



The Global Warming Policy Foundation

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23 January 2018

BBC Complaints

PO Box 1922
Darlington
DL3 0UR

Dear Sir/Madam,

The BBC's *News at Ten* programme on the 18th January 2018 contained two factual errors in its report of the global temperature of 2017.

The errors were in the cue to the report by Roger Harrabin, and in the report itself.

The newsreader, Huw Edwards, said that 2017 was "the hottest year on record."

This is untrue.

According to the Met Office 2017 was the third warmest year on record.

https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/hadcrut4/data/current/time_series/HadCRUT.4.6.0.0.annual_ns_avg.txt

In his report Roger Harrabin said, "2017 had no heating from El Niño."

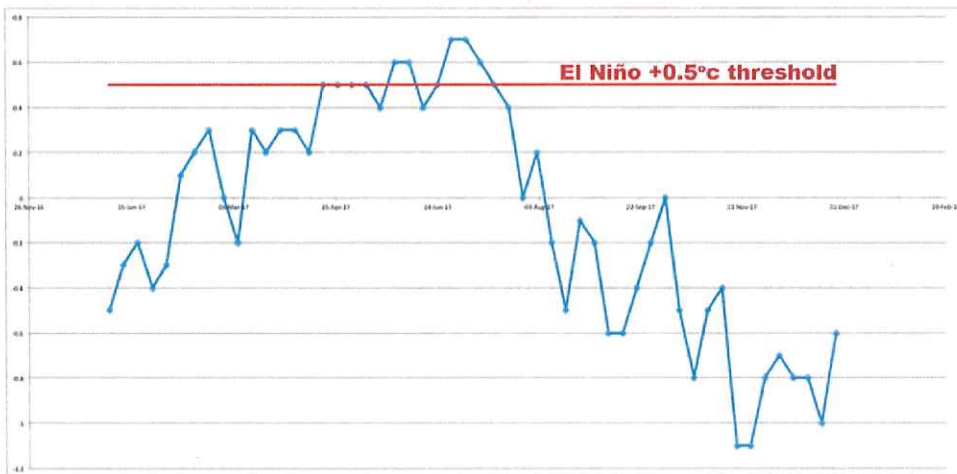
This is also untrue.

El Niño warming was evident during eleven weeks in the spring and summer of 2017, pushing global temperatures up accordingly.

Director: Dr Benny Peiser

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2017 Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomalies in the El Niño 3.4 region reaching and surpassing the 0.5°C threshold; Source: NOAA
<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/data/indices/wksst8110.for>

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) there were El Niño “conditions” for nearly three months in 2017, but they did not lead to an El Niño “event.” A formal El Niño event was not declared because the El Niño heating did not continue for five consecutive three-month periods.

It is therefore untrue to say that “2017 had no heating from El Niño.”

These are two factual errors that should be acknowledged with an on-air apology and a correction on the BBC’s *Corrections and Clarifications* page.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Benny Peiser
 Director