



Drumbeat: October 10, 2011

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[Energy Security in Uncertain Times](#)

Q. Where in the world do you see the greatest risks for energy companies and for national energy strategies?

A. The Middle East and North Africa region already are responsible for around 35 percent of the world's oil output and, more importantly, they are being looked upon to meet the vast bulk of the expected future growth. The recent turmoil has added to uncertainty about the pace of investment in the region's upstream industry, how quickly production capacity will expand and, given rising domestic energy needs, how much of the expected increase in supply will be available for export. Our 2011 World Energy Outlook, to be presented Nov. 9, will look at the implications of any possible shortfall in upstream investment in the Middle East and North Africa countries. Meanwhile the events at Fukushima this year raised serious questions about the longer-term prospects for nuclear power in Japan and elsewhere. We will also use our 2011 Outlook to examine the implications of any reduction in nuclear investment. Such a reduction would certainly make it more difficult for the world to meet the goal of stabilizing the rise in temperature to 2 degrees Centigrade.

[Tax Overhaul in Russia Aims to Keep Country at Top of Oil-Producing Heap](#)

MOSCOW — Vladimir V. Putin has shown an uncanny mastery of the politics and economics of oil. On his watch as president and prime minister, Russia ascended to the top of the global business, surpassing Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil producer.

Yet in a series of meetings over the past two years, more or less, aides have confronted Mr. Putin with evidence that Russia's pre-eminence in the world of oil will not last if the current imposition of exceptionally high taxes on oil companies is left in place over the next decade.

[In Brazil, Energy Finds Put Country at a Whole New Power Level](#)

"Petrobras is engaged in by far the biggest industrial undertaking in Brazil's history," said Norman Gall, director of the Fernand Braudel Institute of World Economics in São Paulo.

Mr. Gall said Petrobras's annual spending, estimated at more than \$45 billion through

2020, might surpass NASA's budget in the 1960s — when it was preparing to send a man to the moon.

[A White-Hot Future for Oil and Gas](#)

BRUSSELS — Opportunities in oil and natural gas have rarely been so bountiful. New finds and technological advances and fresh access to some countries are pushing exploration and production into areas once considered peripheral.

Some of the most promising new fields are in deep water off the coast of Brazil. Experts say they could yield as much oil as the North Sea. There have been significant strikes off the coast of French Guiana, north of Brazil, and off Ghana in West Africa.

[In Uncertain Times, a Need for Stability](#)

Whether we consider economic or political factors, reading the new energy map of 2011 is difficult. Political instability in the oil exporting countries of the Middle East and North Africa has led to changes in governments, new political actors and, in some cases, a temporary suspension of oil producing and exporting activities.

This year's outlook has also been complicated by the tsunami in Japan and the ensuing Fukushima nuclear crisis. We don't know what will happen to the share of nuclear power in the global energy mix. But it is clear that its future expansion is now in question.

[China Marches on With Nuclear Energy, in Spite of Fukushima](#)

Meltdowns of three reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan last March have put a chill on much of the world's nuclear power industry — but not in China.

[After Fukushima, Does Nuclear Power Have a Future?](#)

A couple of months after the catastrophe at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant March 11, an American nuclear expert posed an interesting question.

“The post-Fukushima public sentiment is surprisingly low-key isn't it? What a difference between this event and TMI or Chernobyl,” he wrote in an e-mail, using an abbreviation for the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania. “What do you think is going on? Why so quiet?”

[Robert L. Hirsch: Weak world GDP growth & “peak oil”](#)

Because of the myriad of variables, the timing of the onset of the decline of world oil production cannot be predicted with certainty. In the early 2000's when we began our world oil production studies, we thought that future world oil production might peak sharply, similar to U.S. production, which sharply peaked in 1970. After all, "peak oil" implies a sharp peak. As we continued our studies, it became obvious that a sharp peak scenario was not necessarily the most likely. In particular, the pattern displayed by European oil production — a fluctuating production plateau before decline, became the most likely pattern (Figure 1).

