

CHAPTER TWELVE

Statism, The Kyoto Protocol and the Environment

“The scientists see few signs that government leaders anywhere are even prepared to take the simple measures of stockpiling food or of introducing the variables of climatic uncertainty into economic projections of future food supplies. The longer the planners delay the more difficult will they find it to cope with climatic change once the results become grim reality.”
Newsweek, 1975, April 28, “The Cooling World”, reprinted in the Financial Post, Toronto, June 21 2000, p. C 19.

PURPOSE

Perhaps no other cause outside Third World poverty unites so many varied interests and sparks as much governmental involvement as the environment. This is manifested in the Kyoto agreement on climate change, which illustrates clearly the conflict between national sovereign economic development, and international agreements and movements. The Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change is the most brazen and enduring attempt to impinge an international treaty on national states. It is an important attempt by EU and other statist nations to eradicate the energy cost advantages