# DrumBeat: November 19, 2006

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Topic: Miscellaneous

### [Update by Leanan on 11/19/06 at 9:12 AM EDT]

### US report says Saudi Arabia will raise oil output

DUBAI - The International Energy Outlook 2006, issued by the US Department of Energy, expects Saudi Arabia - the largest oil exporter - to increase its crude oil production from 12 to 18 million barrels per day by 2030.

Oil prices are expected to hover between \$34 and \$96 per barrel in 2030, the report said.

The Arabic version of the report, published by the Dubai-based Gulf Research Centre, expects a gradual retreat in oil prices in 2006 and further decline to \$47 per barrel by 2014.

#### Dems take aim at oil company tax breaks

WASHINGTON - House Democrats are targeting billions of dollars in oil company tax breaks for quick repeal next year. A broader energy proposal that would boost alternative energy sources and conservation is expected to be put off until later.

#### Kazakhstan to Block Chinese Oil Purchase

"We must take extreme measures to stop the agreement on the Karazhanbas," Baktykozha Izmukhambetov said in televised remarks, referring to an oil field that is the biggest asset of Canada-based Nations Energy Co. in the Central Asian nation.

#### Prodi urged to steer EU on energy

American economist Jeremy Rifkin urged Romano Prodi on Saturday to use his clout in Europe to push the bloc towards a future in which all its energy would come from hydrogen and renewable sources.

In the coming months, however, the world will hear a lot from Washington about joining the insiders — the Europeans and other industrial countries committed to reducing their emissions of greenhouse gases. The weight of science, economics and politics is pushing the world's biggest emitter in that direction.

### Ethanol production spikes corn prices

Ethanol production may be a two-headed coin for consumers, lowering the cost of fuel but eventually hiking the price of meat, an agricultural economist said Friday.

Al Gore: At stake is nothing less than the survival of human civilisation

### Coming soon: a green Bill Gates

INTERNET STOCKS are surging again. And biotechnology still has great promise. But I'm betting that the next Bill Gates, whoever he or she is, will be an environmental entrepreneur. Why? Because despite the recent focus on the potential costs to society of climate change, solving this challenge may also present the greatest economic opportunity of our time.

### Toyota plans diesel hybrid car

NAGOYA — Toyota Motor Corp plans to commercialize a diesel hybrid subcompact car as early as 2010 in cooperation with its ally Isuzu Motors Ltd, which is strong in diesel engine technologies, informed sources said Saturday.

From Energy Bulletin: a couple of links to YouTube videos about peak oil. Oil supplies? Don't worry! by Randy Parks, and the short and humorous ImPOssible Mission by Aerobarfilms.

# Venezuela Bills Total \$17.3 Million in Unpaid Taxes

Venezuela's tax agency said Thursday that French oil company Total SA owes the country US\$17.3 million (euro13.5 million) in unpaid taxes from last year.

The company has 15 days to pay the amount owed plus a 10-percent fine, the agency said in a statement.

## A Troubled River Mirrors China's Path to Modernity

The polluted Yellow River is being sucked dry by factories, growing cities and farming - with still more growth planned.

#### Future without oil looks bleak

It took all of time until 1850 to reach the first billion people. The second billion arrived 80 years later in 1930, the third billion arrived 30 years later in 1960 and the fourth billion in 1974. It took 12 years to add the most recent billion.

These numbers are scary by themselves, but they are even scarier if we consider what allowed this rapid growth, and then ask two questions, can this growth continue? Do we want it to continue?

# No platform in author's gloomy forecast of life without oil

When the applause died down, and guest lecturer James Howard Kunstler completed his talk Thursday night at Rutgers, a man had a question: Why don't you run for office?

Kunstler said he was content to be an author. What's more, he confessed, "I inhaled too recently."

Left unsaid was that his message is far too gloomy.

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