[Was Wall Street to blame for high oil prices?](#)

Back in 2008, when the price of oil was zooming up to \$140 per barrel, there was a lot of chatter about whether Wall Street deserved the blame. And that debate hasn't vanished. Last month, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) cited a report from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission as proof that "Wall Street speculators dominated the oil futures market." Economists like Paul Krugman, meanwhile, have argued that supply and demand were the chief culprits. Oil was getting pricier because China, India and Brazil kept using more and more of it, and production couldn't keep up. So who was right?

[Mobile Bay gas production still shut in](#)

ExxonMobil's natural gas production in Mobile Bay offshore Alabama remains shut three weeks after a salt water pipe rupture, the company said on Monday according to a report.

[Platts: OPEC Output Drops to 30 MMbpd in Sept](#)

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil production declined by 130,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 30 million bpd in September, due mainly to lower volumes from Saudi Arabia and sabotage-hit Nigeria, a just-released Platts survey of OPEC and oil industry officials and analysts showed.

The drops in Saudi and Nigerian output, along with other small dips in the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Iran, more than offset increases totaling 150,000 bpd from Angola, Libya and Iraq.

[Saudi Arabia keeps Nov crude to Asia, Europe steady](#)

SINGAPORE/LONDON: Saudi Arabia will keep the crude oil supply volume to its Asian and European customers in November steady from October, sources said, ahead of the northern hemisphere winter and as Libyan oil exports edge back to the market.

[L.A. gasoline spikes on shut Conoco unit - trade](#)

(Reuters) - Los Angeles wholesale gasoline differentials rose 13 cents a gallon on Monday after ConocoPhillips shut a unit at its 139,000-barrels-per-day refinery in Wilmington, California, traders said.

[Nigeria blast leads to Shell force majeure](#)

An explosion at a pipeline in Nigeria has led Shell to declare force majeure on some crude oil exports from the country for almost three months.

[Gunvor cuts share Russia seaborne oil exports-paper](#)

(Reuters) - Influential oil trader Gunvor has cut its share of Russia's seaborne oil exports to less than 20 percent, one of the firm's founders told business daily Vedomosti on Monday.

Founded 14 years ago, Geneva-based Gunvor used to handle about 30 percent of Russia's seaborne oil exports.

[Kazakh port loads crude for delivery to Iran -trade](#)

MOSCOW (Reuters) - A cargo of crude oil is loading in Aktau and destined to be the first delivery from a Kazakh port to an Iranian port in nearly 18 months, trade sources said on Monday.

Traders said the Russian-origin crude oil was purchased for delivery into Iran's Caspian port of Neka by international trade house Vitol, which is likely to use it as part of a physical swap operation against Iranian-origin crude in the Middle East Gulf.

[Can Big Oil Survive Russian Roulette?](#)

The Quest comes precisely 20 years after Yergin's prize-winning *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power*, whose reception obviously had nothing to do with its title. I can't predict the composition of the author's next energy book. Neither, I'm certain, can he, even as the co-founder and chairman of Boston's Cambridge Energy Research Associates. But I'll hazard a guess that the next book will be available in far fewer than two decades and that the events of just the past few weeks will virtually guarantee that it will deal with dicey and dangerous geopolitical occurrences.

[Ecuador Seeks \\$504 Million From Conoco In Arbitration Counterclaim](#)

QUITO -(Dow Jones)- Ecuador's government has filed two counterclaims against a ConocoPhillips' (COP) subsidiary for a total of \$504 million as part of its defense

strategy in an arbitration claim, the country's attorney general said Monday.

[Light bulbs to light rail: the essentials of energy in the 21st century](#)

When Daniel Yergin published his Pulitzer Prize-winning book "The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money and Power" in 1991, China was not a factor in the world oil market.

Since then, China has urbanized at a speed and scale the world has never seen, developing buildings, powerplants, roads and high-speed rail. That's just one of the major changes that have occurred in the 21st century that have radically reshaped our geopolitical future and our global scramble for oil.

