

Weekly Science Report

January 12, 2018

“I’m a feminist. I’ve been a female for a long time now. It’d be stupid not to be on my own side.”

Maya Angelou

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Introduction

Steve Detwiler created this publication with the support of Graham Hancock and John Anthony West to share news and information on various disciplines to include but not limited to paleontology, space sciences, genetics and archaeology. His goal behind sharing this publication has always been very simple, by sharing knowledge we can make our world a better place. This publication is Mr. Detwiler's contribution to bring people together and share ideas and discoveries with his fellow humans.

I hope you enjoy this publication and that the content challenges and inspires you!

The Weekly Science Report is also on social media at:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/weeklysciencertpt/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/wklysciencertpt>

News Articles

Paleontology, Evolution and Prehistoric Studies

Study of 385-million-year-old shark suggests humans and sharks shared common ancestor 440 million years ago

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-million-year-old-shark-humans-sharks-common.html>

Direct genetic evidence of founding population reveals story of first Native Americans

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-reveals-evidence-population-ancient-native.html>

Stone Tools in Saudi Arabia Could Offer “Out of Africa” Clues

<https://www.archaeology.org/news/6240-171228-saudi-arabia-tools>

Archaeology as blood sport: How the discovery of an ancient mastodon ignited debate over humans’ arrival in North America

<http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-cerutti-mastodon-20171222-htmstory.html>

Ancient Cave in China Filled With 45,000-Year-Old Stone Tools and Animal Bones, New Excavation Reveals

<http://www.newsweek.com/ancient-cave-china-45000-year-old-stone-toolsanimal-bones-excavation-768608>

Ancient European Culture Known For Spectacular Cave Paintings Traced to Even Older Middle Eastern Culture

<http://www.newsweek.com/ancient-european-culture-spectacular-cave-painting-middle-east-762051>

Mammal long thought extinct in Australia resurfaces

<https://phys.org/news/2017-12-mammal-thought-extinct-australia-resurfaces.html>

Giant extinct burrowing bat discovered in New Zealand

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-01/uons-geb010918.php

Genomic data suggest two main migrations into Scandinavia after the last ice age

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-01/uu-gds010418.php

The origin of ‘us’: what we know so far about where we humans come from

<https://theconversation.com/the-origin-of-us-what-we-know-so-far-about-where-we-humans-come-from-54385>

Just off Israeli highway, 500,000-year-old site found

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/just-off-israeli-highway-500-000-year-old-site-found/ar-BBI4hcl?ocid=ob-fb-enus-580>

Chemists discover plausible recipe for early life on Earth

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-chemists-plausible-recipe-early-life.html>

History

It's Not That Hard To Avoid Normalizing Nazis

<https://www.theatlantic.com/amp/article/548090/>

Former guard at Nazi camp is the last remaining war collaborator ordered out of the United States. Authorities want him gone before he dies

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/former-guard-at-nazi-camp-is-the-last-remaining-war-collaborator-ordered-out-of-the-united-states-authorities-want-him-gone-before-he-dies/ar-BBGP3Ud?ocid=se>

The Christmas Truce miracle: Soldiers put down their guns to sing carols and drink wine

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2017/12/24/the-christmas-truce-miracle-soldiers-put-down-their-guns-to-sing-carols-and-drink-wine/?utm_term=.36f51dbc569a

How Charles II Used Art to Bolster Britain's Struggling Monarchy

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/how-charles-ii-used-art-bolster-britains-wounded-monarchy-180967522/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

The Traumatic True History and Name List of the Dakota 38

<https://indiancountrymedianetwork.com/history/traumatic-true-history-full-list-dakota-38/>

How the High Museum in Atlanta Tripled Its Nonwhite Audience in Two Years

<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/high-museum-atlanta-tripled-nonwhite-audience-two-years-1187954>

The Most Awesome Codebreaker in World War II Was a Woman

https://www.wired.com/story/world-war-2-codebreakers-elizabeth-smith-friedman/?mbid=nl_122717_daily_list1_p1

Einstein's Little-Known Passion Project? A Refrigerator

https://www.wired.com/story/einsteins-little-known-passion-project-a-refrigerator/?mbid=nl_122717_daily_list1_p3

The Modern History of Ornithology Starts with This Inquisitive Medieval Emperor

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/modern-history-ornithology-starts-inquisitive-medieval-emperor-180967623/>

Who was responsible for the St. Valentine's Day Massacre?

