

DR JAMES HANSEN

James Hansen is director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City.

He was trained in physics and astronomy in the space science program of Dr. James Van Allen at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Hansen is best known for testimony on climate change to Congress in the 1980s that helped raise broad awareness of the global warming issue. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1995 and has received awards including the World Wildlife Federation's Conservation Medal from the Duke of Edinburgh.

He was designated by Time Magazine as one of the world's 100 most influential people in 2006. Dr. Hansen disputes the contention, of fossil fuel interests and their government supporters, that it is god-given fact that all fossil fuels must be burned, and he outlines actions needed to stabilize climate, and steps that the public can take to influence government and industry policies.