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.