



## Drumbeat: December 23, 2009

Posted by [Leanan](#) on December 23, 2009 - 9:20am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

### [Exxon's drilling juggernaut](#)

NEW YORK (CNMoney.com) -- Exxon Mobil may be getting more than it bargained for with its recent plan to purchase natural gas giant XTO Energy.

The \$41 billion deal would make Exxon the country's largest shale gas producer, drawing more attention to a controversial area of drilling that analysts say could invite tightened federal regulations for the entire industry.

---

at themselves after the 1973 Arab oil embargo, found that they were totally dependent on Middle East oil and put in place a long-term strategy to make Denmark energy-secure and start a new industry at the same time.

The more I listened to the Danish minister, Lene Espersen, the more I thought of my own country, where I've been told time and again by U.S. politicians that proposing even a 10-cent-a-gallon increase in gasoline taxes to make America more energy independent and to stimulate fuel efficiency is "off the table," an act of sure political suicide.

Not in Denmark. So I asked the Danish minister: "Tell me, what planet are you people from?"

Espersen laughed. But I didn't. How long are we Americans going to go on thinking that we can thrive in the 21st century when doing the optimal things — whether for energy, health care, education or the deficit — are "off the table." They've been banished by an ad hoc coalition of lobbyists loaded with money, loud-mouth talk-show hosts who will flame anyone who crosses them, political consultants who warn that asking Americans to do anything important but hard makes one unelectable and a citizenry that doesn't even ask for optimal anymore because it believes that optimal is impossible.

### [Crude Oil Rises the Most in a Month on U.S. Inventory Declines](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Crude oil rose the most in a month after a U.S. Energy Department report showed a larger-than- forecast drop in U.S. stockpiles.

Supplies fell 4.84 million barrels to 327.5 million last week, the biggest decline since September. Inventories were forecast to decrease by 1.6 million barrels, according to a Bloomberg News survey. Stockpiles of gasoline and distillate fuel, a category that includes heating oil and diesel, dropped as demand increased.

“These numbers took analysts by surprise,” said Sean Brodrick, natural resource analyst with Weiss Research in Jupiter, Florida. “We are now set to march up to the \$80 level. It looks like the consumer is coming back even if the economic growth isn’t as strong as people wanted.”

### [Anti-Iranian demonstrations spread across Iraq in oil well dispute](#)

A row over an oil well on the Iran-Iraq border has triggered anti-Iranian demonstrations across Iraq, angry statements by politicians accusing the Government of supporting Iran and the announcement of a new cross-tribal armed force to combat Iranian incursions.

### [The Rising Dominance of National Oil Companies](#)

Iraq currently boasts the world’s third-largest proven reserves of conventional crude oil, behind Iran and Saudi Arabia. Figure 1 shows countries with the largest crude oil reserves. If Canada’s tar sands were factored in, then Iraq would be edged into fourth place. Oil and gas data for Iraq, however date back more than three decades, long before the technological improvements that have transformed the oil and gas industry. The implication then is that the figures for the country’s recoverable reserves are most likely significantly higher than previously reckoned. This may have informed the bids entered by companies in the second Iraqi oil block auction, which was held last week.

### [UAE set up nuclear power body, to name builder soon](#)

ABU DHABI (Reuters) - The United Arab Emirates set up a body on Wednesday to run its burgeoning nuclear programme to produce electricity, which is expected to award the region's largest-ever energy deals soon, state media reported.

### [Ice Melting Faster Everywhere](#)

From the Arctic sea ice to the Antarctic interior and the mountainous peaks of Peru, Alaska, and Tibet, ice is melting at an alarming rate. The accelerating loss of ice sheets, sea ice, and glaciers is one of the most powerful and striking indicators of a warming climate.

The most notable ice loss in recent years has been the shrinking of sea ice in the Arctic Ocean. From the beginning of the satellite record in 1979 through 1996, ice area decreased at a steady rate of 3 percent per decade in response to rising temperature. In the following decade, ice area decreased by 11 percent, reaching a dramatic minimum in 2007. In September of that year, sea ice occupied only 3.6 million square kilometers, an area 27 percent smaller than the previous record low (in 2005) and 38 percent smaller than the 1979–2007 average. Summer sea ice coverage has increased slightly in the last

two years, but it is still far below the long-term average.

