



DrumBeat: September 9, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on September 9, 2006 - 9:12am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 09/09/06 at 9:21 AM EDT]

[Shell Says Cost, Lack of Gas Are Slowing Saudi Plans](#)

Royal Dutch Shell Plc said a lack of natural gas and rising construction costs are slowing down the planned expansion of a chemicals plant in Saudi Arabia that it owns with Saudi Basic Industries Corp.

The plans call for expanding the Saudi Arabia Petrochemical Co., or Sadaf, petrochemicals complex in Jubail by adding a second plant for the production of ethylene, a gas derivative commonly used to make chemicals. The project is suffering from a shortage of natural gas in the country, said Robert Weener, the chairman of Shell Companies in Saudi Arabia, yesterday at a London conference.

[Update by Super G on 09/09/06 at 9:54 AM EDT] [Paul Salopek has been freed from prison in the Sudan](#). He is author of the Chicago Tribune's [great series on peak oil](#).

[Update by Leanan on 09/09/06 at 9:47 AM EDT]

[Gaffes prompt re-examination of BP CEO's record](#)

"People will ask why has BP been able to keep costs so low and to pay so much cash back to shareholders in dividends and buybacks. Has it been at the expense of necessary maintenance?" Hoozemans said.

[BP corrosion expert job open year before spill](#)

[Problems in the pipeline](#). Jeremy Leggett asks:

In June Lord Browne tried to persuade the markets that the oil price will come down again to \$25 at some point, and he regularly insists that premature peak of production is a fiction. Investors should perhaps ask themselves two things. Would you buy a used refinery from this man? And, if the answer to that one is no, is it wise to believe him on peak oil?

[Experts Debate Energy Issues and Outlook](#)

Following Wednesday's presentation on peak oil by Craig R. Smith, President and CEO of Swiss America Trading Corp. and co-author of *Blackgold Stranglehold*, the notorious non-believer of the peak oil theory, Dr. Michael Economides of the University of Houston & Texas Energy Center, delivered a presentation on energy and the peak oil debate. Later in the day, both Smith and Economides together participated in a discussion panel. Both addressed a number of important issues.

[The Hubbert Parabola](#)

[Massive Oil Find In Gulf of Mexico Brings Gloom to 'Peak Oil' Pranksters](#)

I hate to say "I told you so," but the news of a big new oil discovery by Chevron and two partners in the Gulf of Mexico confirms what I've been saying for years: Oil is not scarce. Big Oil's price manipulators only want us to think it is.

[Clarification of the Huge Chevron Gulf Oil Discovery](#)

[Non-OPEC production plentiful in next 5 years](#)

Substantial increases in oil production in Africa and the former Soviet Union, along with slowing demand, will put the squeeze on oil cartel OPEC in the next five years, a strategic analyst said on Thursday.

"There's enough non-OPEC supply to meet demand," said Sarah Emerson, managing director of Energy Security Analysis Inc.

[Acoustic Data May Reveal Hidden Gas, Oil Supplies](#)

[Bigger IEA Role Needed in Oil Market](#)

The International Energy Agency needs to be more active in releasing crude oil from its stocks to help calm volatile oil markets, as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is doing enough on its part to supply the market, a former OPEC president said Friday.

[Can't see the Future for the Trees](#)

According to *Business Week*, ethanol is the 'white-knight fuel'. Recent studies from the University of Minnesota claim biodiesel is even better.

I think both contribute to the very problems they seek to address.

[Peak oil in Yellow Springs Ohio](#)

[ASPO-USA Peak Oil Convention in Boston has extended the early-registraton period](#)

[Plug-in hybrids get big push from Calif. utility](#)

LOS ANGELES - California's largest utility, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., is asking its 5.1 million customers to petition automakers to speed up development of plug-in electric-gasoline hybrid vehicles.

Along with their power and gas bills for September, PG&E customers are getting a request to lobby the automakers.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](#).