<http://www.history.com/news/ask-history/who-was-responsible-for-the-st-valentines-day-massacre>

Do we still need UNESCO?

https://www.apollo-magazine.com/do-we-still-need-unesco/amp/?_twitter_impression=true

Virginia Tech class helps tell Holocaust stories by combing through Nazi documents

http://www.roanoke.com/news/education/higher_education/virginia_tech/virginia-tech-class-helps-tell-holocaust-stories-by-combing-through/article_5402e0f1-418b-5522-996f-cffb167a0d13.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=user-share

1.5 Million Slavery Era Documents Will Be Digitized, Helping African Americans to Learn About Their Lost Ancestors

<http://www.openculture.com/2015/06/1-5-million-slavery-era-documents-will-be-digitized-helping-african-americans-to-learn-about-their-lost-ancestors.html>

2,000-Year-Old Chinese Medical Texts Analysed
<https://www.archaeology.org/news/6236-171227-china-medical-texts>

From Ptolemy to GPS, the Brief History of Maps
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/brief-history-maps-180963685/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

The Murder of Rasputin, 100 Years Later
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/murder-rasputin-100-years-later-180961572/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Bringing Taino Peoples Back Into History
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/bringing-taino-peoples-back-history-180967637/#uVCr05SeAS6JuURV.03>

Scotland Yard Art and Antiques Unit re-formed
<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/scotland-yard-art-and-antiques-unit-reformed-a3719641.html>

Court rules 'Bookkeeper of Auschwitz', 96, must go to jail
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-nazi/court-rules-bookkeeper-of-auschwitz-96-must-go-to-jail-idUSKBN1EN12X>

Federal judge tells Arizona it can't ban Mexican American studies
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/12/28/federal-judge-tells-arizona-it-cant-ban-mexican-american-studies/?tid=sm_fb&utm_term=.e7971c58e977

Government admits 'losing' thousands of papers from National Archives
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/dec/26/government-admits-losing-thousands-of-papers-from-national-archives?CMP=fb_gu

Manhattan DA Launches First Antiquities Trafficking Unit
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/manhattan-da-launches-first-antiquities-trafficking-unit-180967607/#Y6krv6Hflul8kleY.99>

Who Discovered the North Pole?
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/who-discovered-the-north-pole-116633746/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Thousands Once Spoke His Language in the Amazon. Now, He's the Only One.
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/thousands-once-spoke-his-language-in-the-amazon-now-he%E2%80%99s-the-only-one/ar-BBHmP6M?ocid=SL5FDHP>

How Museums Are Becoming More Sensory-Friendly For Those with Autism
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/how-museums-are-becoming-more-sensory-friendly-for-those-with-autism-180967740/>

The Strike That Brought MLK to Memphis
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/revisiting-sanitation-workers-strike-180967512/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

The Book That Incited a Worldwide Fear of Overpopulation
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/book-incited-worldwide-fear-overpopulation-180967499/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

The Ghosts of My Lai

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/ghosts-my-lai-180967497/>

Kielce: The Post-Holocaust Pogrom That Poland Is Still Fighting Over

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/kielce-post-holocaust-pogrom-poland-still-fighting-over-180967681/>

The Extraordinary Life of Nikola Tesla

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/extraordinary-life-nikola-tesla-180967758/#ITQwWlj5Pa1HmcC3.01>

Our guide to the most important new museums and expansions in 2018

<http://theartnewspaper.com/preview/museum-openings-january-2018>

A new Leonardo? Scholarly show claims to reveal master's hand

<http://theartnewspaper.com/news/a-new-leonardo-show-on-connoisseurship-claims-to-reveal-master-s-hand>

Scanning an Ancient Biblical Text That Humans Fear to Open

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/05/science/biblical-codes-morgan-library.html>

How should museums respond to Donald Trump?

<http://theartnewspaper.com/comment/how-should-museums-respond-to-donald-trump>

The Reporter Who Helped Persuade FDR to Tell the Truth About War

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/reporter-who-helped-persuade-fdr-tell-truth-about-war-180967787/>

'Mississippi Burning' KKK leader Killen dies in prison at 92

<https://apnews.com/b59169039b81474c9dc257eabaca90a3>

Why Did Greenland's Vikings Vanish?