[Yemen: Thousands of women demonstrate, dozens injured](#)

Sanaa, Yemen (CNN) -- Days after a prominent Yemeni human rights activist became the first Arab woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize, dozens of women were injured after gangs attacked during a march in her honor, witnesses in the city of Taiz said Monday.

Thousands of women gathered in the southern Yemeni city to celebrate Tawakkol Karman's honor Sunday. Demonstrators also called on the international community to support a revolution in Yemen, witnesses said.

[Death toll rises in Egypt Christian clashes as tension continues](#)

Cairo (CNN) -- The number of dead in clashes between the army and pro-Coptic Christian protesters in Egypt over the weekend rose to at least 25, with at least 272 wounded, a Health Ministry official told CNN Monday.

Reports indicated the death toll could be as high as 29 in violence that an army spokesman speculated may have been guided by a "hidden hand" associated with neither side.

[Opposition group: 31 die in clashes across Syria](#)

(CNN) -- At least 31 people were killed during clashes in numerous Syrian cities Sunday, an opposition activist group said Monday.

The dead included 14 civilians and 17 members of the army and security forces, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Tens of civilians and members of the military were wounded, the group said.

[Libya Output May Over 600,000 B/D By Year End - Oil Head](#)

LONDON -(Dow Jones)- Libya is now producing 400,000 barrels of oil a day, a quarter of its prewar level, a figure that may rise above 600,000 barrels by year end, the country's oil chief said Monday, as the war-torn nation boosts output faster than expected.

In an interview, Nuri Berruien, chairman of the country's National Oil Company, said "we expect more than 600,000 barrels a day...hopefully" by year end.

[Libyan official: Gadhafi may be hiding in desert](#)

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) – A representative of Libya's ethnic Tuareg group said he believes Moammar Gadhafi is hiding in the southwestern desert near the borders with Niger and Algeria.

[Abductions force Nigerian oil strikes](#)

Kidnappings and continued insecurity have led oil workers in Nigeria to down tools for three days as an indefinite strike is threatened.

[Iraq's Shahrstani retains hard line on Kurdish oil](#)

OSLO (Reuters) - Iraq's deputy prime minister said on Monday oil contracts signed by Iraqi Kurdistan's regional government must be rewritten and that recent government payments to international producers in the region in no way validate the contracts.

[Do oil companies need a belly rub?](#)

In the United States, natural gas is cheap. Often, drilling gas costs more than its selling price. According to drillers in the state of North Dakota, that is why they simply flare off the gas that they find while developing the richest U.S. oilfields in decades -- they can't afford to pipe the gas to market. As a result, the drillers in the Bakken Shale are getting unfavorable publicity.

[Hearings on controversial oil sands pipeline end](#)

WASHINGTON -- With the formal debate over on Friday, a decision on an oil pipeline that will cross America's heartland and open up a greater market for Canada's oil sands now rests with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

[Centurion Pipeline says crude line restarted after leak](#)

(Reuters) - Centurion Pipeline L.P., a subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum has restarted a 350,000 bpd crude oil line shut down on Friday after a ditch digger hit the line, a company spokesman said on Monday.

[Companies deny blame for sheen](#)

Exxon Mobil said it had no reason to believe an oil sheen on the Yellowstone River in Montana came from its Billings refinery, but it had moved to contain the oil to minimize any environmental impact, a report said Monday.

[Energy Department Fights to Keep Solar Patents in U.S. Hands](#)

The U.S. Department of Energy wants to prevent one of Evergreen Solar Inc.'s solar panel manufacturing techniques from ending up in the hands of its Chinese competitors — a group that's blamed for crippling the U.S. renewable-energy market.

Agency officials want to place a legal grip on Evergreen Solar's patented technology, which is destined for the bankruptcy auction block along with the rest of the Massachusetts solar-panel company's factory equipment.

