



Drumbeat: June 27, 2011

Posted by [Leanan](#) on June 27, 2011 - 9:35am

[Opec calls for IEA oil release halt](#)

Opec has slammed the decision by the International Energy Agency to flood the market with 60 million barrels of oil, saying it should be “stopped immediately”.

The oil cartel warned that growth in the global economy is set to slow down later this year resulting in a dive in demand for oil.

Member countries of the IEA voted last week to release 60 million barrels of oil onto the market in an attempt to ease price pressure. Today the body said European countries would be releasing mostly refined products with the US tapping its crude reserves.

Opec Secretary-General, Abdullah al-Badri, today criticised the move and the amount of oil which was being released.

[Iranian oil minister acknowledges OPEC strains, says they are solvable](#)

VIENNA — Iran’s oil minister is acknowledging strains within OPEC after its last meeting broke up in disarray but says the organization can solve them internally.

[Traders were dumping oil before IEA release of reserves](#)

Traders were dumping oil even before last week's release of strategic reserves by the International Energy Agency (IEA), new figures suggest.

[Australian LNG: Frantic investment spurred by Asian demand](#)

The frantic pace of investment in the Australian gas industry by many of the world’s biggest energy groups has been spurred by rising energy demand in Asia, led by China, Japan and South Korea.

[Ozark oil pipeline apportioned 92 pct for July](#)

(Reuters) - July shipments on the Ozark crude oil pipeline from Cushing, Oklahoma, to

Wood River, Illinois, will be apportioned at 92 percent due to over-nomination by shippers, Enbridge said Monday.

[Nigeria: 3 killed in sect attack on customs office](#)

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Suspected members of a radical Muslim sect attacked a customs office Monday in northeast Nigeria, killing at least three people in a brazen daylight assault highlighting the continuing insecurity of the oil-rich nation.

[Towards And End To Crude Oil Price Speculation ?](#)

As of the present we have a menacing but periodic slump in the upsurge of commodity prices, signalled by a slump in oil prices. This of course leads the bigger hedge fund strategists to predict a "V", betting on previous performance and drawing on the now conventional wisdom that oil is a scarce resource.

Global economy optimists however say that "Malthusian illiteracy" lurks behind remaining adherents of Peak Oil theory - which basically says conventional oil production will stagnate and fall but demand will go on growing. Since the sole interest of global economy consumers and their minders in Big Government is the oil price, the most important fundamental, for them, should be the massive and constant or fundamental manipulation of its price.

[How America Beats China by 2025](#)

Remember, we are talking about the year 2025 here. Somewhere between now and then, the price of oil will surpass \$200 a barrel, perhaps even \$300, at which point the heavy infrastructure costs for switching from crude to natty will seem cheap.

But the point is, America will get through the crude oil crisis and have natural gas waiting for it on the other side, with enough abundance to support the U.S. economy (perhaps with further help from our Canadian friends). That is long-term energy security. What kind of energy security does China have?

[Hunter Lovins Sees Business Benefits of Climate Change Adaptation](#)

"If we want out of the recession, we know how to do it," Lovins said. "Those wild-eyed environmentalists over at Goldman Sachs have shown that companies that are leaders in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) policy have 25 percent higher stock value. The Economist Intelligence Unit has shown that ESG leaders have the fastest-growing stock value."

[Facing wildfire, Los Alamos officials scramble to protect hazardous material](#)

SANTA FE, N.M. — Officials in Los Alamos National Laboratory were scrambling Monday to make sure that radioactive and hazardous material were protected from a wind-driven fire that had forced the installation to close.

[Gas prices, jobs market take a bite out of consumer spending](#)

WASHINGTON — For the first time in a year, Americans have stopped spending more.

Consumer spending failed to budge from April to May, evidence that high gas prices and unemployment are squeezing household budgets. When adjusted for inflation, spending actually dropped 0.1 percent last month, the Commerce Department reported Monday.

[Michael Klare: What will replace oil?](#)

A 30-year war for energy preeminence? You wouldn't wish it even on a desperate planet. But that's where we're headed and there's no turning back.

From 1618 to 1648, Europe was engulfed in a series of intensely brutal conflicts known collectively as the Thirty Years' War. It was, in part, a struggle between an imperial system of governance and the emerging nation-state. Indeed, many historians believe that the modern international system of nation-states was crystallized in the Treaty of Westphalia of 1648, which finally ended the fighting.

