



## DrumBeat: November 29, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on November 29, 2006 - 9:30am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 11/29/06 at 9:12 AM EDT]

An amazing article from the *NY Times*: [The End of Ingenuity](#). It notes that energy is not like other commodities:

The most important resource to consider in this situation is energy, because it is our economy's "master resource" — the one ingredient essential for every economic activity.

It mentions EROEI. And notes that technology cannot save us forever:

Without a doubt, mankind can find ways to push back these constraints on global growth with market-driven innovation on energy supply, efficient use of energy and pollution cleanup. But we probably can't push them back indefinitely, because our species' capacity to innovate, and to deliver the fruits of that innovation when and where they're needed, isn't infinite.

---

### [Resource Forecasting for the Geologically Challenged](#)

Estimating the amount of crude oil resources seems to be a popular activity nowadays, but often the results of the various studies are not in agreement with each other.

### [Energy Use Can Be Cut by Efficiency, Survey Says](#)

The growth rate of worldwide energy consumption could be cut by more than half over the next 15 years through more aggressive energy-efficiency efforts by households and industry, according to a study by the McKinsey Global Institute, which is scheduled to be released today.

### [Dems' Energy Answer: Snake Oil](#)

Soon-to-be Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid plans to put energy independence at the top of next year's agenda, but his party is pushing the same solutions that have failed for decades to make a dent in oil imports.

## [Pastor Chosen to Lead Christian Coalition Steps Down in Dispute Over Agenda](#)

The president-elect of the Christian Coalition of America, which has long served as a model for activism for the religious right, has stepped down, saying the group resisted his efforts to broaden its agenda to include reducing poverty and fighting global warming.

## [Every price is political in the great gas game](#)

The revelations announced by the US Ambassador John Tefft on Monday that any "long term partnership with Iran" is "unacceptable" to the United States leaves Georgia in something of a quandary as the mercury falls across the country.

## [Asean power demand to post high growth rate](#)

## [Biofuel demand swells edible oil prices in China](#)

Edible oil prices in China have surged this month as strong global demand for oilseeds in biofuel production compounds a poor rapeseed harvest.

## [‘Ireland sleep walking’ to oil crisis](#)

“I believe Ireland is sleep walking its way into an energy crisis. What goes for Europe goes quadruple for Ireland. We are at the end of a 3,000 kilometre gas pipeline from Siberia ... you look out 20 years we have no sustainable sources of energy of any critical level.”

## [Winning the War for Natural Resources](#)

Although Hezbollah, al-Qaeda, and the war in Iraq often grab the headlines, I think the global battle for natural resources will probably define the 21st Century when it's all said and done.

## [The outlook for oil](#)

While we expect oil to remain above \$50 a barrel in coming months, it is exceedingly unlikely that oil prices will double or triple through the end of next year as some analysts and “Peak Oil” theorists would have us believe.

Put simply, the world is awash with oil, and if prices do rise, crude supplies can and will increase and alternative energy sources become more viable.

### [New Boundaries for the Norwegian Shelf](#)

In 1996, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs assigned the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate the task of collecting data and mapping areas in the Norwegian Sea and Barents Sea to find out how far the Norwegian Shelf extends beyond the 200-mile limit. Should Norway win acceptance for its position, the Norwegian shelf will grow by approximately 250,000 square kilometers.

### [Oil import cap may force fuel cell vehicle leadership on Chinese market](#)

### [China Coal Energy Seeks \\$1.69 Billion IPO](#)

China Coal Energy Co., the nation's second-largest coal producer, plans to raise as much as HK\$13.16 billion (\$1.69 billion) in a Hong Kong initial public offering to fund expansion, said two people with knowledge of the matter.

### Byron W. King: [A new kind of energy for China](#)

"Beijing Sets National Standard for Methanol as Automotive Fuel," stated the well-regarded, if salmon-tinted newspaper. Methanol? Yes, good old "wood alcohol." This is the stuff that if you drink it, will make you blind. But this particular label of Chinese methanol is not and will not be somebody's moonshine. Instead, this Chinese methanol will be derived from coal in the so-called "Fischer-Tropsch" chemical process, which leads to an industrial method described as "coal-to-liquid" (CTL).

