Richard Richels

Is it time yet?

May 16-17, 2019

EPRI SeminarWashington, DC

UNFCCC calls for

costeffectiveness analysis Not costbenefit analysis Long-lived nature of existing capital stock

Shortage of low-cost alternatives

Positive return on capital

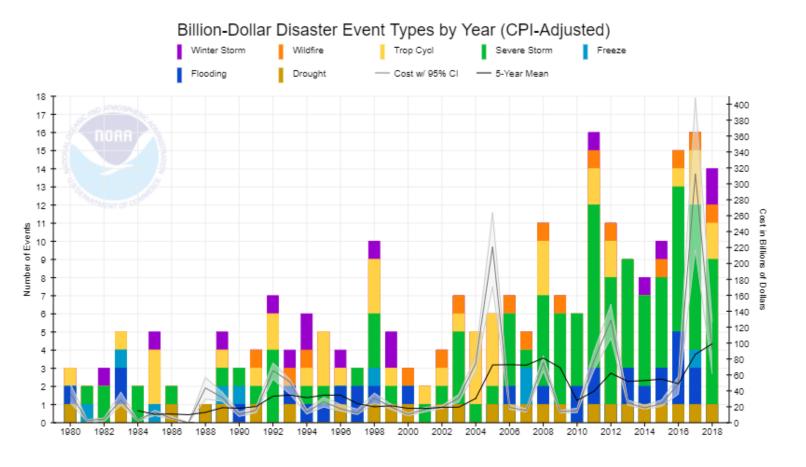
Economic justification for 'when' flexibility

'When' flexibility is intertemporal analog of 'where' flexibility

When flexibility

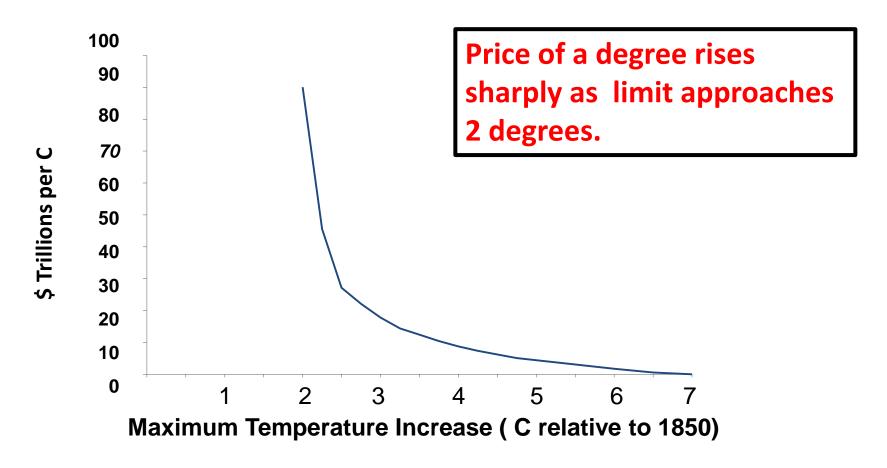
Where flexibility





Source: https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/beyond-data/2018s-billion-dollar-disasters-context

Marginal Mitigation Costs



From Geoffrey J. Blanford et al (2015). "The Price of a Degree: Marginal Mitigation Costs of Achieving Long-Term Temperature Targets". EPRI, Palo Alto, CA.

Gamechangers



Mother Nature speaking out loud and clear.



Run out the clock on 'when' flexibility.



Question is no longer 'when'?

It is 'how much' now?

"When a man knows he is to be hanged in the morning, it concentrates his mind wonderfully."

Samuel Johnson