[Scant CO2 Benefit from China's Coal-Powered Electric Cars](#)

Much has been made of China's big push to build and deploy 1 million electric vehicles a year by 2015. The move will help cut smog and oil imports. Less has been made of the scant impact this is likely to have on the country's emissions of carbon dioxide, given its enduring reliance on coal for most of its electricity.

[Fast Charging Electric Cars](#)

How long will it take until we can charge our electric cars in the same amount of time it takes to fill the tank?

Some say never, some say it'll be decades.

Neither are very realistic as fast-charging stations that charge electric vehicles in 20 minutes already exist.

[Lessons from a surprise bike town](#)

Thirty years ago, local bicyclists would have howled with laughter at the idea of Minneapolis being named America's best bike city. It was a frustrating and dangerous place to bike, crisscrossed by freeways and arterial streets that felt like freeways. Drivers were openly hostile to bike riders, some of them going the extra step to scare

the daylights out of us as they roared past. Bike lanes were practically non-existent.

But Minneapolis also had the makings of a great bike town—in part, as Dorian Grilley of the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota noted, due to a “150-year tradition of civic involvement” that preserved the land bikers use today. In the late 19th century, city fathers wisely preserved land along lakes, creeks and the Mississippi River for public use. These became popular places to bike in the 1890s and again, eighty years later, when the second bike boom hit town. Grassroots activists convinced political leaders to take the bold step of developing abandoned rail lines as bike trails rather than as condos or industrial zones.

[Are Bike Rentals a Success? Depends Who You Ask](#)

As my Paris colleagues Steven Erlanger and Maïa de la Baume noted two years ago, there have indeed been an awful lot of problems: bikes stolen and shipped overseas, thrown into the river or mutilated by disaffected youths while still in the rack, to name some of the biggest.

It's not uncommon to show up at a Vélib station expecting to grab a ride, only to find every single bike unusable.

[How Germany became Europe's green leader: A look at four decades of sustainable policymaking](#)

Over the last 40 years, all levels of government in Germany have retooled policies to promote growth that is more environmentally sustainable. Germany's experiences can provide useful lessons for the United States (and other nations) as policymakers consider options for “green” economic transformation. Our analysis focuses on four case studies from Germany in the areas of energy, urban infrastructure, and transportation. We show how political challenges to the implementation of green policies were overcome and how sustainability programs were made politically acceptable at the local, state, and federal levels of government. Within the three highlighted sectors, we identify potential opportunities and barriers to policy transfer from Germany to the United States, concluding with specific lessons for policy development and implementation.

[Report Sees Tight Global Cereal Markets](#)

For some Americans, fall is traditionally a season of celebrating the harvest and anticipating a groaning Thanksgiving table. Globally, it's also the time of year for some important reports on cereal markets and food security.

[Chemical low](#)

Our profligacy with and waste of phosphorous causes substantial environmental pollution, helping to create “dead zones” in coastal waters and degrading freshwater ecosystems. It also helps to give Morocco political leverage over other nations, making

its partial occupation of Western Sahara more secure (the United States, an enthusiastic support of the occupation, has included phosphorous in its list of rare elements crucial to its national security, according to Elser and Bennett).

Better use of this valuable resource would help not only the environment and global food security, but also the cause of justice and regional stability, by making the world just a little less desperately dependent on a resource controlled in large part by an aggressive expansionist power whose occupation of a neighbouring territory is an obstacle to peace and development in the Maghreb.

[Revisiting the Global Food Crisis](#)

Another new report has just become available on the subject of world hunger, and it may frustrate some readers. The new edition of *State of Food Insecurity in the World*, an annual report from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, does not actually estimate the number of hungry people across the globe.

[A 'realistic' answer to the ecological crisis](#)

One of the most compelling points to come out of *What every environmentalist needs to know about capitalism* is that it is not enough simply to reduce emissions and move to renewable energy as quickly as possible. If we want to avoid crossing practically all of the nine planetary boundaries (from catastrophic climate change to ocean acidification to loss of fresh water to biodiversity loss), a major change in the way our society functions has to be effected. We have to move to a system based on non-growth: a "steady-state" economy.

