

## **Steven E. Koonin**

Director

Center for Urban Science and Progress

New York University

### **“Can We Ever Get to a Zero-Emission World?”**

ABSTRACT: Politicians from some 200 countries agreed in December to limit human influences on the climate consistent with a global temperature rise of well below 2 C. I will review the scientific, technological, and economic dimensions of that aspiration to assess the likelihood that it can be realized. I will also discuss backup strategies in the event that human influences cannot be stabilized at allegedly “safe” levels.