### [Putin Confirms Norway Energy Cooperation](#)

Russia President Vladimir Putin has confirmed a strategic partnership between the two countries and that a decision to rebutt international involvement in Shtokman wouldn't preclude future partnerships in the Russian oil and gas sector, the Norwegian prime minister's office said Tuesday.

### [Halliburton Wins \\$73 Million Pemex Contract](#)

Halliburton's Production Optimization division has been awarded a contract valued at \$73 million by Pemex to provide stimulation services in the Bay of Campeche, Mexico. The stimulation services to be supplied by Halliburton are acidizing, acid fracturing, water control and nitrogen services. The work will be performed from the newly outfitted HOS Saylor stimulation vessel, which will join Halliburton's Cape Hawke stimulation vessel in providing services to Pemex.

### [Investors on e-mission to China](#)

BEIJING - China stands to benefit from the booming global greenhouse-gas market. Foreign investors are flocking to pay Chinese energy companies and factories to reduce pollution instead of spending far more to cut emissions at home.

### [Warmer oceans storing climate change dangers](#)

Global warming is creating a climate time bomb by storing enormous amounts of heat in the waters of the north Atlantic, UK scientists have discovered.

### [Transition Culture Interview with Richard Heinberg - Part Two... Powerdown and Transition Towns](#)

What I see happening in towns like Totnes in the UK and Willits in California are test-tube experiments for what the rest of society is going to have to do. Right now we are talking about very few communities who are making some groping experimental steps in the direction of energy transition, but very soon every town, every city in the world is going to be faced with the need for making the same kinds of choices. So having at least a few communities that have undertaken the process voluntarily and proactively and have tested out the options and found ways of doing this successfully it is going to be very important. These towns will be the way-showers for rest of us.

### [Europeans face fuel 'price surge'](#)

Electricity prices could double in Europe if power firms are to meet emissions reduction targets under the Kyoto protocol, says a report.

### [California "green tuners" clamor for plug-in cars](#)

LOS ANGELES - Russell Long already owns a pair of fuel-efficient hybrid cars -- a Toyota Prius and a Honda Civic -- but his dream car is not on the market yet: a zippy number he could plug in to recharge at night that would get over 100 miles per gallon.

### [EU tries to combat climate change with tough CO2 cut](#)

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - The European Commission sharpened its main weapon for fighting climate change on Wednesday, demanding across-the-board cuts of emissions rights that European Union states want to give industry in 2008-2012.

## [Denmark Points Way in Alternative Energy Sources](#)

America has been outclassed, and by an unlikely competitor.

In the realm of alternative energy, there is an inconspicuous European nation that could stand to teach the U.S. a few lessons — Denmark.

## [Wind Energy Update](#)

Adelaide, Australia -- Over a third of the world's electricity, including that required by industry, can realistically be supplied by wind energy by the middle of the century, according to a new report released by the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and Greenpeace.

## [Amtrak ridership increases](#)

Tighter airport security and higher gas prices appear to be boosting Amtrak ridership in the Northeast, the South and Midwest.

## U.K: [Heritage plan for nuclear power stations](#)

Nuclear power stations could be given the same degree of protection as castles and archaeological sites under plans being drawn up by heritage bodies.

## [L.A. Auto Show focuses on eco-friendly cars](#)

## [AWB expresses regret at Iraq kickbacks](#)

AWB announced plans to split into two companies as part of its response a government-commission inquiry that reported this week that the company deceived the U.N. and the government by paying over \$220 million to Saddam Hussein's regime between 1999 and 2003 to secure lucrative wheat contracts under the discredited oil-for-food scheme.

## [In Texas, leftover turkey fat fuels biodiesel cars](#)

## [Professor devises new form of solar cell](#)

LEWISTON, Idaho - A University of Idaho professor is devising a new form of solar cell she says could lead to a breakthrough that would make solar energy commercially

feasible.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/us/).