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The Edicts of the Elites

FUEL IS FREEDOM

by Marc Morano, publisher of CFACT's Climate Depot, former senior staff of U.S. Senate Environment Committee, wrote *Green Fraud: Why the Green New Deal Is Even Worse Than You Think*.

Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine has exploded the global energy debate and exposed the national security dangers of green energy. Europe and the U.S. have ceded away their national security by limiting their domestic fossil fuel energy under the guise of a wind and solar utopia that has yet to materialize.



Russia gets 40% of its federal budget from oil and gas and it is the third-largest supplier of oil to the U.S., behind Canada and Mexico, at over 600,000 barrels a day. The U.S. hit an 11-year high of Russian oil imports in 2021 and the Biden administration was reduced to begging OPEC to increase oil production. Meanwhile, the U.S. is reliant on China for rare earth mining for solar and wind energy, plus electric car batteries.

Americans now watch helplessly as gas prices, home heating, air conditioning, and energy-driven inflation

eat away at their paychecks. None of this had to happen. During Donald Trump's presidency, U.S. energy production soared back to levels of not just energy independence, but energy dominance. The U.S. was the world's largest oil and gas producer under Trump and the U.S. enjoyed more energy exports than imports, more energy production than consumption for the first time since 1952.

President Joe Biden's "Net-Zero" Green New Deal-style policies reversed the course of Trump's policies. Biden even declared that he wanted to jail fossil fuel executives.

The Biden administration is waging a war on American domestic energy by cancelling the Keystone pipeline, banning drilling on federal lands and in the Arctic, and defunding fossil fuel projects by using Environmental and Social Governance policies.

Biden's Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm performed in a 2018 video singing about the end of gasoline. The lyrics include: "Gasoline, gasoline, you are driving me insane. Gasoline, gasoline, the world's aflame...We had a good run, but now we're done....We gotta leave you in the ground."

Former President Obama famously declared that under his climate policies, energy prices "would necessarily skyrocket."

The Washington Post lamented in 2021: "If Prez Carter had gotten an extra term in office, we likely wouldn't be having a climate crisis right now." Ronald Reagan's election in 1980 is now being blamed for the "climate crisis." An expired climate tipping point we somehow all missed from 40 years ago!? President Jimmy Carter could not have been more wrong about energy in the 1970s, but the *Post* is rewriting history.

The Biden administration admitted that a further rise in gas prices due to the Russian invasion was a great opportunity to help the climate agenda. White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki explained, "The rise in gas prices over the long term makes an even stronger case for doubling down our investment & focus on clean energy options."

The problem for climate activist politicians is that their policies are finally having their designed impacts. **Energy shortages and skyrocketing prices are NOT the unintended consequences of green policies — rather — these are the INTENDED consequences.**

Biden's climate envoy John Ker-

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ry's response to Putin's invasion was to call for an "urgent" climate summit, lest the world loses focus on the climate agenda. Kerry warned that the Russian invasion could have a "monumental impact on the ability and willingness of people to do what's necessary" to curb CO₂ emissions.

The U.S. is now in a much, much weaker national security position one year into the Biden administration and Putin is the direct beneficiary of these energy restricting policies.

Europe is many years ahead in its disastrous green policies. Former Harvard Physics Professor Dr. Lubos Motl described Europe's version of the Green New Deal as "standard Marxist garbage." Europe has been shutting down their domestic energy for longer than the U.S. under their "Net-Zero". These policies have empowered the Middle East and OPEC, China, and Vladimir Putin.

Energy analyst Rupert Darwall reported that the U.K. was so gung ho on climate goals that it committed energy suicide. "In late 2019, [U.K. Prime Minister] Boris Johnson banned commercial fracking. Earlier this month, the British government ordered that concrete be poured into the country's two exploratory shale wells and for them to be abandoned."

To hell with national security, let's pour concrete into fracking wells that could supply 50 years of U.K. gas demand! Quite simply, madness.

The former head of Britain's MI6, Sir Richard Dearlove called for the "immediate lifting of [U.K.'s] fracking moratorium" and ripped the 'Net-Zero' climate goals as "crazy, unattainable objectives."

Darwall said that Europe is infected with the same green ideology. "Germany's and the EU's net-zero policies will deepen their dependence on Putin's goodwill as they increase their exposure to unreliable wind

and solar, phase out coal, and — in the case of Germany and Belgium — prematurely close their nuclear power stations. Strategically, that's a win for Putin."

But Germany had its moment of clarity about the climate agenda. In March 2022, the country U-turned on climate policy, seemingly overnight in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and endorsed nuclear, coal, and gas energy exploration. Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced: "The events of the past few days have shown us that responsible, forward-looking energy policy is decisive not only for our economy and the environment. It is also decisive for our security."

A 2018 Congressional report detailing how "Russian Attempts to Influence" and fund environmental groups to oppose fracking. "A Republican staff report by the Senate suggests that Russian funds have been funneled through off-shore corporations and passed on to the U.S.-based environmental activist organizations with the intent to effect political change."