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/why-greenland-vikings-vanished-180962119/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Why getting rid of Costa Rica's army 70 years ago has been such a success

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/01/05/costa-rica-celebrate-70-years-no-army/977107001/>

JFK files: CIA lined up actress for date with Jordan's King Hussein during visit to United States

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/01/08/jfk-files-cia-lined-up-actress-date-jordans-king-hussein-during-visit-united-states/1012904001/>

6 Explorers Who Disappeared

http://www.history.com/news/history-lists/6-explorers-who-disappeared?cmpid=Social_FBPAGE_HISTORY_20160220_371292744&linkId=21426342

What's an Ancient Roman Temple Doing in Armenia?

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/whats-ancient-roman-temple-doing-armenia-1-180967756/#PWwPwC165Mm8EKjS.99>

Visit the Only Village inside the Grand Canyon

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/visit-only-village-inside-grand-canyonso-remote-its-mail-delivered-mule-180955582/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Archaeology

Ancient astronomical observatory found in Cusco

<https://archaeologynewsnetwork.blogspot.fr/2017/12/ancient-astronomical-observatory-found.html#QjrZP6P4wsRqPKGo.97>

Beetles and bats threaten treasures of the medieval parish churches

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2017/dec/24/medieval-panel-paintings-beetles-bats-infestations-east-anglia>

Cremated Soldier Found in Cooking Pot at Vast Roman Camp in Israel

<https://www.haaretz.com/archaeology/1.831317>

Did ancient irrigation technology travel Silk Road?

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-ancient-irrigation-technology-silk-road.html>

The manuscripts saved by a monk

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-manuscripts-saved-by-a-monk/>

Spotting the Sun

<https://www.archaeology.org/issues/283-1801/trenches/6193-oman-esmeralda-astrolabe>

The mammoth task of unearthing Petra

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20160929-the-mammoth-task-of-unearthing-petra>

Researchers Investigate Underwater Pottery Site in Japan

<https://www.archaeology.org/news/6237-171227-japan-lake-pottery>

Hot Property

<https://www.archaeology.org/issues/283-1801/trenches/6194-trenches-saudi-arabia-lava-mounds>

Tomb Door Engraved with Menorah Discovered in Israel

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/tomb-door-engraved-menorah-discovered-israel-180967647/#oiu7AkIxEAkPwkBE.03>

This Mass Grave Discovery Could Alter Roman History

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/videos/category/science/this-mass-grave-discovery-could-alter-roman/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Ancient Urn Discovered by Robot at Bottom of Japan's Biggest Lake Mystifies Archaeologists

http://www.newsweek.com/ancient-urn-discovered-robot-bottom-japan-biggest-lake-mystifies-761537?utm_campaign=NewsweekFacebookSF&utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=Social

The Daughter of an Ex-Coal Executive Helped Lead Trump's National Monuments Review

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/coal-trump-monuments-review_us_5a3dbe56e4b06d1621b46552?ncid=engmodushpmg00000003

Louvre lays cornerstone of new conservation and storage facility

<http://artdaily.com/news/101556/Louvre-lays-cornerstone-of-new-conservation-and-storage-facility#.WlJrf6inHIW>

Archaeologists Find Gate to Headquarters of Famed "Ironclad" Sixth Legion in Northern Israel

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/new-discoveries-unearthed-roman-legion-camp-near-armageddon-180967654/>

Stone tool found in Pictou County estimated at about 3,000 years old

<https://www.trurodaily.com/living/stone-tool-found-in-pictou-county-estimated-at-about-3000-years-old-173487/>

Discovery of a 4,000-year-old military network in northern Syria

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-12/c-doa122117.php

Should museums display human remains from other cultures?

<http://theartnewspaper.com/news/should-museums-display-human-remains-from-other-cultures>

Pottery shard holds ancient example of kanji used in Japan

<http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/AJ201801110030.html>

Ancient board game has no parallel in Europe

<https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20730977/ancient-board-game-has-no-parallel-in-europe.html>

A Search for a Lost Hammer Led to the Largest Cache of Roman Treasure Ever Found in Britain

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/search-lost-hammer-led-largest-cache-roman-treasure-ever-found-britain-180967263/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Greece to seek repatriation of looted antiquities seized from collector's NYC home

<http://ht.ly/MY2P30hGnVZ>

Ancient China: 1,000-Year-Old Royal Palace Discovered

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/ancient-china-1000-year-old-royal-palace-discovered/ar-AAuA2zC?li=BBnb7Kz&ocid=SL5FDHP>

The mysterious, ancient Nine Domes Mosque of northern Afghanistan

<http://artdaily.com/news/101553/The-mysterious--ancient-Nine-Domes-Mosque-of-northern-Afghanistan#.Wlj10K6nEdX>

Egyptology

Ancient Egyptian Mummy's Skull and Dismembered Hands to be Returned to Egypt 90 Years After Being Taken to the U.S.