### [Exxon's drilling juggernaut](#)

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- Exxon Mobil may be getting more than it bargained for with its recent plan to purchase natural gas giant XTO Energy.

The \$41 billion deal would make Exxon the country's largest shale gas producer, drawing more attention to a controversial area of drilling that analysts say could invite tightened federal regulations for the entire industry.

### [Iraq to Rival Saudi Arabia in OPEC Oil Stakes](#)

A surge from Iraq's oil fields will occupy Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries crude producers in coming years as the recovering country's output challenges that of Saudi Arabia, observers said as the cartel held its latest meeting.

### [Why Britain is still in recession](#)

Hill also pointed to figures released yesterday showing Britain's current account deficit, a measure of how much we owe the rest of the world, stands at 1.3 per cent of GDP, a figure that is 'perfectly sustainable and a lot narrower than in 2007'.

What's more, if it hadn't been for declines in the North Sea oil sector, Britain's GDP would have been flat - hardly a stellar performance but better than another quarter of contraction. But the huge role of UK fiscal and monetary policy in propping up the economy must be cause for concern.

### [MMS Notifies Offshore Lease Owners of Inspection Fees](#)

The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) is notifying offshore lease owners and operators that new fees will be collected to recover the costs of offshore inspections conducted during Fiscal Year 2010, MMS Director Liz Birnbaum announced.

"These fees, mandated by Congress, will help MMS and taxpayers recover some of the costs associated with offshore inspections, which include safety and environmental compliance inspections of facilities and equipment," Birnbaum said.

### [China imports coal, LNG for winter; exports gasoline](#)

China, the world's second-largest energy user, increased overseas purchases of coal and liquefied natural gas last month compared with October to meet winter fuel demand, government data showed.

### [Kingdom to store oil in Japan](#)

Oil demand has been steadily falling in Japan for years, a trend that accelerated this year in the face of the country's worst recession in decades, leaving the country with one million barrels per day of excess refining capacity, according to some analysts.

Al-Naimi said Saudi Aramco had been offered the commercial storage for no charge. When asked for details of how the deal had been agreed, Al-Naimi said: "Through good negotiations."

### [Endgame: USA](#)

A number of economists such as Dr James Hamilton (PDF 637KB) and Jeff Rubin attribute the GFC to the oil price spike of 2007-08. This is not particularly surprising with oil price spikes having been followed by recessions consistently since the 1970s. With depletion rates of oilfields running at 6.7 per cent a year, and the significant cut in investment as a result of the GFC/oil price crash, the conditions are set for another oil price spike in the not too distant future. Indeed it appears that the global economy has reached an inflection point where the cost of bringing new oil to market has approached the point where it becomes economically damaging.

### [The madness of Rome](#)

If you happen to be one of those techno-optimists who believe that our culture can transition to a future powered by benign alternatives by using coal or unconventional carbon-based fuels, you just might want to consider the damage caused by the extraction of these resources. For example, if "clean coal" is your fancy, a little research into the devastation wrought by the mountaintop removal form of surface coal mining might be in order (see [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)). In an effort to find a suitable replacement for conventional crude oil and natural gas, resources that most independent analysts believe will experience peak production soon, if not already in the case of oil, the conventional energy industry has been moving quickly to firmly institutionalize clean coal, natural gas, and petroleum-based alternatives like heavy oils, tar sands, coal derivatives, shale gas, and other sources.

### [Jeff Rubin: Just how big a mortgage can you carry?](#)

Energy prices, which were falling a year ago, are now back on the rise. Just as the inflationary impact of those prices triggered the fatal rise in interest rates which, in turn,

gave us the deepest postwar global recession ever, energy prices will once again push inflation and interest rates much higher. (See my post [Financial Crisis or Energy Shock?](#) for more on this.)

And this time the inflationary fallout won't just be in the energy component of the Consumer Price Index. The impact will be much broader, as soaring transport prices encourage higher-cost local production to replace sourcing from cheap labor markets halfway around the world.

### [Oil, Economics, and Politics—a tangled web of consequences](#)

It will come as little surprise to most readers that the world is near to, or past, peak world oil production. Petroleum is so essential to the economics of transportation that many believe when oil peaks, the global economy must also shrink in terms of the total output of goods, even as the population increases. Most who study peak oil and accept the findings of the Hirsch Report do not expect a lasting economic recovery, likely for decades.