Think of us today as embarking on a new Thirty Years' War. It may not result in as much bloodshed as that of the 1600s, though bloodshed there will be, but it will prove no less momentous for the future of the planet.

[Kunstler: Suspended Agitation](#)

By the by, many observers were amused by last week's cute trick of releasing sixty million barrels of oil from the world's strategic reserves at the rate of two million-a-day in an effort to pretend that the world doesn't have a basic oil production problem. It is, of course, at the bottom of the world's financial disarray, because if you can't increase energy inputs that feed an industrial economy you don't get growth and then the whole idea of compound interest falls apart because it is predicated on a perpetual increase in wealth. Hence, debt collapses in on itself. The world is caught up in an epochal contraction now, and it manifests in situations like the Greek emergency. But soon it will be a universal emergency.

[The Limits to Growth Revisited](#)

Writing this book has been a fascinating work. Re-examining the story of LTG opens up a whole new world that urban legends and propaganda had tried to bury under a layer of lies and misinterpretations. We all have heard of the "mistakes" that the authors of

LTG, or their sponsors, the Club of Rome, are said to have made. But LTG was not "wrong": nowhere in the 1972 book you find the mistakes that are commonly attributed to it. LTG never predicted catastrophes to occur soon, never estimated that some specific mineral resources should run out by some specific date, it never contained prophecies of doom. In other words, LTG was not, and never was, "Chicken Little with a computer."

[IEA maps out barrel release](#)

Europe will release mostly oil industry refined products stocks while the US will tap government crude reserves as part of the International Energy Agency's co-ordinated action to prevent high energy prices from stunting economic recovery.

[The President, the media, and oil supply](#)

Alaska illustrates that increased drilling and the opening of new areas for oil exploration and development do not necessarily translate into increased production.

[Yergin Says IEA Oil Release an Economic Stimulus, 'Tax Cut'](#)

The International Energy Agency's planned release of oil from reserves is being used as an economic stimulus measure that will serve as a "tax cut" for consumers if it's successful in driving down prices, according to a report today from IHS-Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

The release from emergency stockpiles of 60 million barrels of oil, or 2 million barrels a day for 30 days beginning next week, follows a disruption in supplies from Libya and could boost both consumer spending power and confidence, according to IHS-CERA's Daniel Yergin and James Burkhard.

[Kurt Cobb: Strategic petroleum reserves: The world's last 'swing producer' tries to save the economy](#)

World governments have collectively poured trillions of dollars of stimulative spending into the world economy since the crash of 2008. And, they've shoveled trillions more into failed financial institutions. In addition, several of the world's central banks have lowered short-term interest rates so low that the next move would have to be negative. Still, the world economy remains weak despite unprecedented measures to stimulate growth.

And so, global leaders are now implementing another stimulative measure that they hope will prevent the economy from teetering over into recession once again: lowering oil prices through the coordinated release of 60 million barrels of oil into the market from government-run strategic petroleum reserves. The move seemed to have the desired effect as oil prices fell more than 5 percent after the announcement.

[Gas shortage: Saudi Arabia new dilemma](#)

After decades of rapid economic growth based on oil, Saudi Arabia's policymakers now face a dilemma. Most efforts to diversify the economy have focused on leveraging cheap gas, but that strategy has begun to founder in recent years under the pressures of higher development costs, supply shortages and domestic wastefulness.

The kingdom is trying to map a new course, but decision makers are divided on how to proceed. The debate over modifying gas prices in Saudi Arabia has been ongoing for some time, but this year the conversation uncharacteristically spilled into the open, led by Saudi Aramco and backed by the oil ministry.

[Death for Riyadh killers sought](#)

JEDDAH: The trial of 85 militants accused of involvement in three terrorist attacks in Riyadh in 2003 began at a special criminal court here Sunday. The public prosecutor, who read out charges against the militants, demanded the death sentence for the ten defendants who appeared Sunday.

[Saudi crude oil gift to arrive in Yemen over six shipments](#)

SANAA (KUNA) -- A grant by Saudi Arabia of three million barrels of crude oil will be sent to Yemen over six shipments, Aden oil refineries company said Sunday.

[Kingdom must curb its energy appetite: Banker](#)

ALKHOBAR: The Kingdom needs to curb its energy appetite and redouble its efforts to use alternative energy streams, a leading investment banker told oil-industry professionals in Alkhobar.