<http://www.newsweek.com/long-lost-skull-egyptian-mummy-stolen-us-grave-robber-be-returned-769557>

Scan technique reveals secret writing in mummy cases

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42357259>

How 21st-Century Technology Is Shedding Light on a 2nd-Century Egyptian Painting

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/how-new-imaging-technique-revealed-secrets-ancient-portrait-180967633/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=socialmedia

Remains of royal ancient Egyptian artefacts uncovered in Tel Al-Pharaeen

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/9/40/286388/Heritage/Ancient-Egypt/Remains-of-royal-ancient-Egyptian-artefacts-uncove.aspx>

Cheops' pyramid: Is there an iron throne in the newly discovered chamber?

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-01/pdm-cpi011118.php

General Science

Cargo ships could soon sail without any humans on board

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/09/unmanned-ghost-ships-are-coming-to-our-oceans?utm_content=bufferd02a9&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

21st-Century Repairman: The Robot in the Gas Main

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/26/nyregion/con-ed-robot.html?smid=li-share>

America's Hottest Self-Driving Startup Hooks Up with VW and Hyundai

https://www.wired.com/story/aurora-urmson-volkswagen-hyundai/?mbid=nl_010418_daily_list3_p4

15 top science & tech leaders offer surprising predictions for 2018

<https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/15-top-science-tech-leaders-offer-surprising-predictions-2018-ncna814196>

As Artificial Intelligence Advances, Here Are Five Tough Projects for 2018

https://www.wired.com/story/as-artificial-intelligence-advances-here-are-five-projects-for-2018/?mbid=nl_010218_daily_list1_p4

The Race to Build the Hyperloop Could Fix Boring Old Planes and Trains

https://www.wired.com/story/hyperloop-spinoff-technology/?mbid=nl_010118_daily_list3_p2

2017 Was the Year the Robots Really, Truly Arrived?

https://www.wired.com/story/2017-was-the-year-the-robots-really-truly-arrived/?mbid=nl_123017_daily_list1_p1

Google's AI Wizard Unveils a New Twist on Neural Networks

https://www.wired.com/story/googles-ai-wizard-unveils-a-new-twist-on-neural-networks/?mbid=nl_122917_daily_list3_p6

A Clever New Robotic 'Muscle' Seriously Lifts, Bro

https://www.wired.com/story/a-clever-new-robotic-muscle-seriously-lifts-bro/?mbid=nl_010518_daily_list3_p3

Big Tech to join legal fight against Net Neutrality Repeal

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/05/technology/net-neutrality-lawsuit.html?smid=fb-nytimes&smtyp=cur>

Universities must prepare for a technology-enabled future

<https://theconversation.com/universities-must-prepare-for-a-technology-enabled-future-89354>

Please Do Not Assault the Towering Robot That Roams Walmart

https://www.wired.com/story/please-do-not-assault-the-towering-robot-that-roams-walmart/?mbid=nl_011218_daily_list3_p3

Bell Helicopter offers a sneak peek of its first electric flying taxi

https://www.theverge.com/platform/amp/2018/1/8/16865404/bell-helicopter-electric-air-taxi-uber-ces-2018?twitter_impression=true

GM's latest car gives up steering wheels, pedals — and human control

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/innovations/wp/2018/01/12/gms-latest-car-gives-up-steering-wheels-pedals-and-human-control/?utm_term=.423db76dc3f8

Physics, Earth and Space Sciences

Why the International Space Station Is the Single Best Thing We Did

https://www.wired.com/story/why-the-international-space-station-is-the-single-best-thing-we-did/?mbid=nl_122017_daily_list3_p4

'Weyl-Kondo semimetal': Physicists discover new type of quantum material

<https://phys.org/news/2017-12-weyl-kondo-semimetal-physicists-quantum-material.html>

SpaceX Rocket Launch Lights Up The California Sky, Freaks Out Some Residents

https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/12/23/573194940/spacex-rocket-launch-lights-up-the-california-sky-freaks-out-some-residents?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&utm_content=2052

