

# DrumBeat: September 30, 2006

Posted by threadbot on September 30, 2006 - 9:15am

Topic: Miscellaneous

[Update by Leanan on 09/30/06 at 10:04 AM EDT]

Peak Oil And The Problem Of Infrastructure

Most schemes for a post-oil technology are based on the misconception that there will be an infrastructure, similar to that of the present day, which could support such future gadgetry. Modern equipment, however, is dependent on specific methods of manufacture, transportation, maintenance, and repair. In less abstract terms, this means machinery, motorized vehicles, and service depots or shops, all of which are generally run by fossil fuels. In addition, one unconsciously assumes the presence of electricity, which energizes the various communications devices, such as telephones and computers; electricity on such a large scale is only possible with fossil fuels.

## The Next Step: Conversion to the Solar Hydrogen Economy

Although the imminent exhaustion of the world's fossil fuel would certainly propel us to the Solar Hydrogen Economy, we need the fossil fuel to make the transition. Therefore, we need to have some idea as to when it might be exhausted.

Is the world about to run out of oil?

Crystal ball needed to predict oil direction

Peak Oil Passnotes: Oil at a Turning Point

Bangladesh: More attacks on Power offices

Demonstrations by the people demanding uninterrupted power supply continued yesterday in different regions of the country while police filed cases against about 22,100 unidentified persons in the capital for taking part in the violent protests of Wednesday and Thursday.

Several hundred residents of Azampur in Uttara of the capital attacked the local office of Dhaka Electric Supply Company (Desco) yesterday afternoon demanding uninterrupted power supply. The mob also vandalised vehicles belonging to Desco.

## Official: India's plan to build strategic oil reserves will help offset price volatillity

### Scientists develop more powerful nuclear fuel

U.S. researchers have designed a reactor fuel that they believe can make nuclear power plants 50 percent more powerful and safer, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology said.

Researchers say their new technology should be ready for commercial use in existing reactors in about 10 years.

## Backyard wind turbines turn energy consumers into suppliers

Think wind power and you probably imagine multimegawatt-scale wind farms featuring gigantic turbines producing power for a few thousand homes. But a handful of companies in the United States would prefer to have each home powered by its own wind turbine.



# \$1,000,000,000,000: the cost of capping greenhouse gas emissions

### Science and action on climate change diverging: UK

The gap between what countries are doing to address climate change and what scientists say they should be doing is widening, Britain's Environment Minister David Miliband, said on Friday.

### Climate demands rapid energy conversion, experts say

#### Most in U.S. say Congress short-sighted

Americans are very worried about the long-term future of the country, and they don't think Congress is paying attention to big issues on the horizon, like Social Security and

global warming, according to a survey released Friday.

The survey found 81 percent of respondents were very or somewhat worried about Social Security, and just as many were very or somewhat worried about energy issues. The findings were released by New York University's John Brademas Center for the Study of Congress.

### Lower gas prices may help auto sales

When Nelson Ropke recently replaced his Jeep Grand Cherokee sport utility vehicle with a Chrysler Pacifica crossover, gasoline prices were top-of-mind. The Grosse Pointe lawyer is a typical buyer still smarting from post-Katrina \$3-per-gallon prices, but some analysts and dealers say they're seeing fewer people like him since pump prices subsided in the later part of September.

An older link, but what the heck, we need a little fun for the weekend: <u>Songs of Energy Crises</u> Past.



A nostalgia trip for those old enough to remember when tunes like "Cheaper Crude or No More Food" were all the rage, a fascinating glimpse into the '70s for everyone else.

# [Update by Leanan on 09/30/06 at 9:21 AM EDT]

OPEC: Nigeria, Venezuela to slash oil production from Sunday

LONDON (AFP) - OPEC members Nigeria and Venezuela will reduce their oil production by a combined 170,000 barrels per day from Sunday, a spokesman for

OPEC said.

The spokesman told AFP the decisions were made voluntarily by each producer, insisting they were not imposed by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

#### BP shuts Lisburne field in Alaska on leak

ters) - BP Plc., working to restore Prudhoe Bay crude oil output after a two-month reduction, closed the adjacent Lisburne oil field in Alaska on Thursday due to a methane gas leak, the company said on Friday.

Between 25,000 and 30,000 barrels per day (bpd) in crude oil output was shut in when BP discovered methane gas filling the Lisburne field processing facility, which processes crude from three fields, said BP spokesman Steve Rinehart.

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