But is it possible to have a capitalist economic system that does not grow?

[Faith communities work toward sustainability at Michigan conference](#)

For the seventh time total and the first time since 2008, members of the faith community from across Michigan had the opportunity to hear experts on topics such as creating an earth care team in a congregation; what most religious traditions, including Pope Benedict VI, teach on climate stewardship; what peak oil is; how to make your church more energy efficient; the state of renewable energy; success stories from congregations; and energy efficiency legislation at the state and federal level.

[Kurt Cobb: Destroying dreams the peak oil way](#)

It is with some trepidation that I prepare for a trip that includes an appearance before college students who generally find the idea of peak oil so disturbing that they do not want to even hear about it. And, I can't blame them. They must think that I have come to destroy their dreams, dreams premised on a future of ever expanding material prosperity and career advancement.

[Egypt erupts in violence](#)

CAIRO, Egypt — At least 24 people were killed during clashes between Egyptian security forces and several hundred protesters, mostly Coptic Christians, in central Cairo on Sunday, in one of the bloodiest street battles since the ouster of former president Hosni Mubarak earlier this year.

The intensity and scope of the violence in downtown Cairo — which left more than 150 injured and included at least one army vehicle plowing into a crowd of protesters — underscored the fragility of Egypt's security in the run-up to parliamentary elections next month.

[Energy Poverty Seen as History at IEA for \\$48 Billion a Year](#)

(Bloomberg) -- The world's entire population can have electricity and cleaner stoves by 2030 if \$48 billion is invested each year, the International Energy Agency said in its first estimate of the cost to end energy poverty.

The sum is about the same as the combined annual capital spend of Europe's two biggest oil companies, Royal Dutch Shell Plc and BP Plc, and five times the \$9.1 billion that was invested in 2009 to boost energy access in developing nations. There are 1.3 billion people, or 20 percent of the world population, living without electricity and 2.7 billion that lack clean cooking facilities, the IEA said.

[Oil Rises a Fourth Day as Europe Pledges to Contain Debt, U.S. Gains Jobs](#)

Oil climbed for a fourth day in New York as investors bet that fuel demand may increase after a pledge by European leaders to contain the region's sovereign- debt crisis.

Futures rose as much as 2.1 percent after the biggest weekly gain in seven months. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Nicolas Sarkozy gave themselves three weeks to stamp out the European crisis, causing the euro to gain against the dollar. U.S. employers added more workers in September than forecast, a report showed Oct. 7. OPEC is likely to keep oil output targets unchanged when it meets in December, Mohammad Ali Khatibi, an Iranian representative to the group, said yesterday.

[Aramco: Oil prices still healthy to support investment-CNBC](#)

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Crude prices are still healthy enough to support investment, Saudi Aramco Chief Executive Khalid Al Falih told CNBC on Monday, adding that Saudi Arabia has plenty of spare oil producing capacity.

[States where drivers pay the least for gasoline](#)

Gas prices are falling. In fact, they've declined to lows not seen in months. Concerns of yet another global recession have caused oil prices to drop, and with them, gas prices. In the U.S., prices of regular unleaded gasoline have fallen more than 50 cents per gallon since May, when the cost hovered near \$4.00. Still, gas prices vary widely between states — from \$4.24 a gallon in Hawaii to \$3.13 in Missouri, according to AAA. 24/7 Wall St. set out to find the states with the lowest gas prices and the possible reasons behind them.

[OPEC Likely to Agree to Keep Output Target Unchanged, Iran's Khatibi Says](#)

OPEC's members are likely to decide to keep their output target for oil unchanged when they meet in December, Iran's representative to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries said.