[India IOC buys extra Saudi oil for July, Essar seeks](#)

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Saudi Aramco will supply an additional one million barrels of oil to Indian Oil Corp for July while Indian private firm Essar Oil has requested similar volumes, trade sources with direct knowledge of the matter told Reuters on Wednesday.

Essar's request has not yet been confirmed as the refiner is seeking volumes for loading in the first half of July, said two of the sources. Indian refiner MRPL bought about 600,000 barrels of extra Saudi oil for July earlier.

[Aramco imports more gasoline for July](#)

State oil giant Saudi Aramco bought another three cargoes of gasoline this week, traders said, bringing the total already secured for delivery in July to six.

"Aramco is buying a cargo every other day, virtually," a Gulf-based trading source said. "The total for July will be much more than six."

[Iran ready to meet Pakistan power needs](#)

"Given the great need of Pakistan for electricity, Iran could export its surplus electricity to the country," IRIB quoted Namjou as saying during a meeting with Pakistan's Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Asim Hussain in the Iranian capital, Tehran, on Monday.

He went on to say that Iran is prepared to increase its electricity exports to Pakistan by 1,000 megawatts by the next three years.

[Mexico's gasoline imports near record in May](#)

MEXICO CITY (MarketWatch) -- Mexico's state-owned oil monopoly Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, said Friday that gasoline imports were near a record high in May, and diesel-fuel imports reached their peak as the country continues to offset revenue from crude exports by buying fuel abroad.

[Water, fuel, power crises plague Yemen amid unrest](#)

SANAA (Xinhua) -- Crises ranging from acute water and fuel shortages, day-and-night power outages to price hikes are deepening in Yemen as unrest continues in the country, alarming political vacuum and insecurity.

"There has been no water supply here for weeks and we used to buy water recently. The price of water is triply inflated," said Suad al-Salahi, a woman who lives in al-Hasaba district in Sanaa.

[In Rebuilding Iraq's Oil Industry, U.S. Subcontractors Hold Sway](#)

MOSCOW — When Iraq auctioned rights to rebuild and expand its oil industry two years ago, the Russian company Lukoil won a hefty portion — a field holding about 10 percent of Iraq's known oil reserves.

It seemed a geopolitical victory for Lukoil. And because only one of the 11 fields that the Iraqis auctioned off went to an American oil company — Exxon Mobil — it also seemed as if few petroleum benefits would flow to the country that took the lead role in the war, the United States.

The auction's outcome helped defuse criticism in the Arab world that the United States had invaded Iraq for its oil. "No one, even the United States, can steal the oil," the Iraqi government spokesman, Ali al-Dabbagh, said at the time. But American companies can, apparently, drill for the oil.

[Rosneft in talks with China on East Siberian joint deposits](#)

Russia's oil giant Rosneft is in talks with China on joint development of deposits in East Siberia, Rosneft First Vice President Pavel Fedorov said on Monday.

"We are considering the purchase of joint assets and the sellers have already offered us nine licenses," he said.

[The danger of miscalculation in the forgotten war over Nagorno-Karabakh](#)

Since the beginning of the year, events have rocked places that seemed locked in time. One outcome has been utterly unpredictable oil prices -- \$114 a barrel one month, and the low \$90s for a barrel of crude that we see now. Shorn mainly of the Arab Spring, oil prices would be somewhere in the \$60-\$80 range per barrel, according to market watchers such as ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson and Saudi Prince Al Waleed bin Talal. Traders say the Middle East trouble poses risks to the world oil supply, especially if another big oil producer goes off the market, such as Saudi Arabia.

[OPEC talks to EU against tense backdrop](#)

(Reuters) - Iran's OPEC president stuck to its uncompromising stance as it headed into talks with the EU on Monday, saying there was no need to add extra oil to the market and the IEA emergency stocks release was an act of meddling.

OPEC president Iran fired a warning shot at the start of producer-consumer talks on Monday, sticking to its view there was no need to add extra oil to the market and the IEA emergency stocks release was an act of meddling.

[UK, China announce \\$2.1b in deals](#)

Britain and China unveiled deals worth 1.4 billion pounds (\$2.14 billion) during a visit by Chinese premier Wen Jiabao, including a new agreement between energy group BG Group and Bank of China to help BG expand there.

[Gaddafi issued with arrest warrant](#)

Claims of murder and persecution have been leveled at Muammar Gaddafi as an arrest

warrant was issued for the leader of oil-rich Libya.

