CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE 2013: HAIKU

Gregory C. Johnson
Climate Change Science 2013: Haiku

This work is my attempt to distill into Haiku: “The Summary for Policymakers of the Working Group 1 Contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report”. The result is solely my own creation, so any views or opinions expressed herein are my own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U. S. Government, the IPCC, or any other entity.

Gregory C. Johnson
Big, fast carbon surge:
Ice melts, oceans heat and rise.
Air warms by decades.
Carbon increases:
Air warms through century past.
More heavy rains fall.
Abyss warms, coasts flood.
Air moistens – salt patterns shift.
Carbon sours oceans.

HISTORY, WATER
Glaciers and ice sheets melt worldwide, speed increasing.
Sea ice, snow retreat.
Seas rise as they warm.
Rates quicken last century.
Melting ice joins in.
Burning fuel, farming trap heat and sour the oceans beyond human ken.
CO2, methane
warm despite sun-spots, dust, soot, clouds, and volcanoes.
Models of climate improve with time and details . . . capture big patterns.
We burn more carbon air warms for decades – but seas . . . for millennia.
Our industry has warmed oceans, air, lands – changed rains – melted ice – raised seas.
Recent air warming slowed by volcanoes and sun? Seas sequester heat.
Forty years from now children will live in a world shaped by our choices.
Arctic will warm most and land more than sea - too hot. Still, choices matter.
Wet will get wetter and dry drier, since warm air... carries more water.
Oceans will warm, yes, deep and wide, changing currents that flow 'round the world.

FUTURE, WATER
Glaciers, snow recede. No Arctic summer ice soon? Frozen earth melts too.

FUTURE, ICE
Glaciers melt, seas warm,  
giant polar ice sheets stir:  
Seas may rise faster.
Warming land, sour sea, melting frozen Earth may spew carbon back to air.
Fast, strong action will reduce future warming, but... rising seas certain.