Producers and consumers are satisfied with the current price level for crude, Iran's Governor to OPEC Mohammad Ali Khatibi said, according to Shana, the Iranian Oil Ministry's news website. "The situation is such that most OPEC members are expected to agree with maintaining the current level of oil production," Khatibi said.

[Kuwait customs strike, threaten oil exports](#)

KUWAIT CITY — Kuwaiti exports and imports were disrupted Monday as over 3,000 customs officers went on strike demanding better pay and threatening to halt oil exports, a trade union official said.

[Tanker Safety Risks Are Rising Following Plunge in Rates, Ship Owners Say](#)

A collapse in oil-tanker rates to the lowest level in at least 14 years is increasing the risk of spills because it may encourage some owners to spend less on safety, Tsakos Energy Navigation Inc. and BW Group Ltd. said.

[Marcellus Shale Driller Wants Approval to Export Natural Gas](#)

PENNSYLVANIA (WENY) — An energy company wants federal approval to export liquefied natural gas.

Virginia-based Dominion Resources wants to export a billion cubic feet a day through its terminal in Maryland.

A company spokesman says Dominion is seeking approval because the nation's natural gas supply is surging, but domestic demand is low.

[Korea National Oil to Boost Acquisitions as Industry Slump Cuts Valuations](#)

Korea National Oil Corp., South Korea's most acquisitive company this year, plans to resume buying overseas assets after a six-month hiatus as a slump in the oil and gas industry makes valuations attractive.

[Russia says no China gas deal planned on Putin visit](#)

Reuters) - Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has no plans to sign a gas pricing deal with China during a visit that will start on Oct. 11, a senior government official said on Monday.

[Japan official upbeat on oil renewal](#)

Japan, Abu Dhabi's biggest oil customer, is optimistic that its concessions will be renewed and possibly extended to new blocks after talks yesterday with top officials.

[Gazprom Eyes European, Asian Electricity Markets](#)

Gazprom, in talks with Germany's RWE on a joint venture in European power generation, is also looking at Asian markets and independent moves in Europe through its power unit.

[Venezuelan heavy oil: China's persistence is finally paying off \(III\)](#)

One reason for China's deepening influence in Venezuela is that PDVSA's president and energy minister, Rafael Ramirez, is no longer alone in insisting that PDVSA's level of production has to rise. President Chavez now seems to have gotten behind the need to increase national production. If the price of oil falls significantly (many feel six months at an average of \$60/barrel would be ruinous) and PDVSA's exports per day have not risen to compensate, Venezuela will be in real trouble. Venezuela is extraordinarily dependent on imported goods, from food to machinery for which dollars are needed; and it also must keep up payments to foreign bond holders, for which a steady stream of dollars are also needed.

[Govt has sufficient income despite lower Petronas contribution](#)

KUALA LUMPUR: The government will have more than sufficient income to run the economy despite lower contribution from Petroliam Nasional Bhd (Petronas) next year.

The national oil company is expected to pay some RM28bil in dividend to the government, a reduction of RM2bil it used to pay every year.

[Foreign firms quietly return to Libya's oil rich east](#)

Foreign companies are quietly returning to Libya's oil fields east of Sirte, deploying skeleton teams to an area of the hydrocarbon-rich basin near the Jakhira oasis, where almost a quarter of a million barrels of crude per day was pumped into pipelines bound for the coast before the war.

[Crude is on a fracking record pace](#)

Frequent readers, if any, of this column will be familiar with my enthusiasm for advanced biofuels – liquid transportation fuels made from the biomass of non-food plants and various forms of organic waste. Before I tell you about some significant new progress in that area, let me give you an update from the dark side – Big Oil is doing just fine.

[Siberia Court Overturns Wide-ranging Searches Of BP Russia Operations](#)

MOSCOW -(Dow Jones)- A Siberian court has overturned wide-ranging searches of BP PLC's (BP.LN) Russian operations, a victory for BP in a \$4.8 billion lawsuit brought by minority shareholders in its Russian joint venture, the court and plaintiffs' lawyers confirmed Monday.