[Europe Stifles Drivers in Favor of Alternatives](#)

ZURICH — While American cities are synchronizing green lights to improve traffic flow and offering apps to help drivers find parking, many European cities are doing the opposite: creating environments openly hostile to cars. The methods vary, but the mission is clear — to make car use expensive and just plain miserable enough to tilt drivers toward more environmentally friendly modes of transportation.

Cities including Vienna to Munich and Copenhagen have closed vast swaths of streets to car traffic. Barcelona and Paris have had car lanes eroded by popular bike-sharing programs. Drivers in London and Stockholm pay hefty congestion charges just for entering the heart of the city. And over the past two years, dozens of German cities have joined a national network of “environmental zones” where only cars with low carbon dioxide emissions may enter.

[Oil Falls on Outlook for Slowing Demand; IEA May Release More Stockpiles](#)

Oil fell in New York on concern economic expansion in the U.S. and China is slowing and as the International Energy Agency said it's prepared to release further crude from stockpiles.

Futures dropped as much as 1.5 percent before a report today that may show U.S. consumer spending climbed at the slowest pace in almost a year and manufacturing cooled. China's factory output may expand at the slowest pace in 11 months in June, a preliminary purchasing managers' index showed. In Europe, Greek lawmakers will vote on a five-year austerity plan. Failure to pass the plan may lead to the euro area's first sovereign default.

[Price of gas drops 11 cents in the last two weeks](#)

NEW YORK — U.S. average retail gasoline prices fell over the past two weeks and could ease a bit more in coming weeks due in part to the release of crude oil from the U.S. strategic energy reserve, according to the latest nationwide Lundberg survey.

The national average price for self-serve regular unleaded gas was \$3.6283 a gallon on June 24, a decline of about 11 cents in the past two weeks, according to the survey of about 2,500 gas stations.

A year ago, the price was \$2.6613.

[Gas Stations Shut in U.A.E.'s Sharjah by ENOC on Subsidized Fuel Shortage](#)

Emirates National Oil Co., a Dubai- based refiner and gasoline retailer, shut filling points in the neighboring sheikhdom of Sharjah after running short of fuel at service stations across much of the United Arab Emirates.

At least four stations in Sharjah run by ENOC, as the refiner is known, were barricaded yesterday to prevent customers from entering. Other gasoline retailers in the emirate were open and serving customers. A spokesman for ENOC didn't answer a telephone call to his office seeking comment today.

[Iran to maintain opposition to OPEC quota increase](#)

TEHRAN (AFP) – Iran will continue to oppose pressure from consumer nations for an increase in oil cartel OPEC's output quota, its caretaker oil minister said on Sunday.

"In accordance with the supply and demand situation, Iran will oppose raising OPEC's oil production quota ceiling at the next meeting (on December 14)," Mohammad Aliabadi told the Mehr news agency.

[Iran Oil Minister Accuses IEA of Breaching Its Principles](#)

VIENNA -(Dow Jones)- Iran's oil minister Monday accused the International Energy Agency of breaching the principles on which it was founded by intervening in what he sees as well supplied oil markets.

Speaking to reporters ahead of an energy summit with the European Union, Mohammad Aliabadi, who is also the president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, said: "There is no additional need for supply on the market."

[China eyes Canada oil, US's energy nest egg](#)

CALGARY, Alberta – In the northern reaches of Alberta lies a vast reserve of oil that the U.S. views as a pillar of its future energy needs.

China, with a growing appetite for oil that may one day surpass that of the U.S., is ready to spend the dollars for a big piece of it.

The oil sands of this Canadian province are so big that they will be able to serve both of the world's largest economies as production expands in the coming years. But that will mean building at least two pipelines, one south to the Texas Gulf Coast and another west toward the Pacific, and that in turn means fresh environmental battles on top of those already raging over the costly and energy-intensive method of extracting oil from sand.

[A cocktail of electricity sources for China](#)

China is investing heavily in several energy sectors as part of a plan to increase its electricity generating capacity to 1.6 terawatts by 2020.

[Fuel hike unlikely to address concerns over OMC credit profile](#)

NEW DELHI: The government decision to hike diesel, domestic cooking gas and kerosene prices and cut customs and excise duty will not be adequate to alleviate concerns over the credit profile of state-owned retailers, credit ratings agency ICRA said on Monday.

Icra senior vice president & co-head, corporate ratings, K Ravichandran said "concerns remain" on the government compensating retailers for losses incurred on selling auto and cooking fuel below cost.

