

Dr Martin Rasmussen  
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Hirel, August 31, 2021

Dear Martin,

By e-mail letter dated 08/06/2021, you invited me to act as editor for post-publication review of the paper 'The temperature-CO<sub>2</sub> climate connection: an epistemological reappraisal of ice-core messages' by Pascal Richet. I accepted this duty by June 11th and lead this post-review within a friendly collaboration with your office.

As Richet's manuscript appears controversial, in order to get free of any school of thought,

- I selected reviewers from different scientific fields with the aim to fully cover all aspects of the paper : Epistemology, Climate Science, Geochemistry, Paleoclimatology and Ice Core research ;
- I invited 7 reviewers working in different countries from America, Asia and Europe. They all accepted and I received the last review on August 30th.

Reviews have been sent to your office with copy to me. All reviewers recommended rejection of the manuscript. As it was my editor duty, I checked that all the criticism rested on a significant ground. Clearly, the paper is inherently flawed and cannot be remedied by further revision.

In conclusion, I reject the manuscript and, to preserve the reputation of Copernicus journals, ask the HGSS editorial board to definitely bar access to Richet's article, including the abstract.

As it is the rule, reviews are anonymous except if reviewers ask to sign their review. As editor which takes his decision on the ground of reviews, I don't see any problem to let know my name.

I would like to thank the reviewers who spent a lot of time and made their work very seriously and your collaborators for efficient editorial support.

Sincerely yours,



Jean-Claude Duplessy

Emeritus Director of research at CNRS  
Member of the French Academy of Science