

ROB SCHOFIELD: Scientists are dispensing with the phrase 'climate change' and are now referring to the situation that confronts humanity as the 'global climate crisis'. A recent hearing in Washington makes clear that this is not an overstatement. Business leaders, health experts and former military commanders warn the US House Budget Committee of impending disaster if there is no plan to address the rising sea levels, warmer temperatures, more frequent floods and other severe weather events that are now on the way. Retired Navy Admiral David Titley, who is now a professor of Meteorology at Penn State University, told the committee that if we do nothing and continue business as usual, the basic stability upon which human civilization is founded will be quote, 'absolutely over'. Titley said that society must end its widespread use of carbon fuels as quickly as possible. Frighteningly, the admirals' message has yet to make an impact on the Trump administration or its apologists in the US Senate like North Carolina's Richard Burr and Thom Tillis. This simply must change soon if humans are to avoid a global environmental calamity. For NC Policy Watch, I'm Rob Schofield.