[Investec: oil markets need major investment, not IEA interference](#)

We are surprised at how much attention the International Energy Agency's (IEA) decision has been getting - the release of 60 million barrels is around 70% of one day's global consumption.

The release will take place over 30 days, so it will have a short-term impact on inventories which are around 'normal' levels, and therefore we could see a contra-seasonal build in inventories over the next few weeks.

[Amid US gas boom, split over 'fracking'](#)

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The United States is seeing a natural gas boom thanks to discoveries of abundant shale gas, but also a groundswell of opposition from critics who say the environmental risks from drilling are too great.

At the heart of the issue is a drilling technique known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," of underground rock formations by injecting chemicals and water to release trapped gas.

[Behind Veneer, Doubt on Future of Natural Gas](#)

In its annual forecasting reports, the United States Energy Information Administration, a division of the Energy Department, has steadily increased its estimates of domestic supplies of natural gas, and investors and the oil and gas industry have repeated them widely to make their case about a prosperous future.

But not everyone in the Energy Information Administration agrees. In scores of internal e-mails and documents, officials within the Energy Information Administration, or E.I.A., voice skepticism about the shale gas industry.

[Gushers highlight potential of Pa. gas field](#)

ALLENTOWN, Pa. – Two unexpected gushers in northeastern Pennsylvania are helping to illustrate the enormous potential of the Marcellus Shale natural gas field.

Each of the Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. wells in Susquehanna County is capable of producing 30 million cubic feet per day – believed to be a record for the Marcellus and enough gas to supply nearly 1,000 homes for a year. The landowners attached to the wells, who leased the well access, numbering fewer than 25, are splitting hundreds of thousands of dollars in monthly royalties.

[North Sea Oil, Gas Producers See Tax Exemption on New Fields, Times Says](#)

U.K. Treasury officials are in talks with North Sea oil and gas producers to try to avoid having a new windfall tax lead the producers to abandon plans for new fields, the London-based Times reported without saying where it got the information.

[Tripoli Running Out of Gas Amid Sanctions](#)

Libyans in the capital are getting on their bikes to avoid the hundred-meter lines and weeklong waits at gas pumps -- evidence that the rebellion against Muammar Qaddafi, backed by NATO warplanes and international sanctions, is applying a squeeze on the territory that remains under his control.

[Yemeni Protesters Demand Saleh's Ouster](#)

Anti-government demonstrations swept Yemen yesterday as hundreds of thousands of protesters in at least 15 provinces sought the immediate resignation of President Ali Abdullah Saleh and formation of a transitional government.

“No to the ruling family,” people chanted in the capital Sana’a, calling for the expulsion of Saleh, his son Ahmed and nephew Ammar. “Relatives of Saleh and rest of the regime are hijacking power,” the people said.

[U.S. Tells China at Honolulu Talks It Wants Stability in South China Sea](#)

The U.S. told China that tensions must be reduced in the South China Sea when the countries held the inaugural U.S.-China Asia-Pacific Consultations in Honolulu.

[A U.S. role in the South China Sea](#)

PHILIPPINE Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario was in Washington last week for a rather specific purpose: to seek U.S. support in his country's growing territorial dispute with China in the South China Sea. Mr. del Rosario told us he was seeking a "clarification" of the mutual defense treaty between the Philippines and the United States; he would like a U.S. statement suggesting it applies to a gas-rich seabed the Philippines and China are contesting. His government also would like help in beefing up its navy, perhaps through the lease of patrol boats.

[Concern at Nebraska Reactors as Floodwaters Rise](#)

BROWNVILLE, Neb. — Like inhabitants of a city preparing for a siege, operators of the nuclear reactor here have spent days working to defend it against the swollen Missouri River at its doorstep. On Sunday, eight days after the river rose high enough to require the operators to declare a low-level emergency, a swarm of plant officials got to show off their preparations to the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

[Yamaguchi governor not to extend permit for local nuclear plant project](#)

YAMAGUCHI — Yamaguchi Gov Sekinari Nii said Monday he will not extend a license for Chugoku Electric Power Co to reclaim land off the western Japan prefecture in a move that will seriously set back the utility's new nuclear power plant project.

As a reason for his decision, the governor pointed to the dim prospects for "the building of a nuclear plant, which is the aim of the reclamation work," because the national government is rethinking its energy policy following the disaster at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant.

