

Review of manuscript *Tropical forcing of increased Southern Ocean climate variability revealed by a 140-year subantarctic temperature reconstruction*, by Turney et al., submitted to *Climates of the Past*, November 2016.

Overall recommendation: Accept, pending minor revisions.

Remarks to the author

General comments

This is a very interesting and carefully written manuscript that sheds significant light on pre-instrumental climate variability over the southern oceans. The evidence for an increase in climate variability is compelling, as are the links to tropical/ENSO variability and Rossby wave propagation.

There is quite some overlap between sections 2 and 3 and there is some repetition. Can you rearrange the text to keep the results confined to section 3?

Specific comments

Lines 59-60: Could also add Jones et al. (2016) here.

Line 84: I wouldn't use the word "competing" here. Both flows act to reduce the north-south temperature gradient, hence are really working in the same sense.

Technical corrections

Line 211: Define NCEP.

McGlone et al (2010) reference is missing an author.