

Powering Down

PRINT

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Written by Matt Brunk

Today, my utility bill shows up for the office. Consumption is down, 42% and I'm still counting. Thanks **ADTRAN for converging my closet.**



Several days earlier I was reading the transcripts of the speech by the honorable **Roscoe Bartlett** - "**The Peaking of World Oil.**"

What are you doing to assure the sustainability of your networks and businesses?

After reading his speech, I tackled the other presentations made during the Energy Conference last year. Then, I learned of a book written by John G. Howe, President of Howe Engineering in Waterford, Maine - "**The End of Fossil Energy and The Last Chance for Sustainability**" (email John at howe@megalink.net and order his book and **info for ten bucks.**)

Here's what you need to know:

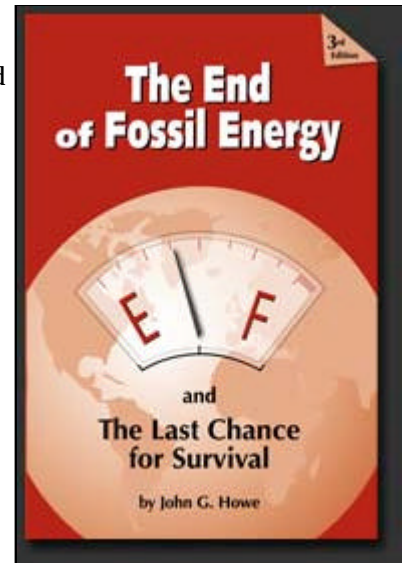
Hubbert's Peak is a statistical graph showing the predicted production and decline of available world oil supplies. Hubbert isn't being disputed and his work from 1956 is continued on by oil guys,

Oil guys **Kenneth Deffeyes** (petroleum geologist & professor emeritus of Princeton University and **Colin Campbell**, Phd. Oxford; are experts on the issues and there are many more experts saying the same things.

Industry and commercial **consumption of energy** accounts for about 53% of all energy consumed,

Transportation consumption of energy accounts for about 27% of all energy consumed, and Residential consumption of energy accounts for about 20% of all energy consumed.

Businesses must plan and consider sustainability and survivability into the future using alternative energy solutions- defined as not fossil fuels. To put it selfishly, there is a national security risk and to put that into perspective- take away the nations keys to their cars, SUVs, trucks, Hummers, motorcycles or anything powered by fossil fuel and what do you get? Better yet- try putting a moratorium on the use of any computing device including iPods, Blackberries, and all those gizmos using power.



Maybe it sounds extreme but I think it's very extreme for a top telecom player- namely Verizon to put the responsibility for powering my network (**Fios powered by me**) on my meter. Ford has a vision of vehicles that doesn't stop with his hybrid- **the Ford Escape**. This is extreme for an automaker. My congressman knows and passionately discusses we have a national energy problem. This isn't extreme but the fact that he does care and is doing something about the energy crisis is extreme. Then, John Howe whom I mentioned earlier designed and uses a 10 HP solar powered Farmall Cub tractor with an implement, that's extreme.

The statistical mindset may say these are just a few deviants from the norm. My gut tells me we aren't in the norm any longer. That by no means is extreme but living in the greatest nation of the world with great accomplishments and capabilities and yet we have not deployed alternative energy of our design and choice to not only reduce but negate any dependence upon any foreign energy - is an extreme shame.

So, what are you willing to power down?

Comment on this article

Leave your comments (Show/Hide Form)

Other Visitors Comments

There are no comments currently....

Close Window