

Exxon

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

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Engineering

Petroleum Department

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EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING COMPANY

CONTROLLING THE CO₂ CONCENTRATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE

The CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere has increased since the beginning of the world industrialization. It is now 15% greater than it was in 1850 and the rate of CO₂ release from anthropogenic sources appears to be doubling every 15 years. The most widely held theory is that:

- The increase is due to fossil fuel combustion
- Increasing CO₂ concentration will cause a warming of the earth's surface
- The present trend of fossil fuel consumption will cause dramatic environmental effects before the year 2050.