In January 2017, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence stated there is "clear evidence that the Kremlin is financing and choreographing anti-fracking propaganda in the United States."

Even Hillary Clinton admitted the Russians tried to push their agenda through environmental groups. Then-Secretary of State Clinton said in 2014: "We [the State Department and the U.S.] were up against Russia pushing oligarchs and others to buy media. We were even up against phony environmental groups, and I'm a big environmentalist, but these were funded by the Russians to stand against any effort, 'Oh that pipeline, that fracking, that whatever will be a problem for you,' and a lot of the

money supporting that message was coming from Russia."

Environmentalist Michael Shellenberger, who reversed his views and became skeptical of a climate apocalypse, explained in March 2022: "15 years ago Europe exported more natural gas than Russia does today. Now, Russia exports three times more gas than Europe produces. Why? Because climate activists, partly funded by Russia, blocked fracking."

We need a full expansion of fossil fuel production in America. Biden needs to follow Germany's path and open up America for domestic energy. Doing so would send a strong signal to the marketplace that America is open for business once again when it comes to oil, gas, and fossil fuels. Putin has Europe by the throat and he knows that their dependence on Russian energy has the power to tank European economies by withholding energy.

Kerry still holds steadfast to his view that climate is the greatest national security threat the U.S. faces, but Kerry has it ass-backward. The greatest national security threat we may face is not from the climate, but from their climate and energy policies.

The West's dependence on Russia's energy is just an appetizer for the national security threats that lie ahead due to our reliance on China's rare earth mining. China is doing their part to give a middle finger to the climate agenda as the nation builds a coal plant a week and is responsible for about 50% of the world's coal production.

It is nothing short of bonkers from a strategic and national security point of view for Europe, Canada, and the United States to continue to restrict our domestic energy under Green New Deal rules when OPEC, Iran, Russia, and China have zero intention of playing by the same rules.

It's time to stop the sanctions — against American domestic energy! 

FOIA ON FAUCI

by Adam Andrzejewski is the CEO/founder of OpenTheBooks.com, the largest private-sector database of U.S. public-sector expenditures.

Dr. Anthony Fauci is the most highly compensated federal employee making \$456,028 in 2021 and outearned the president, four-star generals, and 4.3 million colleagues. Fauci is also the most visible. In recent years, no one impacted U.S. public health policy more.

Therefore, I feel it is incumbent upon all of us to give him oversight.

The controversy surrounding Dr. Fauci's finances reached a fever pitch in January of this year. Our oversight findings at OpenTheBooks.com and my then-column at Forbes was right in the middle of it.

In the Senate hearing on January 11, 2022, U.S. Senator Roger Marshall (R-KS), cited my Forbes article in his questioning of Dr. Fauci's salary and his financial disclosures. First, Fauci claimed his financials were "public information," then, the hot mic caught the doctor calling the senator a "moron" and blaspheming, "Jesus Christ."

It was Fauci's code red moment and one of the top national news stories of the day.

As reported by *The Washington Post*, when Fauci went back to NIH, he admitted, "Maybe the senator has a point. Maybe my financial investments, though disclosed and available, should be much easier to see."

In fact, Fauci's financials were not available and I had firsthand knowledge. Immediately, I published the evidence behind the lack of transparency at Forbes: No Fauci's Records Aren't Available. Why Won't NIH Immediately Release Them?

It was not public what Dr. Fauci's salary was last year or this year. (The latest published salary at the time was

from FY2020.)

It was not public what stocks and bonds Dr. Fauci bought and sold in 2020 or 2021, as he influenced Covid policies.

It was not public what Fauci received — or didn't receive — in royalties. (There are up to 1,000 current and former NIH scientists receiving royalties.) Each payment could be a potential conflict of interest.

During an entire year, NIH had refused to produce Fauci's job contract, job description, non-disclosure agreement, conflict of interest, financial disclosures, ethics agreements, and royalties subject to our OpenTheBooks FOIA request. In October 2021, we sued NIH with Judicial Watch and we still hadn't received the 1,200 pages promised by the agency.

PolitiFact fact-checked Sen. Marshall and Dr. Fauci on their statements during the hearing, Fauci said all you have to do is ask for his financial disclosure. Yes, but it could take a while. PolitiFact cited my Forbes column as "Primary Source Material" for their Truth-O-Meter analysis.

In one of the top national news stories of the week, the fact checkers used my original reporting to hold *both sides accountable* in the heated U.S. Senate hearing.

On January 12th, Sen. Marshall wrote a demand letter to NIH for Dr. Fauci's unredacted ethics/financial disclosures. In the letter, Marshall included footnotes that referenced my Fauci-Forbes columns.