### [China plays Pipelineistan](#)

BEIJING - For all the rhapsodies on the advent of the New Silk Road, it may have come into effect for good last week, when China and Central Asia got together to open a crucial Pipelineistan node linking Turkmenistan to China's Xinjiang.

By 2013, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong will be cruising to ever more dizzying heights courtesy of gas supplied by the 1,833-kilometer Central Asia Pipeline from Turkmenistan - operating at full capacity. The pipeline will even help China achieve its goals in terms of curbing carbon emissions.

### [Hoping for More Than Just Energy From a Pipeline](#)

Mr. Fischer is convinced that Europe's energy shortages last January, caused by a pricing dispute between Russia and Ukraine over natural gas, were the turning point for the new European gas pipeline. Called Nabucco and stretching for 2,050 miles, the new pipeline is expected to cost 8 billion euros (\$11.4 billion). Europe cannot wait for another crisis to begin to diversify its suppliers, he argues, as another cold wave grips the Continent.

Beyond the imperative of supplying energy, however, Mr. Fischer sees immense strategic implications in Nabucco for the European Union, and especially its relations with Turkey — a NATO member and candidate to join the bloc — as well as its eastern neighbors Azerbaijan and Iraq, where Nabucco hopes to buy its gas.

## [China resets terms of engagement in Central Asia](#)

Nursultan Nazarbayev has a way of drawing lines in the sand. The president of Kazakhstan recently told global oil and metal majors that new laws would allow only those foreign investors that cooperate with his industrialization program to tap his nation's mineral resources.

## [A delicate dance of power](#)

MONTREAL - China's emergence as an important player in the development and use of energy resources found in the Caspian Sea basin, alongside longer established interests emanating from Russia, Europe and the United States, is a reminder of the ever-changing dynamics of the region, too easily overlooked during periods of apparent stasis, such as during the late Soviet era.

Yet the appearance of this new power in the region also confirms the essential stability of a core group of relationships about which others wax and wane, with a periodicity of possible future importance that China's presence can help us to identify.

## [World powers discuss options should Iran miss nuclear deadline](#)

(CNN) -- World powers are discussing next steps toward Iran if it fails to meet a year-end deadline for addressing international concern over its nuclear program, the White House and State Department said Tuesday.

## ["End of Suburbia" Producers Working on New Film](#)

"The End of Suburbia exposed urban truths in a new way. That's what we want to do again with this new film. But rather than focus on the problems, we want to explore solutions. There are way too many films out there dwelling on the problems, including ours."

Greene's new film, to be called Resilient City, will be about urban solutions - especially the innovative approaches being tried out in three particular cities: Detroit, Mumbai and Tianjin in China.

## [Reactor shutdown opens door to Russia plans](#)

VISAGINAS, Lithuania — To the European Union, Lithuania's Soviet-built nuclear power plant is a gigantic safety hazard that needs to finally shut down this New Year's Eve.

To Lithuanians, however, the twin concrete reactor blocks of the Ignalina plant, rising amid lakes and oak forests near the country's eastern border, have been a symbol of energy independence since the small Baltic country regained its freedom after the 1991 Soviet collapse.

That is why the EU-ordered shutdown of the plant's last working reactor — considered too similar to the one that exploded at Chernobyl in 1986 — is making Lithuanians uneasy. They now face the prospect of importing energy from Russia, considered an unreliable energy partner by many after its state-owned gas company shut off supplies through Ukraine last year and in 2006 over price disputes.

### [Uranium Is So Last Century — Enter Thorium, the New Green Nuke](#)

Weinberg and his men proved the efficacy of thorium reactors in hundreds of tests at Oak Ridge from the '50s through the early '70s. But thorium hit a dead end. Locked in a struggle with a nuclear-armed Soviet Union, the US government in the '60s chose to build uranium-fueled reactors — in part because they produce plutonium that can be refined into weapons-grade material. The course of the nuclear industry was set for the next four decades, and thorium power became one of the great what-if technologies of the 20th century.

