

DrumBeat: October 28, 2006

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Topic: Miscellaneous

[Update by Leanan on 10/28/06 at 11:14 AM EDT]

When an oil executive is worried: With crisis a constant worry, Shell's chief says, Americans can no longer feel entitled to use energy

It's finally come to this: Even oil executives are sounding alarms about U.S. oil consumption.

"The ease with which we all lived in the last 50 years, with cheap energy, is coming to a close," John Hofmeister, president of Shell Oil Co., told a City Club luncheon crowd Friday in Portland. "The next 50 years cannot be like the last 50 years."

<u>Senators to Exxon: Stop the Denial</u>: Democrats and Republicans Say Stop Funding Global Warming Doubters

Lithuania suspects Russian oil grab

MOSCOW The Russian government has never been straightforward about its plans to take control of the oil and natural gas business.

So Lithuanians were suspicious in late July when Moscow said it had shut down the only pipeline supplying them with Russian crude oil and blamed it on the environmental risks of a leak.

Europe nears single energy market

Europe on Friday took an important step towards establishing a fully functioning single energy market after three countries agreed to open the European Union's first multinational electricity exchange.

WTO must set rules for future biofuel trade

Germany will rethink its energy mix, including a possible revival of its nuclear programme which the previous government decided to phase out, a senior government official said on Thursday.

Navies brace for Qaeda oil attacks

RIYADH: Coalition naval forces are helping to guard vital oil installations in top exporter Saudi Arabia as part of heightened security following an Al-Qaeda threat last month, naval sources said yesterday. In their sights are the kingdom's Ras Tanura terminal, the world's biggest offshore oil export facility, and Bahrain's Bapco refinery.

Oil prices creep higher on terror fears

Oil prices rose Friday following reports of a terror alert in the petroleum-rich Persian Gulf region, though the incident didn't rattle the market like it might have a few months ago.

Why OPEC's decision has yet to make a difference

Shell insists Russia will make \$80 billion from Sakhalin-2 project

Shell insisted yesterday that the Russian state should expect to heap revenues of up to \$80bn (£44bn) from the giant Sakhalin-2 oil and gas project that the Kremlin has accused of breaching environmental rules.

The Anglo-Dutch oil giant said that it should recoup its costs by 2013, after which revenue payments to the Russian state would soar.

As wells dry up, Mexico could be forced to privatize oil

<u>China: Oil at any cost</u>: In Africa, Beijing seems insistent on repeating the tragic mistakes made by the West.

Putting China's African oil hunt into perspective

Zhang says, "China's economic boom and stagnated supply of domestic oil have produced the growing hunger for foreign oil." At present, he says, "China imports over 40 percent of its oil consumption and that is expected to rise to 60 percent or more by 2020." Beijing has also elevated energy security "to the height of importance in China's

foreign policy," Zhang points out.

Fearful of disruptions along the long sea lines from the Middle East, and realizing it will take much longer than anticipated to see any return on investments in pipelines from Central Asian and Russian fields, China has turned to Africa in a big way. That, according to Zhang, despite "Western criticism of China fuelling conflicts and human-rights violations in Africa by selling arms to some repressive regimes in exchange for oil and minerals."

Largest U.S. biodiesel plant to open in Washington

Unsold cars rile mega-dealer AutoNation: Glut worse than makers say, requires bigger cuts.

Groping in the dark

The civic government of Vancouver, in an extensive debate about whether to allow WalMart to build a store in the city, made much of the traffic a new store would bring, but only one councilor ever mentioned peak oil production as a factor to consider in thinking about the future retail environment of the city, and none mentioned greenhouse gas emissions, or any civic attempts we might make to reduce ours.

Dubai: Energy 2030 to get underway next Wednesday

The Program Topical Areas are as follows: Oil scenarios: from peak oil to plenty of oil, Future of natural gas as a bridge and beyond, Nuclear energy as an alternative, Solar energy now and in the future, Wind energy Hydrogen, methanol and ethanol as fuels for the future, Energy from biomass and wastes Carbon management Impact of energy consumption on the environment, Energy efficiency, Transport energy and Research and development needs in the oil and gas industries.

The myth of energy independence

Where Did Our Energy Crisis Go? A Look Back to What I Said Last Year

Wow! Peak Energy looks into their crystal ball, and sees the future. Amazing!



khaos3 posted a brief report on the ASPO conference in Boston at the bottom of yesterday's thread. Check it out if you missed it.

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