'Oumuamua' space mystery may have been solved

https://www.nbcnews.com/mach/science/mystery-weird-oumuamua-space-object-may-have-been-solved-ncna831131?cid=sm_npd_nn_fb_ma

Are we being watched? Tens of other worlds could spot the Earth

https://eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-09/ras-awb090817.php

How Is SpaceX Doing on Its Deep Space Ambitions?

https://www.wired.com/story/how-is-spacex-doing-on-its-deep-space-ambitions/?mbid=nl_123017_daily_list3_p1

What Does A Newly Born Pacific Island Say About Life On Mars?

https://www.npr.org/sections/13.7/2017/12/26/573147008/what-does-a-newly-born-pacific-island-say-about-life-on-mars?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&utm_content=2055

Computational astrophysics team uncloaks magnetic fields of cosmic events

<https://m.phys.org/news/2018-01-astrophysics-team-uncloaks-magnetic-fields.html>

Finnish start-up ICEYE's radical space radar solution

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42648391>

Robot swarms to map the seafloor

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-42335230>

Steep slopes on Mars reveal structure of buried ice

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-deep-glaciers-mars.html>

Citizen scientists discover five-planet system

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-citizen-scientists-five-planet.html>

Possible lava tube skylights discovered near the North Pole of the Moon

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-lava-tube-skylights-north-pole.html>

Molecular Clue to the Mystery of Carbon's Cosmic Origin Uncovered

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/molecular-clue-to-the-mystery-of-carbon-s-cosmic-origin-uncovered/>

How Dark Matter Physicists Score Deals on Liquid Xenon

https://www.wired.com/story/how-dark-matter-physicists-score-deals-on-liquid-xenon/?CNDID=41291302&mbid=nl_011118_daily_list3_p4

Scientists Say Lost Ancient Continent Lies Beneath Island in Indian Ocean

http://www.history.com/news/scientists-say-lost-ancient-continent-lies-beneath-island-in-indian-ocean?cmpid=FBPAGE_Brand+Building_20170201_795905124

The 280 million-year-old forest in the South Pole

<http://www.cnn.com/2018/01/05/health/polar-forest-antarctica/index.html?sr=fbCNN010518polar-forest-antarctica0102PMStoryGal>

This AI-Fortified Bot Will Build the First Homes for Humans on Mars

https://www.wired.com/story/this-ai-fortified-bot-will-build-the-first-homes-for-humans-on-mars/?mbid=nl_010618_daily_list3_p4

China's Tiangong-1 space lab to plunge to Earth by March

<http://www.cnn.com/2018/01/05/asia/china-tiangong-1-return-to-earth-intl/index.html?sr=fbCNN010518china-tiangong-1-return-to-earth-intl0929AMVODtopLink>

Gravitational waves measure the universe

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-gravitational-universe.html>

Device creates negative mass—and a novel way to generate lasers

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-device-negative-massand-lasers.html>

Environment, Climate Change and Alternative Energy Sources

When Carl Sagan Warned the World About Nuclear Winter

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/when-carl-sagan-warned-world-about-nuclear-winter-180967198/#M7elljKA7oCLvhhT.03>

Halogens can increase solar cell performance by 25 per cent

<https://techxplore.com/news/2017-12-halogens-solar-cell-cent.html>

Chinese scientists have found a fungus that could help save the planet - in a rubbish dump in Pakistan

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/09/chinese-scientists-have-found-a-plastic-eating-fungus?utm_content=buffer12a63&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

The World's First Fully Solar-Powered Train Just Left the Station

<https://futurism.com/worlds-first-fully-solar-powered-train-left-station/>

Ikea to use mushroom packaging that will decompose in a garden within weeks

https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/mushroom-fungi-packaging-ikea-decompose-ecovative/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_content=global&utm_campaign=general-content&linkId=45766436

Katharine Hayhoe: 'The true threat is the delusion that our opinion of science somehow alters its reality'

<http://www.wired.co.uk/article/katherine-hayhoe-climate-change-clean-energy-interview>

New desalination method offers low energy alternative to purify salty water

<https://techxplore.com/news/2018-01-desalination-method-energy-alternative-purify.html>

Scientists find surprising evidence of rapid changes in the Arctic

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A fossil fuel technology that doesn't pollute

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