[Radiation discovered in Fukushima residents](#)

(CNN) -- Japanese researchers have found radiation in all 15 people tested last month from the area near the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Cesium was found in the participants, ranging from 4 to 77 years old, through two rounds of testing conducted by Nanao Kamada at the Research Institute for Radiation Biology and Medicine of Hiroshima University.

[Electric Carmaker Think Files For Bankruptcy – Again](#)

It looks like the end of a long and winding road for Think, the pioneering Norwegian electric carmaker.

On Wednesday, the Oslo-based company filed for bankruptcy protection in Norway and a court-appointed trustee assumed control of Think's business, according to Debra Salem, a spokeswoman for its U.S. subsidiary.

[Hydrogen fuel: backseat to electric vehicles?](#)

Obama Administration programs push electric vehicles (EVs), although the jury is out on consumer uptake. It's worth asking: what happened to hydrogen-powered cars, purportedly the cleanest possible alternative?

[Morocco is key testing ground for Desertec solar-farm project](#)

A planned €400 billion renewable energy network to criss-cross the Mediterranean is to have its first test in Morocco.

[GCC shows the way on sharing power](#)

East of Desertec's planned site for cross-border renewable energy, the groundwork is already in place for sharing clean power between nations.

[China powers on in green energy](#)

The world's second-largest economy is already a major supplier of wind turbines and solar power generators for the world market, but its manufacturing growth has been so swift that excess output is becoming a problem.

[Can one idea be energy's holy grail?](#)

(CNN) -- Michel Laberge quit his job to invent a "glorified jackhammer" that he hoped would save the planet. That was 10 years ago.

Now, investors are betting more than \$30 million on that jackhammer idea, which may yield a holy grail of energy -- a safe, clean and unlimited power source called hot fusion.

Laberge is trying to do something that no one has ever done: create a controlled "net gain" fusion reaction that creates more energy than is required to produce it. It's the same process that powers our sun. If it works, it could solve huge problems like climate change, the energy crunch and reliance on foreign oil.

[Why US engages in petrodollar warfare](#)

TWO events this week could not have been better timed as I read the book "Petrodollar Warfare."

One, Barack Obama's announcement that he would be withdrawing the bulk of the US

soldiers from Afghanistan by this time next year and secondly, the ongoing Greek debt crisis that is causing sleepless nights for Eurozone's finance ministers and putting the single currency under a lot of stress.

This book has as its central thesis that US is waging war and has done so across the world since the early 1970s, to protect oil sources.

[North Korea soldiers malnourished: report](#)

SYDNEY (AFP) – North Korea is struggling to feed its army, according to new footage obtained from within the secretive state which shows a soldier complaining his unit is weak from a lack of nutrition.

[55 million years of climate change](#)

Professor Valdes concludes that state-of-the-art climate models may be systematically underestimating the potential for sudden climate change.

[Emissions from Energy Use in the Water Sector Are Poorly Understood](#)

ScienceDaily — Greater understanding is needed of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from energy use in the water sector if it is to meet sustainability goals, according to researchers at the University of East Anglia.

In a study published online June 26 in *Nature Climate Change*, Prof Declan Conway and Sabrina Rothausen argue that greater focus on the energy requirements of the water sector will be a crucial part of the policy response to the huge challenges it faces in the coming decades.

[City dwellers produce as much CO2 as countryside people do: study](#)

(PhysOrg.com) -- Most previous studies have indicated that people in cities have a smaller carbon footprint than people who live in the country. By using more complex methods of analysis than in the past, scientists at Aalto University in Finland have discovered that people's carbon emissions are practically the same in the city and in the rural areas. More than anything else, CO2 emissions that cause climate change are dependent upon how much goods and services people consume, not where they live.

[Insurance industry facing a climate of fear](#)

Floods, hurricanes, droughts - will climate change mean more wild weather ahead? That's a risk the insurance industry is taking very seriously.

[A new way of thinking as sea levels rise](#)

But earlier this month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published the first manual on how not to hold it back, arguing that costly seawalls and dikes eventually fail because sea-level rise is unstoppable. The federal Global Change Research Program estimates that the sea level will rise 14 to 17 inches in the next century around Hampton Roads.

The analysis, “Rolling Easements,” published on the EPA’s Web site, hopes “to get people on the path of not expecting to hold back the sea” as the warming climate is expected to melt ice around the globe, EPA researcher James G. Titus said.



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