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Film Response: Global Warming to Global Flooding

One major environmental problem discussed in this film; is earth's temperature is rapidly increasing; with this change occurring as a result of us humans. As we increase the carbon dioxide output in the atmosphere. This has caused natural disasters such as droughts, floods, rising sea levels, and tropical storms. Global warming affects climatic elements & changes such as rainfall, evaporation, sunshine, and night-time temperatures. These changes can have a long-term impact on agriculture production; which can threaten wild species with extinction; this can further impact our lifestyles and health.

Earth's polar regions are displaying the effects of global warming; with extreme melting and breaking of ice caps occurring. Also in mountainous polar regions snow caps are steadily melting year by year. The melting of ice in the polar regions has caused the seasons to become erratic in nature; with atmosphere highs and lows moving to new regions. The human aspect that controls global warming; changes the atmosphere in terms of greenhouse gasses and toxic metals. The amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere has steadily increased due to the industrial revolution. With economies steadily increasing all over the world; the demand for energy to support these economies increases the output of greenhouse gasses; which further warm the

earth. This increases the formation of power plants; some mostly filled by coal; which is a known pollutant for the atmosphere.

With sudden heat spikes occurring from gradual global warming; heat stroke and heat-related deaths are starting to occur more frequently; especially in urban cities where the population of people is large but is subjected to condensed surroundings. Big cities like New York, for example, run 3 to 5 degrees hotter than their surroundings. The spikes in heat also harm air quality, and promote the lingering of air pollutants and carbon dioxide in the hot temperatures.

Global warming can affect storm patterns; which can in turn increase severe rain in certain areas; this can cause the ocean level to rise and further cause extreme global flooding. Rising sea levels can threaten entire communities; this change in sea level is caused by melting coastal glaciers in high polar regions, and by the slow expansion of warming oceans. From these storms and flooding; infrastructure becomes damaged beyond repair, and pipeline systems become exposed to harsher conditions than they were created to endure.

Some measures that can be taken to stop the dangers of global warming are making big corporations and companies decrease their carbon footprint and decreasing greenhouse emissions. Switching energy systems from fossil fuels to renewable energy like solar or wind power. Another measure that can be taken in climate adaptation; is adapting to the climate changes around us by making simple changes in our environment. For example; planting or persevering trees around your area, and preparing your home and area for a natural disaster that might occur. On large initiatives for climate adaptation; the government would need to build roads and bridges that can adapt to higher temperatures and powerful storms. Another initiative

could be moving from areas that are near the coastline and are prone to flooding. Overall climate action requires significant financial investments by governments and businesses.

Works Cited

“PBS Global Warming the Signs and the Science.” *YouTube*, YouTube, 12 Oct. 2015,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UblQQHew0CE>.