Today, however, Sorensen spearheads a cadre of outsiders dedicated to sparking a thorium revival. When he's not at his day job as an aerospace engineer at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama — or wrapping up the master's in nuclear engineering he is soon to earn from the University of Tennessee — he runs a popular blog called Energy From Thorium. A community of engineers, amateur nuclear power geeks, and researchers has gathered around the site's forum, ardently discussing the future of thorium. The site even links to PDFs of the Oak Ridge archives, which Sorensen helped get scanned. Energy From Thorium has become a sort of open source project aimed at resurrecting long-lost energy technology using modern techniques.

### [China to establish rare metal reserve system in 2010](#)

Chen Yanhai, director general of the Department of Raw Material Industry under the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), said recently that in 2010, MIIT will cooperate with relevant departments to strengthen the protection of resources and establish a rare metal reserve system.

China's reserves of rare metals including tungsten, indium and rare earth all rank first in the world, and the output of the metals accounts for over 80 percent of the world's total output, and deposits of rare metals such as molybdenum and germanium also rank among the most extensive in the world. However, cutthroat competition and price wars are severely wasting China's rare metal resources.

### [Solar power boost for US rental outfits](#)

Real estate investment trusts are showing an increasing interest in renting roof space to companies and utilities that can install and manage solar panels on top of their buildings. The building owners can then generate additional income from the roof rental and from selling the energy directly to customers or to local municipalities.

### [What Are the Amounts of Greenhouse Gases Released in Your Area and What Are the Sources?](#)

ScienceDaily — The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) has developed a high resolution digital view of artificial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for any 10 x 10 kms area in the world. Using JRC's work on emissions and Google Earth, this new tool allows the visualisation of the levels of emissions locally from 1970 to 2005 and the identification of the main sources.

### [New Research Sheds Light on Our Reactions to Humanitarian Crises](#)

ScienceDaily — Millions of lives are lost around the world each year to accidents, terrorist attacks, wars, epidemics and natural disasters. What's more, the prediction is that climate change will increase the number and intensity of some of these events. Newly published research from the ESRC Centre for Economic Learning and Social Evolution (ELSE) suggests that the way people -- whether members of the public or policy makers -- react when faced with human fatalities is highly dependent on the distribution of death tolls they are typically exposed to.

### [TVA coal ash spill: hundreds are suing for damages](#)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) -- Hundreds of people have sued the Tennessee Valley Authority ahead of a deadline for filing personal injury claims over a massive coal ash spill.

Court clerks said 20 federal lawsuits were filed in Knoxville ahead of Tuesday's one-year deadline.

### [NYC urges ban on shale gas drilling in watershed](#)

NEW YORK (Reuters) - New York City urged New York state on Wednesday to ban natural gas drilling in its watershed, adding unprecedented support to critics who consider the chemicals used to mine for shale gas as poisonous to drinking water.

The biggest city in the United States joined environmentalists and small-town neighbors of drilling operations in trying to hinder the exploitation of one of the most promising sources of U.S. energy -- the Marcellus Shale formation.



"The risks are simply not worth it," the city's acting Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner, Steven Lawitts, said in a statement.

"Based on the latest science and available technology, as well as the data and limited analysis presented by the state, high-volume hydrofracking and horizontal drilling pose unacceptable threats to the unfiltered fresh water supply of nine million New Yorkers," Lawitts said.

### [Oil Trades Above \\$74 on Speculation Supplies Dropped Last Week](#)

Bloomberg) -- Oil held steady above \$74 a barrel in New York before a U.S. Energy Department report likely to show crude stockpiles fell last week as temperatures dropped.

The report today is expected to show oil inventories in the U.S., the world's biggest energy consumer, shrank by 1.6 million barrels in the week ended Dec. 18, according to the median estimate of 16 analysts polled by Bloomberg News. Data from the industry-funded American Petroleum Institute yesterday showed commercially held U.S. inventories fell by 3.71 million barrels.

"Due to cold weather, we are seeing stock draws in crude and that is the supporting factor these days," said Hannes Loacker, an analyst at Raiffeisen Zentralbank Oesterreich. "It brings the inventory levels nearer to the five-year average."

### [China to continue oil product pricing reform](#)

BEIJING (Xinhua) -- China announced Wednesday that it will continue to reform its oil product pricing mechanism based on changes in the domestic and international markets.

"The reform of refined oil pricing and affiliated fuel tax incentives has produced prominent results in the past year. The significant measures spell out China's resolution to save energy and balance energy consumption," the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the nation's economic planning agency, said in a statement on its website.