[Pressure Builds on BP Over Strategy](#)

BP is still all at sea a year after the Gulf of Mexico oil spill, several leading investors believe, putting pressure on management to improve strategy or go.

The oil giant is due to report its third quarter results on October 25, which are expected to be weak as the company strives to restructure after the disastrous spill.

[Post oil: Glimpses of life after fossil fuel](#)

Contentious debates about "peak oil" aside, imagining how the world looks post oil is increasingly easy as alternatives to fossil fuel develop rapidly.

[When subsidies are not on the level](#)

Adnan Amin, the director general of the International Renewable Energy Agency, talks to The National about the global economy and how subsidies for fossil fuels are hurting solar.

[Huhne will use Fukushima report to revive nuclear programme](#)

The government is expected this week to try to use a post-Fukushima green light from Britain's chief nuclear safety inspector to inject momentum into its stuttering nuclear power and anti-climate-change programmes.

[With a boost from Ohio researchers, aviation biofuels prepare to launch](#)

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Outside Bilal Bomani's greenhouse on the NASA Glenn Research Center campus, jets on the glide path to nearby Cleveland Hopkins Airport hum in the cloudy morning sky.

Inside the muggy greenhouse, sprouting from bubbling salt-water tanks the size of bathtubs, are strange, finger-like, oil-rich plants that may soon power those aircraft, and launch a new era in flight.

[GE to Invest \\$115 Million With Greenko in India Wind-Farm Project](#)

General Electric Co. (GE), the world's third-biggest supplier of wind turbines, announced its first investment in Indian renewable energy generation with plans to build \$115 million of wind farms with Greenko Group Plc. (GKO)

[Ethiopia Says Global Concerns Over Hydro Plan Won't Hurt Funding](#)

Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said he doesn't expect international concerns over the country's hydroelectric program to hurt financing plans.

"Because we are funding most of our projects from our own resources, it should not affect it," Zenawi said today in an interview in Oslo.

[Greener tourism? It's a jungle out there](#)

Interested in making your holiday greener and more sustainable, ensuring that local people get a fair cut of the money you've handed over, and that no rivers are being dried up or forests felled to accommodate your trip? Congratulations – for being in a well-meaning minority.

[Climate crime is beggaring our children](#)

Climate change at present remains a mere tax, a speed hump perfunctorily negotiated on the way to work.

Peak oil is certainly a pinch at the pump, but not yet the impending collapse of a type of civilisation.

Instead, smiling politicians still pander, post-2008, to the leveraged material expectations of the most privileged age group in history, the baby-boomers.

[Green Europe Imperiled by Carbon Collapse](#)

The European sovereign debt crisis that's spread from Greece to Italy and is roiling the region's banks now has another potential victim: energy policy.

[Richard Branson calls for greener tax regime](#)

Sir Richard Branson has called on world leaders to drive a green economic recovery, warning that without measures to drive greater investment in renewable energy the global economy is heading for "the mother of all recessions".

[Time nears for a different approach](#)

The final talks over extending an agreement to keep harmful emissions in check come next month. Others say it is already too late, but a solution could be found in the private sector.

[Zimbabwe: Famine in Somalia Is Africa's Wake-Up Call](#)

Climate change and global warming do not provide favours for poor people, especially the rural folk. They pile misery on agricultural productivity and increase the frequency and severity of droughts that jeopardise food production and security.

The effects of climate change on agriculture are painful.

[Lawmakers confronting cold reality for pricey icebreakers](#)

WASHINGTON — Climate change is melting parts of the ice-locked Northwest Passage. China is building its first modern icebreaker in hopes of staking claims to Arctic waters. Frigid polar regions are opening up to increased shipping traffic, scientific exploration and tourism.

Yet the United States is so short of icebreakers capable of navigating those still-unpredictable waters that since 2007, it has made the annual supply run to McMurdo Station, the American research outpost in Antarctica, with a ship leased from Sweden.



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