



DrumBeat: October 23, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on October 23, 2006 - 9:18am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 10/23/06 at 9:21 AM EDT]

The future is tar:

[Shell is going to the wall for oil](#)

Shell is spending \$30 million to create and test a massive "freeze wall" that would extend from the surface to 1,700 feet below the ground. The walls would be 30 feet thick in a shape 300 feet wide by 350 feet long.

[Shell to buy out minorities in Canada unit](#)

LONDON/AMSTERDAM - Royal Dutch Shell Plc has offered to buy out the 22 percent of Shell Canada it does not own, in a further sign the Anglo-Dutch oil producer is betting heavy oil sands will halt a slide in its reserves.

[Saudi cuts Asia oil sales up to 8% after OPEC deal](#)

TOKYO - Top oil exporter Saudi Arabia began to implement OPEC's first output curbs in over two years by telling its core Asian customers it would cut their supplies by up to 8 percent next month, industry sources said on Monday.

[Total Says Executive Questioned Over Iraq Oil Deals Is Innocent](#)

PARIS — The French oil company Total rallied on Friday to the defense of its second in command and designated chief executive, Christophe de Margerie, after he was taken into custody and questioned about possible illegal payments for Iraqi oil.

[BP attacked over safety standards](#)

[Halliburton earnings climb](#)

HOUSTON - Halliburton Co, the world's No. 2 oilfield services group, on Sunday posted

a 25 percent rise in earnings, beating Wall Street forecasts, on robust spending by producers on oil and gas output, particularly in North America.

[Britain tops energy waste league](#)

British people are Europe's worst energy wasters, with bad habits such as leaving appliances on stand-by likely to waste £11bn by 2010, a study claims.

[Oil and gas discovered in Zambia](#)

South Africa: [Forget oil, look at food prices](#)

Oil has been such an economic bogeyman in recent times, hogging the headlines, that not noticed is as severe a threat -- food inflation.

Food staple maize has been trading internationally at record highs, driven by the world's move to energy diversification to produce bio-fuels as an alternative to fossil fuels.

[MEPs, MPs urge caution in use of biofuels; call for ban on use of palm oil](#)

The European Parliament's industry committee has called for an EU-wide ban on the use of biofuels derived from palm oil. MEPs called for the ban over concerns about the impacts of palm oil production on indigenous forestry in their a response to the European Commission's proposals for an EU transport biofuels strategy.

[Was Tanzania's Cabinet reshuffle sparked by current power crisis?](#)

As Tanzanians study the implications of the recent Cabinet reshuffle, it is beginning to emerge that a solution to the crippling energy crisis was a key motive in the mind of President Jakaya Kikwete when he effected the changes.

[Australia unveils 500-million-dollar climate change drive](#)

SYDNEY - Australia is to launch a 500-million-dollar drive to tackle global warming, Prime Minister John Howard has announced, as the country battles its worst drought in more than a century.

[It's so warm plants think spring is here](#)

THE weather really is going haywire. Britain's gardeners are reporting the first signs of a "phantom spring" in the midst of one of the warmest Octobers on record.

[Cracking up: Ice turning to water, glaciers on the move - and a planet in peril](#)

Nothing else quite like it has happened at any time in the past 10,000 years. In just over a month an entire Antarctic ice shelf, bigger than a small country, disintegrated and disappeared, altering world atlases for ever.

[Peak Oil: Sell oil stocks?](#)

Raymond J. Learsy: [What's Up?? OPEC Agrees To Production Cuts Yet Prices Are Down!](#)

Dale Allen Pfeiffer: [Energy depletion & the US descent into fascism](#)

Kurt Cobb: [Mr. Market, manic-depressive: Is there a cure?](#)

First, queuing theory (essentially, the theory of how lines form) tells us that when a system approaches 100 percent of its capacity, the length of the line to access that system can become highly chaotic, changing from very short to very long in rapid succession. In our case the line is filled by those trying to buy energy, particularly natural gas, oil and coal.



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