

Wally Broecker and Climate Engineering

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Global warming has a variety of negative impacts. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Paris Accord based on the IPCC assessments consider 1.5 to less than 2 degrees Celsius as the limit beyond which global warming would lead to effects that sometimes are called dangerous interference with the climate system. In order to stay below 2 degrees Celsius global warming two options are typically considered: Carbon dioxide reduction (CDR) and Solar Radiation Management (SRM). Wally Broecker early on extended his research from understanding climate change to thinking about solutions that would keep it within reasonable limits. In this presentation his contributions to the field of climate engineering are summarized and discussed in the context of the magnitude of the problem encountered by possible implementation of each method and the time scales on which decisive action has to be taken.