

Comment on the World Climate Declaration 2022

Extract with comments about the UK earth scientists who have signed it
By
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V1.1 26 August 2022

Summary: Some geologists claim expertise in current climate issues simply because they may have expertise in the past geological evolution of the climate. None of the 67 valid UK signatories to the 'Declaration' has any climatological expertise. Nearly half of the UK signatories claim geological expertise. Twenty-seven have current or former employment by, or financial links to, the fossil fuel industry, but 19 have failed to mention this fact. Five of these 19 state that they are a 'Fellow of the Geological Society of London'. But becoming a 'Fellow' is simply a matter of proving you have a basic qualification in the earth sciences or similar field of study, and of paying the annual fees.

LIST OF 67 VALID SIGNATORIES*: SCIENTISTS AND PROFESSIONALS FROM UK (2022)
<https://clintel.org/united-kingdom-wcd/>. List accessed 26 August 2022.

Key:

Fossil fuel interest declared (8)

Fossil fuel link undeclared (19)

Geological expertise, no fossil fuel link, but no direct relevance to climate change (4*)

Signatories with no apparent geological or climate expertise are shown in small print (38)

*One signatory is deceased, another is an Australian resident. I have therefore invalidated these two.

The WCD affiliation is given in **bold** where there are subsequent comments.

1. Christopher The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, Peer of the Realm and Author of several reviewed papers on Climate; WCD Ambassador

2. Neils C. Arveschoug, Geophysicist, Private start-up Oil E&P Company

3. Andrew P. Barker, Biological Chemist

4. Paul Binns, Former Research Geoscientist and Climate Researcher

Paul Edward Binns. Geologist, PhD, Edinburgh Uni 1975.

Linkedin shows: BGS 1969-75, then various posts with Shell till 2001. 2001-present: freelance director/consultant, not specified. Lists one influencer – Ben van Beurden, CEO of Shell.

5. David Bodecott, Geologist/Geophysicist, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

Co-author of a research article in *The Leading Edge* (magazine of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (USA), 2007. Affiliation given as Rockhopper Exploration Plc, Salisbury, England

6. D.Q. Bowen, Emeritus Professor of Earth and Ocean Sciences, Fellow International Union for Quaternary Research, Cardiff University

[deceased 5 October 2020] <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/research-and-teaching/departments-and-schools/geography/news/1985-1988-professor-dq-bowen/>

7. Michael Brown, Expert in Large Scale Thermal Fluid Dynamic Models

8. Brian R. Catt, Physicist, Electrical Engineer, Retired, publishing papers on Energy and Climate Change

9. John C.W. Cope, Professor of Geology, National Museum Wales, Cardiff

Expertise: palaeontology, stratigraphy.

10. Richard Courtney, Retired Material Scientist, Expert Peer Reviewer of the IPCC

11. Peter Cunningham, Expert in Mathematical Modelling of Complex Physical Phenomena

12. Isabel Davies, Geophysicist and Entrepreneur

Director of Reach Oil & Gas. See for example:

<https://www.scotsman.com/business/ps30m-oil-deal-husband-and-wife-1670085>

13. Dr Philip George Davies, Principal Lecturer in the Department of Computing and Informatics at Bournemouth University

14. John Dewey, Emeritus Professor of Geology at the University College Oxford, Distinguished Emeritus Professor University of California, Member of the US National Academy of Sciences, Fellow of the Royal Society

Distinguished research in regional and structural geology, plate tectonics

15. Howard Dewhurst FGS, Geologist, Initiator Open Letter to the Geological Society of London

Director of Petroalbyn PL, Queensland, Australia (LinkedIn)

16. Gregor Dixon FGS, Geologist, Former Member Geological Society of London.

Director of 70 COMERAGH ROAD, LONDON, W14 LIMITED (Companies House).

Named as "team member" in paper published by Unocal Corporation (US oil company) authors in 2003.

17. Roderick Paul Eaton, MBA FIET MCMI, Retired Consultant Energy Industry Analyst/ Management Consultant

18. Debra Eddy, Entrepreneur and Guest Lecturer in Business Management

19. Dr Andrew Edmonds, data scientist with a strong background in AI, past CTO of a publicly traded US tech company, currently CEO of a private US company, ThinkBase LLC

20. Peter Etherington-Smith, Geologist/Oceanographer, Coral Reef Researcher, MSc Petroleum Engineering (Imperial), life-time international experience in developing countries, retired from BG

21. Gil Gilchrist, Geophysicist

Co-author of 2010 article in *J Geol Soc*; affiliation - Statoil UK Ltd

22. Alan Gill, Retired Engineer in South Wales

23. Peter Gill, Physicist, Ex Chair Institute of Physics Energy Group, Ex London Branch Chair & Fellow of EI

Director of Crestport Services Ltd, offering "*consultancy and management support services ... particularly within the energy and energy intensive industries worldwide*", and says that it has worked with "*oil and gas production companies including Shell, British Gas, and Petroleum Development Oman*".

