing security at POTWs. The SCC and EPA are developing a sector security plan

to, among other things, establish measures of security improvements.

My colleagues will argue that this is not enough. Local governments cannot be trusted to proceed on their own with a little Federal guidance because to date, they really have not done anything to secure their facilities. However, one need look no further than a March 2006 GAO report to see how much in fact they are doing. According to GAO, 74 percent of the largest 206 treatment works had completed or were in the process of completing a vulnerability assessment. Further, the majority of treatment works had made significant improvements to the physical security of their facility. They did so after careful review of their individual communities’ needs. Most importantly, they have done so out of concern for their citizens, not in response to a Federal mandate.

My colleagues will also turn this discussion not into one about security but one about chlorine. Chlorine is by far the most effective disinfectant available and it is the least expensive. During these times of aging systems, growing Federal regulations and limited resources, cost is an important consideration. Washington, DC’s treatment works, Blue Plains, spent \$12.5 million to change technologies. San Jose, CA, spent \$5 million to switch from gaseous chlorine to sodium hypochlorite. The city of Wilmington, DE, spent \$160,000 to switch. However, there is much more to their story than that cost figure. Wilmington already had in place a sodium hypochlorite system that was serving as backup to its gaseous chlorine system. Further, Wilmington will spend hundreds of thousands of dollars more each year in operations and maintenance costs.

There are other considerations that must be factored in as well, such as downstream effects of a chlorine alternative. For example, the switch from chlorine to chloramines in Washington, DC’s drinking water system was found to cause lead to leach out of service pipes and into the faucets of homes and businesses. Thus, decisions about chlorine must be fully evaluated and must be site-specific. Many POTWs are already undergoing these evaluations. After careful review of cost, technical feasibility and safety considerations, and without the presence of a Federal mandate on technology, 116 of the 206 largest POTWs do not use gaseous chlorine: According to the GAO report, another 20 plan to switch to a technology other than chlorine. To sum, nearly two-thirds of the Nation’s largest POTWs are not using or will soon stop using chlorine. Those who continue to use chlorine have taken steps to ensure the chlorine is secure. My bill would provide POTWs who decide for themselves to switch treatment technologies with grant money to make the switch. However, my bill maintains trust in local officials who know best their water, the community and their security needs.

Let me be clear. This is an important security bill and I regret that for the second Congress in a row my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are obstructing it. Members of the minority have criticized the chemical security legislation for not covering these facilities. This legislation has basically passed the House of Representatives twice. The minority party in the Senate is blocking this important security bill.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN JOEL T. BROYHILL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Virginian, and dear friend, the former 10th District Congressman, Joel T. Broyhill, who died this past weekend.

Congressman Broyhill was an outstanding public servant. He had a certain "joie de vivre" that one does not often find—his presence, his spirit would fill up a whole room. His sense of civic responsibility—both through his service in the U.S. Army and as the Representative to Congress from Virginia's 10th District—was second to none. And his devotion to his three daughters, stepdaughter, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren was unmatched; they were the joys of his life.

A native of Hopewell, VA, Congressman Broyhill was born on November 14, 1919. He attended Fork Union Military Academy and George Washington University.

In 1942, he enlisted in the Army. He served as an officer in the European Theater in the 106th Infantry Division and was taken prisoner in the Battle of the Bulge. After 6 months in German prison camps, he escaped and rejoined the advancing American forces. On November 1, 1945, after 4 years of service, Congressman Broyhill was released from active duty as a captain.

In 1952, at the age of 33, Broyhill was elected as a Republican from Virginia's newly created 10th District to the 83d Congress, by 322 votes. Congressman Broyhill was reelected 10 times, serving 21 years in Congress, until December 1974.

Congressman Broyhill's prime source of political success was his dedication to constituent service. At the time of Congressman Broyhill's tenure in Congress, the 10th District contained more Federal employees than any other district in the United States. In 1972, Congressman Broyhill estimated that he had aided more than 100,000 district residents during his 20-plus years in office.

According to the 1974 Almanac of American Politics:

[t]here are few congressional offices in which the demand for services is so high, given the number of Federal employees in Broyhill's district; and there are few indeed that take care of constituents' needs and complaints with more efficiency.