### [Russia may supply oil to Belarus without a deal](#)

MINSK (Reuters) - Russia will likely not stop crude deliveries to Belarus, even if a deal on supplies is not reached quickly, Alexander Surikov, the Russian ambassador to Belarus said on Wednesday.

### [Kuwait discovers new light crude, gas field](#)

KUWAIT CITY (Xinhua)-- Oil-rich Kuwait said Tuesday it has discovered a light crude and gas field in the northwest, as the country moves toward a target of four million barrels per day of crude by 2020.

The field is located in the area of Mutreba and its primary production is estimated at 80,000 barrels per day of light crude and 110 million cubic feet per day of gas, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) Chairman Sami Al-Rushaid said.

### [Exxon Argentine Refinery Will Cut Output on Strike](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Exxon Mobil Corp.'s Argentine refinery will pare output to a "minimum" as truck drivers may extend a two-day strike to protest job losses and work conditions, a company spokesman said.

### [PetroChina Shuts Two Fertilizer Units on Gas Shortage](#)

(Bloomberg) -- PetroChina Co., the country's largest oil company, shut two fertilizer-making units in Ningxia province because of a natural gas shortage after the heaviest snowfall in six decades.

The Beijing-based company is losing more than 4.5 million yuan (\$660,000) a day because of the closure, parent China National Petroleum Corp. said in its online newsletter today. It didn't say when the units were shut or specify the duration of the stoppage.

### [Stephen Leeb - Natural Gas: What a Difference a Year Could Make](#)

A lot of ink has been spilled on the enormous reserve potential of the shale gas deposits. Some have argued that based on these putative enormous reserves, the country has much less to worry about should the oil doomsters be proven right. Evidently the shareholders and managements of XTO and Exxon demur. Or at least they are saying that if there are massive reserves in the shale formations there, those fields are not going to be easy to develop.

We cannot take full credit for these observations. Some goes to Matt Simmons, whom we interviewed about a year ago. His comment on the shale formations at that time was that it would take more energy to develop shale than you would get out. I must admit that at the time I just thought Matt simply had an axe to grind as he has been indefatigable in his campaign for developing alternative to fossil fuels. The dynamics of the Exxon-XTO deal strongly suggest that Matt may have been on to something.

### [Energy, Financials May Lead Rebound in Takeovers, Survey Shows](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Energy and financial-services companies may lead a rebound in takeovers in 2010 after the value of acquisitions worldwide dropped 34 percent this year, according to a Bloomberg survey.

Ninety-two percent of those surveyed expect mergers and acquisitions to increase next year, the Global M&A Outlook found. Bloomberg's survey of about 250 investment bankers, lawyers and investors was released today. About 21 percent of those surveyed expected energy companies to lead in M&A next year, while 17 percent chose financial firms.

### [Glencore Sells Bonds to BlackRock, GIC, First Reserve](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Glencore International AG, the biggest commodity trader, sold as much as \$2.2 billion of convertible bonds to investors including BlackRock Inc. in what may be the first step toward an initial public offering.

### [Troops quell Delta protests](#)

Security forces have deployed in two cities in Nigeria's oil-producing Niger Delta in the past two days to disperse former militants protesting over the non-payment of amnesty allowances.

### [Report: Police, protesters clash in southern Iran](#)

TEHRAN, Iran — Security forces clashed with opposition protesters gathered Wednesday for a memorial for Iran's most senior dissident cleric, beating men and women and firing tear gas, reformist Web sites reported.

### [BP Faces Probes by U.S., Alaska Officials Related to Oil Spills](#)

(Bloomberg) -- BP Plc faces probes from U.S. and Alaska officials related to recent oil spills in the state, just as the oil company conducts its own investigation following a leak in one line at the end of November.

A rupture in an 18-inch pipeline running through BP's Lisburne oil field in Alaska on Nov. 29 created an opening about two feet long that led to the release of more than 1,000 barrels of crude oil, natural gas and water onto the frozen tundra.

### [States Settle With Plant Polluting Region's Air](#)

Air quality in the New York tri-state region stands to benefit from a court settlement requiring Duke Energy, one of the nation's largest electric power companies, to drastically cut sulfur dioxide emissions from a coal-fired plant in Indiana, state and federal officials said Tuesday.