(<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2010/mar/05/climate-emails-institute-of-physics-submission>)

24. Delphine Gray-Fisk, Former airline pilot, and parliamentary candidate for both the UK Independence Party and Brexit Party

25. Mick Greenway, specialized in Research and Development of Flight Control Systems for Modern Civil and Military Aircraft, Retired Head of Research and Development within a Multi-Million-Dollar Company

26. Brian Gregory, MA. in Natural Sciences, MSc. in Business Studies, Lifetime Career in the UK Chemical Industry, currently Policy Director of the Alliance of British Drivers

27. Jimmy Haigh, Independent Geological Consultant

LinkedIn – wellsite geologist (i.e. for the oil industry)

28. Tim Harper, Geomechanics Consultant and Researcher, previous Recipient of the Royal Academy of Engineering MacRobert Award for Engineering Innovation

“Tim Harper is a founder of Geosphere Ltd. which provides geomechanical services, mainly to the oil & gas industry.” (LinkedIn page now unavailable). Several published papers on hydraulic fracturing of shale reservoirs (<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Tim-Harper>)

29. John Harrison, Former Chartered Physicist and Chartered Engineer

30. Peter Harvey, Project Manager – Renewable offshore wind industry

31. Robert Heath, Retired Geophysicist, Honorary member of the Indian Society of Petroleum Geologists

32. Alex Henney, Formerly London Electricity Board, Consultant on Electricity Matters

33. Roger Higgs, DPhil (Oxon), Independent Geological Consultant, Geoclastica Ltd.

<http://www.geoclastica.com/>

consulting to: assess economic viability of oil/gas fields and basins; reduce exploration risk. Also consulting on climate and sea-level change.

34. Keith H. James PhD, Consultant Geologist

Author of paper published in 2000 in *J Petrol Geol* on Venezuelan hydrocarbons, also *Oil & Gas Journal* paper, 2011, on deepwater exploration.

35. David A.L. Jenkins, Geologist, Director Hurricane Energy plc

36. Dr. Chris Jesshope, Emeritus Professor University of Amsterdam, Director Techne Consulting Ltd.

37. David Jessop C.Eng., M.I.C.E., lifetime career in the water industry

38. Geoffrey W. Lane, retired Marine Engineer and Technical Author

39. Roger Longstaff, Experimental Space Physicist and Company Director

40. CJ Matchatte-Downes, Geologist and Geochemist, particularly involved in studies about past Climates including Glaciation

A 2019 version of the WCD list stated: “Chris Matchatte-Downes, Geologist, fellow of the geological Society of Gt Britain [sic]”. LinkedIn states:

“Twenty five years geoscience experience, including five years at the wellsite
Twenty fiev [sic] year’s global E&P technical business development”

Director of MDOil (<https://www.mdoil.co.uk/>); goal: “To seek sustainable helium, hydrogen and hydrocarbons during the transition.”

41. Krov Menuhin, Expert on ocean life, underwater filmmaker, professional diver, pilot and writer, explored the Earth’s extremities, experiencing the oceans and the atmosphere first-hand

42. Philip Mulholland, Geoscientist, Life time experience in the Geo-Energy Industry, coauthor of the DAET climate model

43. Stuart Munro, Exploration Geologist and Geophysicist

<https://www.facebook.com/stuart.munro.52> :

Formerly worked at Maersk Oil, former exploration manager at SOCO International (oil & gas company)

44. Edward Nealon, Geologist Member of the Australian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy

Companies House: British national, but Australian resident. Non-exec chairman of URA Holdings PLC. No apparent links to fossil fuel exploration.

