**US Climate Video Script**

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| **Speech** | **Image** |
| In the past decades, humans have been emitting more and more fossil fuels like coal, gas or oil. Burning fossil fuels releases CO2 in the atmosphere. | Graph (if possible, animated) of historic CO2 concentration, next to polluting cars (cars with smoke), planes, and coal power plants / factories (e.g. using <https://www.temperaturerecord.org/> ) |
| Today, the concentration of CO2 in the atmosphere is higher than any time over the last 800,000 years. | Unzoom to show graph of concentration over 800,000 years |
| And it’s the concentration of greenhouse gases like CO2 that drives global temperature. | Show graph of temperatures (e.g. using <https://www.temperaturerecord.org/> ) |
| Climate scientists agree: the build-up in the atmosphere of greenhouse gases released by human activity causes climate change. |  |
| A rapid transition away from fossil fuels is technically possible and could contain global warming below +2°C, meaning 3.6 °F. | Extends graph of temperatures with 2°C scenario (e.g. using the figure below), and some windpanels and trees on the side |
| But if greenhouse gas emissions continue on their current trend, the average global warming will be +8°F in 2100 and +13°F in 2200. | Keep previous graph but adds a +4°C scenario (e.g. using the figure below), and on the side now there is a polluting car and a coal power plant / factory |
| This may seem far away, but climate change is already affecting us right now in the places where we live.   * The air pollution generated by the burning of fuels is already responsible for 200,000 deaths in the US | Shows a polluting car then a skull with “200,000. |
| * Along the Atlantic coast of the US, hurricanes are becoming more intense and cause more damages due to climate change. | Shows a hurricane / a storm that tear off a roof and a palm tree. |
| * Heatwaves are becoming longer, more frequent and more severe. On average across the US, there were 11 days per year above 95°F in the last decades.   In the absence of ambitious action against climate change,[[1]](#footnote-1) this will become 70 days per year above 95°F, and even 135 days in a State like Texas. | Shows a desert with someone sweating more and more. |
| * In the South and in the Midwest, agricultural yields will decrease because of the heat. | Shows a corn field with some visible cobs and some cobs dry up or disappear. (It could be bananas, tomatoes or else instead of corn). |
| * Adding to that hurricanes and sea-level rise, the average income in Southern states will be 10 to 20% lower compared to a scenario with no additional climate change.[[2]](#footnote-2) | Shows a farmer with money, then with less money. |
| * In the North-East, the risk of the historical heaviest 1% precipitation events has already increased by 55%.[[3]](#footnote-3) Further climate change will cause more intense storms and sea-level rise, implying more floods. | Shows a coast with sea-level rise, a storm, and a flood. |
| * In the West, hotter and drier conditions are increasing areas burned by wildfires. It has been estimated that the area burned by wildfires across the Western US since the mid 80s was twice what it would have been without climate change.[[4]](#footnote-4) | Shows a forest fire. |
| To tackle climate change, we would need to bring emissions close to zero. This is possible, but requires a deep transformation in the sectors most responsible for greenhouse gas emissions: energy, transport, and industry. | Shows the second figure below. |

1. http://www.impactlab.org/map/#usmeas=absolute&usyear=1981-2010&gmeas=change-from-hist&gyear=2080-2099&tab=global&gvar=tasmax-over-95F [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://www.impactlab.org/research/estimating-economic-damage-from-climate-change-in-the-united-states/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reryJb1ro2I [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://youtu.be/wd6w6mTQGwc?t=461 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)