

Unsettled



WHAT CLIMATE SCIENCE
TELLS US, WHAT IT DOESN'T,
AND WHY IT MATTERS

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**“Surging sea levels are
inundating the coasts.”**

**“Hurricanes and tornadoes are
becoming fiercer and more frequent.”**

**“Climate change will be
an economic disaster.”**

**You’ve heard all this presented as fact.
But according to science, all these
statements are profoundly misleading.**

When it comes to climate change, the media, politicians, and other prominent voices have declared that “the science is settled.” In reality, core questions—about the way the climate is responding to our influence and what the impacts will be—remain largely unanswered. The climate is changing, but the why and how aren’t as clear as you’ve probably been led to believe.

Now, in *Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn’t, and Why It Matters*, Steven E. Koonin draws upon his decades of experience—including as a top science adviser to the Obama administration—to provide up-to-date insights and expert perspective free from political agendas.

Koonin takes readers behind the headlines to the more nuanced science itself, dispelling popular myths and unveiling little-known truths: despite a dramatic rise in greenhouse gas emissions, global temperatures actually *decreased* from 1940 to 1970. What’s more, the models we use to predict the future aren’t able to accurately describe the climate of the past, suggesting they are deeply flawed.

Unsettled is a reality check buoyed by hope, offering the truth about climate science that you aren’t getting elsewhere—what we know, what we don’t, and what it all means for our future.



DR. STEVEN E. KOONIN is a leader in science policy in the United States. He served as Undersecretary for Science in the U.S. Department of Energy under President Obama, where he was the lead author of the department’s strategic plan and the inaugural Quadrennial Technology Review (2011). With more than 200 peer-reviewed papers in the fields of physics and astrophysics, scientific computation, energy technology and policy, and climate science, Dr. Koonin was a professor of theoretical physics at Caltech, also serving as Caltech’s vice president and provost for almost a decade. He is currently a university professor at New York University, with appointments in the Stern School of Business, the Tandon School of Engineering, and the Department of Physics. Dr. Koonin’s memberships include the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the JASON group of scientists who solve technical problems for the U.S. government. Since 2014, he has been a trustee of the Institute for Defense Analyses, and he chaired the National Academies’ Divisional Committee for Engineering and Physical Sciences from 2014–2019. He is currently an independent governor of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and has served in similar roles for the Los Alamos, Sandia, Brookhaven, and Argonne National Laboratories.



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