### [UN climate official warns of Indian energy 'crisis'](#)

NEW DELHI (AFP) – India's reliance on coal means the country is heading for an energy crisis unless it diversifies its sources of power, the chairman of the UN's top climate change panel predicted on Wednesday.

### [Which country is hot in 2010?](#)

Brazil is hot because of a huge new oil field offshore. There may be two billion barrels of crude oil under the Atlantic, to be exploited by a private Brazilian company.

How much is that? The U.S. currently consumes over 20-million barrels per day. That means this huge Brazilian oil field could keep America trucking for another 100 days! Let's party. Peak oil might be one of those conspiracies we read so much about.

### [10 News Stories From the Upcoming Decade](#)

June 5, 2017 - For the first time ever, monthly U.S. sales (for May, that is) of fuel-cell automobiles surpass those of gas-electric hybrids (sale of pure internal-combustion vehicles having been banned as of January 1, 2018). Peak Oil experts, having lost a chief target for their cause, switch topics as a group to become Peak Hydrogen experts, starting the whole cycle all over again.

### [In drought, California learns importance of going green](#)

The biggest water conservation results have come from residential customers, rather than business or industry, city water figures show. The cost, for many residents, has been brown, dormant or dying grass lawns due to a stricter water diet.

"We restricted watering the lawns — that was the main saving measure," says David Freeman, general manager of the L.A. Department of Water and Power.

### [Taiwan unveils Asia's biggest solar plant: govt](#)

TAIPEI — Taiwan has unveiled what it calls Asia's biggest solar power plant as the island, which imports almost all its energy, seeks to tap into clean renewable resources,

the government said Wednesday.

The two-hectare (4.9-acre) plant in south Taiwan's Kaohsiung county, an area that enjoys year-round sunshine, is equipped with 141 huge solar panels that can generate one megawatt in total, said the Atomic Energy Council.

### [Green efforts spring from Chinese desert](#)

ORDOS, China — He has never heard of global warming or Copenhagen, where leaders from 193 countries gathered for a major climate change summit last weekend.

But Ulandalai, 43, a farmer in one of China's most isolated desert regions, says he's doing his part to help the environment anyway.

As part of a clean energy initiative partly sponsored by the Chinese government, Ulandalai, who uses just one name, planted sand willows three years ago on land where he used to graze sheep.

### [Lindsey Graham: The Senate's New Republican Maverick](#)

A few weeks ago, at the end of a 40-minute Oval Office huddle on climate change between President Barack Obama and Republican Senator Lindsey Graham - one of many tête-à-têtes on various subjects between the two this year - Obama leaned forward. "Look Lindsey, I'm ready to play," he said. "I'm for nuclear power. I'm for responsible offshore drilling. I'm for clean coal. I just need a reasonable emissions standard."

"Count me in," Graham replied. "Let's see if we can do it."

Wait, you may ask, a conservative Republican is seriously negotiating with the President? And on *global warming*, of all things?

### [Silver Lining In Copenhagen 'Fiasco'](#)

The fact that ministers and heads of state worked to rescue the talks from dissolution underscores climate change's policy importance.

### [Copenhagen Accord a clear goal but not enough: IEA](#)

PARIS (Xinhua) -- The Copenhagen Accord provides guidance for future actions on climate change, but the emission reduction pledges are not sufficient, the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) said Tuesday in a statement.

### [Rich world should pay for climate 'mess': OPEC chief](#)

LUANDA — The powerful OPEC cartel's top official on Tuesday called for the developed world to fund the fight against climate change, saying the developing world was not responsible for the current "mess".

"The problem is, historically, developing countries, they did not participate in this mess. The mess was created by the developed countries and they should pay for it," OPEC Secretary General Abdullah El-Badri said.

### [Green Tax Warning for Britain](#)

BRITAIN would return to the Middle Ages if we took on the huge financial burden of reducing carbon dioxide emissions to levels pledged at the Copenhagen summit, a leading climate change expert warned.

### [Disproportionate Effects of Global Warming and Pollution on Disadvantaged Communities](#)

ScienceDaily — Global warming, pollution, and the environmental consequences of energy production impose a greater burden on low-income, disadvantaged communities, and strategies to prevent these inequities are urgently needed. A provocative collection of articles on climate justice presents the global implications of climate change and its effects on human health and the environment in a special issue of *Environmental Justice*, a peer-reviewed journal published by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](#).