

## Climate Judge Verdict

**Classification: Inaccurate**

### Claim

Global warming is not progressing as predicted by climate models. This is because plant photosynthesis is absorbing more CO<sub>2</sub> than expected. Climate change is a lie.

### Executive Summary

The claim that global warming is not progressing because plant photosynthesis absorbs more CO<sub>2</sub> than expected and that climate change is a lie is not supported by the evidence presented.

### Summary of Key Points

The claim emphasises enhanced plant photosynthesis as the primary reason for discrepancies in global-warming predictions and concludes that climate change is false. However, evidence shows that any extra plant carbon uptake is largely offset by faster decomposition and that many additional feedbacks govern the climate system. Modern climate models incorporate these complexities, though uncertainties remain.

### Classification Justification

The claim is refuted by peer-reviewed evidence. While climate change can stimulate plant uptake, it also accelerates decomposition, limiting net carbon removal. Extensive research contradicts the assertion that *climate change is a lie*.

## Evaluation Scores

Scientific Plausibility	<div><div></div></div>	1/5
Logical Coherence	<div><div></div></div>	3/5
Scope Appropriateness	<div><div></div></div>	3/5
Causal Justification	<div><div></div></div>	1/5
Speculativeness	<div><div></div></div>	3/5

## Key Evidence

Nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients limit the terrestrial-carbon response to elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Climate change can enhance plant uptake but also speeds decomposition.

Source: Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234

## Verdict

The claim oversimplifies climate dynamics by ascribing model deviations solely to plant photosynthesis. Evidence (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234) shows concurrent increases in decomposition offsetting any extra uptake. Climate models continue to improve, representing feedbacks such as clouds, ice–albedo, ocean circulation and natural variability (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 81; SYR\_AR5\_FINAL\_full\_wcover.pdf, p. 73; Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5 p. 99). Photosynthesis alone cannot negate observed warming. Therefore the claim is rejected.

## Appendix: Original Arguments

### Defense's Original Argument

#### Summary of the claim

The client asserts that global warming is not progressing as predicted because plant photosynthesis absorbs more CO<sub>2</sub> than expected, implying climate change is a lie.

#### Supporting evidence

- Plant photosynthesis absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> but also increases decomposition (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234).

- Carbon-storage response varies with forcing scenarios (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234).

### Counterarguments

- Climate change is supported by extensive evidence; plant uptake is only one component (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234).
- Models incorporate many other drivers and feedbacks (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 81).

### Conclusion

The claim is an oversimplification; multiple interacting factors dictate warming trends.

## Prosecution's Original Argument

### Summary of the claim

Plant photosynthesis is absorbing more CO<sub>2</sub> than models predict, so global warming is overstated and climate change is a lie.

### Weaknesses in the evidence

- CO<sub>2</sub> uptake does not negate warming (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 234).
- Uptake varies with scenario; decomposition also increases.

### Counterarguments

- Models already factor in multiple feedbacks and uncertainties (Global\_Warming\_of\_1.5.pdf, p. 81).

### Conclusion

Evidence does not support photosynthesis as the primary cause of model deviations; climate change remains robustly supported.