



## DrumBeat: December 4, 2006

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Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 12/04/06 at 10:03 AM EDT]

### [Scientists' warnings unheeded](#)

Yet there were further signs of the desperate measures individuals would take to ensure mobility. A couple of oil strikes that hit many pumps revealed the ferocity with which Australians would defend their right to fill a tank. Long queues formed at the stations with petrol – and anyone who tried to sneak ahead in the queue met raw violence.

### [PayPal's Thiel Scores 230 Percent Gain With Soros-Style Fund](#)

Thiel is a proponent of a geologic theory known as peak oil, which holds that global oil production is now at or near its apex. Among his picks was Calgary-based EnCana Corp., which wrings oil from the tar sands of Canada. EnCana stock rose 54 percent in 2005.

### [Billion growth rate in Danish export of energy technology](#)

The Danish export of energy and environment technology will reach EUR 7 billion this year, estimates Denmark's export council. And it is still growing, writes Børsen.

### [Producers strain to supply growing wind power market](#)

STOCKHOLM - There is an inexhaustible supply of wind to drive their blades, but materials needed to make wind turbines are limited and the industry fears it will fail to keep pace with growing demand for the clean energy source.

### [Working on empty: Planning for oil's end](#)

The prophets of gloom meet every Wednesday in a church basement to plan for the end of oil as we know it.

### [Copernicus, Darwin and the cure for autistic economics](#)

Autistic children can spend much of their time in a world of elaborate fantasy, emotionally detached from real people and objects. Unfortunately, it is not much of a leap to substitute the words "most economists" for "autistic children" in the previous sentence. So apparent has this become that there is a burgeoning movement to establish what is now called a "post-autistic economics" to meet the challenges of describing the real social and physical world we live in.

### [Oil prices and exploration cycle may have ended](#)

While it is doubtful that Deffeyes' crystal ball is precise, the general implications for what's known as the theory of "peak oil" are still worth noting.

### [The Lottery: a creative & effective way to avoid economic collapse](#)

There will be many more losers than winners on Wall Street during our transition to renewable energy. At the end of the day, a renewable energy-based economy requires extreme conservation of resources. That means only buying stuff we really need, in other words, less economic activity. That is a lessee faire capitalist's nightmare.

### [Crude oil production in EU drops by 10%](#)

Crude oil production in the European Union dropped by 10.4% in 2005 with a total of 119 million tons. Crude oil production of the United Kingdom, which is the largest producer in the European Union, continued to fall.

### [Ahmadinejad: Iran ready to meet European gas needs](#)

### [EU, Kazakhstan Pact Aims to Bypass Russia](#)

In the European Union's growing struggle to break Russia's grip on the bloc's gas imports, all roads are leading to Kazakhstan.

Today, the EU signs a memorandum of understanding with Kazakhstan on energy aimed at binding this vast country -- which stretches from the Caspian Sea to China -- closer to Europe.

### [China firms struggle to get Mideast footing](#)

BEIJING: It should be a match made in heaven – China's vast market of energy-thirsty factories and gas-guzzling cars paired with the enormous crude reservoirs of the Middle

East. But although Beijing buys nearly half its oil imports from the region, and is working to flesh out its diplomatic role there, energy firms have struggled to establish a presence.

India: [Up in arms over oil survey](#) - *Environmentalists fear oil exploration could endanger river dolphin*

[Brazil offers to help Ghana out of its energy crisis](#)

Brazil has offered to help Ghana out of its current energy crisis by sending down a thermal electricity generating plant to the country.

[Energy Charter without Russia](#)

The European Energy Charter is 15 years old. Russia signed a charter treaty 12 years ago, but has not ratified it up to this day. Moreover, after years of negotiations, our leaders have declared that Russia is not going to ratify its current version at all. What's wrong with this document, which has been signed by more than 50 nations, and ratified by 46?

The Philippines: [Betting fortunes on biofuel boom](#)

[Bolivia's Morales signs into law contracts nationalizing natural gas](#)

LA PAZ, Bolivia: President Evo Morales signed into law Sunday contracts giving the government control over foreign energy companies' operations, completing a process begun May 1 with the nationalization of Bolivia's petroleum industry.

Uganda: [Oil policy must be all-embracing](#)

Questions like how we can avoid over dependence on oil must be raised and answered convincingly. How shall we prevent a massive, destabilising manpower shift from agriculture to oil, the way it happened say in Nigeria? How can the expectations of local people in the areas around the reserves be met realistically?

[Iraqi govt agrees on Kurds' budget, electricity and oil demands](#)

IRBIL -- The Iraqi government has agreed on most Kurdish demands including returning USD 482 million to Kurdistan, increasing the region's stake in the national electricity network and holding a series of talks on the issue of oil investments, a Kurdish official said Sunday.

### [Change the system, not the climate!](#)

The island nation lost 70% of its food imports and faced the threat of starvation. However, by converting to organic, low-energy-input agriculture and using alternative/renewable energy, the country was able to avert catastrophe. By 2003, Cuban food availability was at a level recommended by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, and in 2006 the World Wide Fund for Nature declared Cuba the only country in the world to achieve sustainable development.

### [How Global Warming Threatens U.S. Businesses](#)

### [Rep. Salazar: Democratic Congress will focus on renewable energy](#)

### [Dell claims new servers save on electric bill](#)

Computer maker Dell Inc.'s solution to the data center energy crisis is to market more energy-efficient versions of its PowerEdge line of servers.

### [Old oil field barracks turn green with solar power, super-insulation](#)

CODY -- A home built in the 1930s as housing for Husky Oil workers in Oregon Basin is getting an extreme makeover as an energy efficient "green house," designed to produce more power than it consumes.

### [Solid Waste-to-Ethanol Process Offers Lower Life Cycle Energy Use than Corn- or Cellulosic-Ethanol Production](#)

Researchers from the University of Toronto and the University of Michigan have concluded that ethanol derived from municipal solid waste (MSW) can deliver a life cycle total energy use per vehicle less than that of corn-ethanol and cellulosic-ethanol (derived from energy crops).

### [Endesa Sees Clean Coal a Reality from 2015](#)

### [OPEC frets over dollar's fall](#)

ABU DHABI/VIENNA - OPEC is worried by a fall in the dollar that is eroding member states' oil revenue and ministers will take up the issue when they meet next week to discuss a further cut in output.

[U.S. retail gas prices continue to rise](#)

[As Vietnam gets richer, locals trade bikes for cars](#)

[Flowers in Alps, bears can't sleep as winter waits](#)

VIENNA (Reuters) - Flowers are blooming on the slopes of Alpine ski resorts and bears are having trouble hibernating in Siberia amid a late start to winter that may be a portent of global warming.

Rare December pollen is troubling asthma sufferers as far north as Scandinavia, sales of winter clothing are down and Santa Claus is having to reassure children his sleigh will take off on Christmas Eve, snow or no snow.



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