45. Blair Nimmo, Electronic Engineer, working in Computer Networking and Optical Surface Metrology and Fibre Optics

46. Michael John Oates, Geologist, Lifetime Experience in the Geo-Energy Industry, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

47. Peter Owen FGS, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

*“Oxford University geology graduate (1967) and worked as a geophysicist, until 2004” (Geoscientist, winter 2021) [Direct fossil fuel links unproven, but was thanked for discussions on a 2009 *Petroleum Geoscience* paper about the southern North Sea by John Underhill, Edinburgh University]*

48. Dennis Paterson, Geologist, Retired

<https://www.investegate.co.uk/roc-oil-company-ltd--roc-/rns/notice-of-change-of-directors/200703260701426675T/> :

Director, Roc Oil Company Ltd

<https://www.investegate.co.uk/ramco-energy-plc--sea-/rns/company-update/200504281544046757L/>

Director Ramco Energy PLC

49. Dr. James Petch, Physical Geographer, formerly Reader in Environmental Science at MMU and Head of Distributed Learning at the University of Manchester

50. Peter Phillips BSc Hons Mechanical Engineering, lifetime experience in the geo-energy Industry

51. Graeme Phipps, geologist and geophysicist, Jersey Channel Islands

Companies House: Graeme Grant Phipps, born October 1952, nationality Canadian, residence Jersey.

“An oil and gas executive and director of 3 companies; professional Geophysicist/Geologist with over 40 years experience in the International oil and gas industry.” (see <http://www.phippsandassociates.com/>)

52. Dr. James Pindell, Geologist, specialised in plate tectonics and palaeographic evolution, Director of Tectonic Analysis Ltd (UK), Adjunct Professor at Rice University (USA)

Companies House: James Lawrence Pindell: US national, UK resident, born October 1957. Director of Tectonic Analysis Ltd (<http://www.tectonicanalysis.com/>), which states that one of its research programmes is funded by BHP, ExxonMobil, Chevron, Equinor, Nexen/CNOOC, Premier, Repsol, Hess, Total, ConocoPhillips, Cobalt, Shell, British Gas, Petrobras, ENI, Noble, and DEA, and that the project synthesis forms a *“fundamental tool for all natural resources exploration companies active in continental Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico areas.”*

53. Clive Randle, Geologist, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

<https://studylib.net/doc/7268210/contact-details-of-sponsors-for-the-epng-30th-anniversary...>

Clive Randle, Hardstoft (Oil and Gas) Services Limited, car@hardstoftoil.co.uk. Summary: Upstream Commercial and Technical Advisory –West Africa, Nigeria, North Africa, North Sea, East Atlantic Margin

54. Michael J. Rath, Professional Forrester

55. Dr. Colin Richard Reeves, Emeritus Professor of Operational Research, Expert in Mathematical Modelling

56. Ceri Reid, Researcher, Engineer and Manager

57. Michael F. Ridd, Geologist, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

<https://www.ft.com/content/670cb3de-2cd6-11e6-a18d-a96ab29e3c95>

Letter from “From Dr Michael F Ridd, London SW18, UK Former chief geologist, BP North Sea”. Ridd was later chief geologist at the British National Oil Corporation, Glasgow, then left to found his own oil company (see <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/Geoscientist/Archive/July-2007/Reviews-July-2007>)

58. Anthony Robb PhD, Retired Chemist

59. Richard Saumarez, Biomedical Engineer from Imperial College

60. Michael Seymour, Geologist, Fellow of the Geological Society of London

“Mr Seymour is a geologist with over 40 years of experience in the upstream oil & gas industry, starting with Burmah Oil in Australia ...”. (https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Michael_Seymour)

A 2019 version of the WCD list stated *“Michael Seymour, geologist, Former Managing Director Aurelian Oil & Gas and Trajan Oil limited”*

61. Stephen Taylor PhD, Infra-Red Physicist and Tidal Hydrographer, MD Geomatix Ltd., Member of Inst. of Physics, Member of Inst. of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Associate Fellow of Royal Institute of Navigation, Member of the Hydrographic Society

62. Leslie Thomson, Retired Vice President Operations, BP Exploration, Aberdeen

63. David Todd, retired Associate Member of the Institute of Bankers, Post Graduate Certificate in Business and Management

64. Matthew D. Waggener, Financial professional, strategic consultant on business Investments

65. Dr. Glenn K. Wakley, Emeritus Associate Professor Biological Science, Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and member of The Anatomical Society

66. Professor David Wastell, Emeritus Professor of Information Systems at the University of Nottingham

67. Philip Linden Wilkes, Life time Experience in Marine Biology

68. Jay Willis, Marine Scientist, Associate of the OxNav Group of Oxford University

69. Valentina Zharkova, Professor of Mathematics and Astrophysics, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne