Interactive comment on “Young People’s Burden: Requirement of Negative CO₂ Emissions” by James Hansen et al.

James Hansen et al.

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Received and published: 13 December 2016

Thank you for drawing attention to the potential importance of soil carbon for drawing down atmospheric CO₂ amount. Given the large amount of carbon that is already in the soil, relative to the atmospheric amount, it is clear that this topic deserves careful attention.

There are many potential co-benefits of improved agricultural and forestry practices that enhance the amount of carbon in the soil and biosphere, and it is well recognized that the developed world has some obligation to assist the developing world to achieve good practices.

In our revision to the paper we discuss further the potential magnitudes of carbon that might be sequestered via such activities. It is an important contribution, but cannot prevent large climate change if fossil fuel emissions remain high.