On Friday, January 14th at 5:00 pm ET, NIH produced Fauci's unredacted ethics/financial disclosures from 2019 and 2020 subject to Sen. Marshall's demand letter. The 2020

disclosures had never been released and only heavily redacted 2019 disclosures were previously released. Working through the night, I distilled the 178 pages of disclosure and published the breaking investigation at Forbes on January 15, 2022, *disclosures show Dr. Fauci's household made \$1.7 million in 2020, including income, royalties, travel perks and investment gains.*



Our findings included:

- **Net worth:** The Fauci household net worth rivaled \$11 million.
- **Earnings and gains:** Salaries, benefits, royalties, investment gains in the Fauci household exceeded \$1.7 million in 2020.
- **Fauci's wife:** Christine Grady, the chief bioethicist at NIH, made \$234,284 in 2020 (and by 2021 she outearned the U.S. vice president).
- **Royalties:** Fauci made between \$100,000 and \$1 million as an editor and board member of McGraw-Hill.
- **Awards:** In 2021, Fauci was awarded a \$1 million prize for "speaking truth to power" from the Dan David Foundation in Israel.

Over the last 14-months of investigation, here is a sample of our findings on Fauci's finances.

Income: Dr. Anthony Fauci was the highest paid federal employee each of the last three years 2019-2021. He earned \$417,608 in 2019 and \$434,312 in 2020 and \$456,028 in

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FY2021. He is the director of the National Institute for Health's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

In the previous decade, Fauci made \$3.6 million in salary (2010-2019). His salary has increased significantly since 2018, when it was \$399,600.

However, Fauci's colleagues on the White House Coronavirus Task Force made far less than he.

Vice President Mike Pence chaired the Task Force, and made \$235,100. Fauci's Task Force colleague Dr. Deborah Birx earned \$305,972. Four-star generals make \$178,000 per year. Speaker Nancy Pelosi earns \$223,500, and U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts makes \$286,700.

Again, Fauci is not the only federal employee in his household. Fauci's wife, Christine Grady, made \$238,900.

So, when you add up the cost of the two salaries and tack on the taxpayer funded benefits at 30-percent, the two Fauci's cost taxpayers \$900,000 per year. Not bad for a pair of public servants.

Because of our research, we know now how Fauci became the top-paid federal employee.

Fauci got a permanent pay hike in December 2004, during the George W. Bush administration, for his "biodefense research activities." His pay raise was justified because of his increased workload post-9/11 responding to bioterrorism threats and to prevent the next pandemic, his bosses said.

Fauci's permanent pay raise was to "appropriately compensate him for the level of responsibility... especially as it relates to his work on biodefense research activities," the letter requesting the raise states.

Critics have said that Fauci was funding research that created pan-

demic pathogens in labs that, if leaked or if fell into the wrong hands, could create the very pandemic they were trying to prevent.

Retirement pension: With 55 years of service as a federal employee so far, we estimate that Fauci's retirement package will be around \$355,000 per year, the largest ever in American history.

Federal employees who have served as long as Fauci has can retire and earn "80 percent of [their] high-three average salary, plus credit for [their] sick leave," according to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

While Fauci hasn't said he's retiring, if he were to leave now, the payout based on his last three years of salary — \$399,625 in 2018, \$417,608 in 2019 and \$434,312 in 2020 and \$456,028 in 2021 — would calculate to be around \$355,000 because he's also eligible for an annuity.

If Fauci had retired at the end of 2020, he would get a federal pension of \$348,786 a year, plus cost-of-living increases ($\$1,307,948/3 \times 80 \text{ percent} = \$348,786$).

His annuity would also pay him "2 percent of [their] high-3 average salary for each year," adding at least another \$6,975 a year.

So, on day one in retirement, Fauci will be earning nearly \$1,000 per day — paid to stay home for the rest of his life.

America's top PR expert: Cast as the country's top doctor, Fauci was more like a top public relations bureaucrat. This role of Fauci needs a lot more scrutiny.

During the first 18-months of the pandemic, Fauci was the main spokesman for the entire U.S. federal health agencies, participating in nearly 400 television, radio, podcast, and online interviews, including lec-

tures, panel discussions, speeches, and press conferences between Jan. 1, 2020, and June 15, 2021.

Fauci participated in so many interviews for such a long time that he may have blurred the lines between publicity, propaganda, public affairs, and his positions as the director of the NIAID and the chief medical advisor to the president.

When did Fauci have time to "follow the science?"

Since 1913, the Gillett Amendment expressly limits the government's interaction with the public by barring the "publicity man" or "propagandist," i.e. taxpayer dollars must be used to inform the public, and not to manufacture public opinion. "Appropriated funds may not be used to pay a publicity expert unless specifically appropriated for that purpose," the law states.

Fauci was financially rewarded for his PR activities when he received the \$1 million Dan David Foundation prize in Israel for 'speaking truth to power' during the Trump years.

The NIH has refused to produce Fauci's job description subject to our FOIA request. Is public affairs in his job description? Has Fauci ever requested a legal opinion on his PR efforts?

Dr. Anthony Fauci's employment, ethics disclosures, financial disclosures, and royalties have always been a black box.

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