

Thư của TS. Bùi Quang Hiền gửi Tạp chí 'Journal of Climatic Change'

Dear Prof. Michael Oppenheimer and Prof. Gary Yohe,

I would like to contact with you to announce some unclear and incorrect information given in two papers published in Journal of Climatic Change:

- **"The 1920s drought recorded by tree rings and historical documents in the semi-arid and arid areas of northern china"**, Eryuan Liang, Xiaohong Liu, Yujiang Yuan, Ningsheng Qin, Xuiqi Fang, Lei Huang, Haifeng Zhu, Lily Wang and Xuemei Shao, Climatic Change (2006) 79: 403-432

- **"Carbon storage in the grasslands of China based on field measurements of above- and below-ground biomass"**, Jiangwen Fan, Huaping Zhong, Warwick Harris, Guirui Yu, Shaoqiang Wang, Zhongmin Hu, Yanzhen Yue, Climatic Change (2008) 86:375-396

In Figure 6 (page 418) of the first paper (Eryuan Liang et al. 2006), the authors used the dashed line below the China map but the authors did not explain what does it mean? Also in Figure 1 (page 381) of the second paper (Jiangwen Fan et al., 2008), the authors used the dashed line in China map without any special indication.

To the author's best knowledge, this dashed line is so-called China's U-shape line claim which has been opposed by the international community. Because it violated the international sea law UNCLO 1982 (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea), in which China has already signed. The UNCLO allowed the coastal countries to enable extending 200 nautical miles (about 400km) for the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). See the Figures indicated later; it is not possible that the length of the dashed line be more 2000km from the China Hainan Island. Note also that some inhabitable islands in the interior of the dashed line have maximum extension of 12 nautical miles after the UNCLO and some islands are actually occupied by other countries (no China).

In my views, the presented Figures imply incorrect and inaccurate information. Also the U-shape line must be removed

from China map because it was in conflict with international law and it violated the sovereignty of the other countries. I would like that the editor contacts with the corresponding authors to correct these Figures in the next issue of your Journal.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ing. Quang-Hien BUI

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