



Link roundup: Oil-free Sweden and We Luv Public Transportation

Posted by [Yankee](#) on January 27, 2006 - 2:25pm

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

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I wanted to write fuller posts on both of these, but they've been stagnating in my Bloglines for a while, so I'm just going to put them out there in case you haven't already seen them.

Treehugger had [a post](#) earlier this week on Sweden's plans to be the first fossil fuel-free country by 2020. Wow! In just 15 years, an entire first world nation aims to be fossil fuel free! Apparently, the goal is to rid the country of cars that run on gasoline, and heating oil for the home (Sweden has excellent capacity for geothermal home heating).

For the record, I think this is a great *idea*, and a goal which more countries are probably eventually going to have to consider, but I just don't know if it's going to happen by 2020.

Be sure to catch the comments to this post, many of which come from Swedes. And I personally liked reader Paul's contribution:

I'm curious, I'm sure it's possible to be completely rid of oil for power generation purposes, but is it possible to be completely rid of oil altogether? I'd have thought lubricants and some plastics are still needed and they're made from oil...

The other interesting story comes from Ranger Bob at [Neocommons](#), who [links](#) to a [study from the American Public Transportation Association](#) showing that public transit ridership was up nationwide. In some cities, increased ridership was in the double digits. (In Minneapolis, there was an increase of 70.9%! But that could be because their light rail was significantly expanded over the past year. Still, at least it shows that if they build it, people will use it.)



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