



DrumBeat: August 7, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on August 7, 2006 - 9:10am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by [Leanan](#) on 08/07/06 at 9:20 AM EDT]

[Rising oil price has wider impact](#)

(CNN) -- Higher oil prices are starting to cause havoc far beyond the petrol bowser. Slowly but surely, the rise in the price of oil is pushing up inflation and interest rates and affecting people's spending habits and share markets.

[How power-hungry cities drive projects like NYRI](#). Goal: Move excess energy to coasts.

[Energy-efficient homes the wave of the future](#)

[Oil's twilight](#): The *Chicago Tribune* reflects on the meaning of Paul Salopek's special report on peak oil.

[PTT Exploration Finds 'Significant' Energy Reserves in Myanmar](#)

U.K.: [British high street targets energy-conscious consumers](#)

Eco-friendly Britons seeking relief from soaring domestic energy bills can now pop down the high street and pick up solar panels for their homes.

Electrical goods group Currys became the first major retailer in Britain to sell the power panels after Britain experienced its hottest month on record in July.

[Japan checking disputed oil production](#)

TOKYO: Japan is checking whether China has started production at a disputed gas field in the East China Sea that Tokyo says may extend into its territory, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

The stated-owned parent of China's CNOOC Ltd. said on its Web site on Friday that the

firm had begun production at the Chunxiao field in the East China Sea.

[Dubai to take control of offshore oil resources](#)

[In planning energy future, think local, small and clean](#)

OVERSHADOWED by the expanding debate over global warming, another environmental issue is heating up: the grim prospects that Appalachia and the other coal-rich areas of America face as energy companies plan a series of some 150 major new coal-burning plants.

Already, reports Joe Lovett of the Lewisburg, W.Va.-based Appalachian Center, the brutal mountaintop removal that operators currently favor as the fastest way to extract Appalachian coal has buried more than 1,200 miles of previously free-flowing streams and caused the loss of more than 1 million acres of the world's most productive hardwood forests.

[Update by Yankee on 08/07/06 at 1:22 PM EDT]

[William Saletan reflects on why air conditioning is destroying the world](#)

That's the problem in Washington today. Policymakers aren't facing global warming, because they aren't feeling it. They gave themselves air conditioning in the 1920s and '30s, long before the public got it. White House meetings and congressional hearings on climate change are doomed hours beforehand, when the thermostats are set. One minute, you're watching video of people sweltering in New Orleans. The next minute, you're watching senators dispute the significance of greenhouse gases. Don't ask whether these people are living on the same planet. In effect, they aren't.



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