The 10th District of Virginia was shaped and forever changed by Con-

gressman Broyhill's initiatives in Congress. He laid the foundation for major transportation projects, including the construction of Interstate 66, the Metrorail System, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, and Washington Dulles International Airport.

The Almanac also describes Congressman Broyhill as one who "should be credited with voting his conscience."

Even after he left Congress, Congressman Broyhill continued serving constituents by maintaining an office to assist those with problems relating to the federal government. In fact, my Senate office would receive a call about once a month from the "Broyhill Office" asking us to follow up on a constituent inquiry.

In 1978, I was honored and proud to have my longtime friend come out of retirement to serve as General Chairman of my U.S. Senate campaign. It was great to see him back on the political stage in Virginia. Congressman Broyhill's knowledge of the Commonwealth and of campaign strategy were invaluable to me as he introduced a most interesting couple to the political scene. Congressman Broyhill helped me to convince my wife at the time, Elizabeth Taylor, that being a candidate's spouse was the best role she could play. Many times he accompanied Elizabeth to campaign events when I was unable to attend. He was an exemplary ambassador for my 1978 campaign.

Congressman Broyhill's "house by the side of the road" in Arlington was never without yard signs during any election. As one of the first Republicans elected in Virginia, he was a trailblazer and he helped every Republican member of the Virginia congressional delegation—including its two current U.S. Senators—to be elected under the Republican banner.

Congressman Broyhill was instrumental in building his father's real estate business, M.T. Broyhill & Sons. The company was started in Hopewell, and the family later relocated to northern Virginia when Congressman Broyhill was growing up.

Congressman Broyhill and his wife Suzy were stalwarts of charitable giving and have given both their time and resources to many organizations across the Commonwealth, and notably, to the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

It is with a great sense of humility that we pay tribute today to the life of our dear friend and dedicated public servant, Congressman Joel T. Broyhill. We offer our condolences to his three daughters, Nancy, Jeanne and Jane Anne, his stepdaughter, Kimi, and his wife of 25 years, Suzy. He also has four grandchildren: Meredith, Maureen, Lindsay, and Kathleen, and three great-grandchildren: Molly, Jack, and Kara.

THAILAND

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I remain deeply troubled by the military

coup that occurred in Thailand on September 19. The forceful removal of Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra was an assault on the democratic institutions of that country and is a dangerous development for a key ally in an increasingly important region. Now, almost 2 weeks after the coup, it is apparent that the coup leaders had only a tentative plan for transitioning back to democratic rule and that their rhetoric about restoring democracy to Thailand may not be as sincere as some had hoped. As the military junta fumbles through its next steps, it is critical that the United States show strong leadership in helping this critical ally reinstitute a civilian democratic government and that it do so immediately.

Mr. President, this coup is particularly troubling because it is a step backward from almost a decade of relatively positive democratic developments. During Thailand's last coup in February 1991, the military overthrew Prime Minister Chatchai Choonhavan and a bloody power transfer followed, culminating in what Thais call "Black May." Those events kicked off a national dialogue that resulted in the establishment of a new constitution in 1997 that restored authority to civilian democratic institutions, ultimately ushering in democratic elections in 2001 and 2005. Thaksin's party, Thai Rak Thai—"Thais love Thai"—won both of those elections in landslide victories.

This recent coup rolls back these developments. There is no doubt that Thailand was suffering from extreme political divisiveness during Thaksin's tenure. When I met with him in Bangkok earlier this year, he was in the throes of a political battle against a growing opposition movement. He was also under fire for mishandling the insurgency in Thailand's three southernmost provinces in which 1,700 people have been killed since January 2004. It was evident that his ability to effectively manage the Thai Government had been diminished.

But this hardly provides justification for a military junta to overthrow a popularly elected government and to discard the nation's constitution. This new military junta, led by General Sonthi Boonyaratglin, and awkwardly self-titled the "Council for Democratic Reform Under Constitutional Monarchy", is deeply troubling.

This coup is a significant setback for Thailand's democracy. While the coup occurred in a matter of hours, it may take years before a new civilian and democratic government restores full authority and legitimacy in Bangkok. Unfortunately, this new military council has banned political gatherings and has put some restrictions on the media. It has disseminated a wide range of other decrees and rules, many of which have troubling consequences for freedom of expression and the democratic process. Given these early signs, we have no reason to believe that this council will be any different in nature