

BREEE News V37

Boulder Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Working Group

<http://boulderenergy.org>

9/12/05

"I urge governments, development and environmental organisations to work together to find sustainable solutions to avert a catastrophe that will exacerbate human suffering to a magnitude that perhaps the world has not yet seen."

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu speaking on climate change in 2004.

Hot Picks

Boulder Neighborhood Energy & Climate Forum Tonight (9/12)

Newlands Neighborhood to host First Boulder Neighborhood Energy and Climate Forum 7:00 pm

Discuss ways to utilize more renewable energy, improve your energy efficiency, and reduce your greenhouse gas emissions. The forum will feature local experts on green building, alternative energy, and the sources of greenhouse gases, and is geared towards residents with an interest in learning more about the subject and what they can do to take personal action.

Boulder Bible Chapel at 7th and Evergreen. All are invited.

Also, if you are interested in organizing a similar event in your neighborhood, or for more information, please contact Josh Radoff in the city's Office of Environmental Affairs: radoffj@ci.boulder.co.us (303-441-3878).

THE FIRST CU SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FORUM

Today: 9/12 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Free Pizza!! Discovery Learning Center, Room 1B70, located at the SW corner of Colorado Avenue and Regent Drive.

<http://www.colorado.edu/campusmap/map.html?bldg=DLC>

The event is free of charge. Please join in discussing sustainable energy at CU with administrators, professors and students. Ghita Carroll, Ghita.Carroll@colorado.edu 303-492-3229.

Fort Collins' Sustainable Living Fair

9/17 & 18.

http://www.sustainablelivingfair.org/event_w_artexhibit2.html

Solar Home Tour (10/2) & Solar Week (9/24 - 10/2) in Boulder

Interested in greening your home or just curious about the current technologies available for making homes environmentally friendly? Would you like to learn more about incentives and assistance available to help reduce your environmental impact? The Center for ReSource Conservation's SOLAR WEEK includes workshops and a self-guided tour of Boulder County homes with a wide range of green building techniques and solar technologies.

http://www.conservationcenter.org/e_solarhometour.htm

for more information, to volunteer or to register.

From Amy Ellsworth.

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To Submit to BREEE News – email Regelson@mac.com. Put BREEE News in the Subject. Suggest a title and a 2 or 3 sentence summary. Include a link to the original article or a web page, or provide your email address, for more information.

Edited and distributed by Ken Regelson. Articles that do not list who submitted them are probably from Ken.

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From Boulder & Colorado:

BREEE Volunteer Needed

To update our website. Mostly just to simplify it and remove the old stuff.

Contact Ken regelson@mac.com

**Xcel's Incredible Shrinking Wind Bid: Going, Going...
500 -> 200 -> 129 -> 60 MWs**

(Don't blink or it will disappear. Xcel keeps pointing out that wind equipment prices are up (steel, concrete prices higher, weak dollar). They do not, however, recalculate the increased costs for Comanche 3 for steel, concrete, and coal.... Xcel makes wind meet a much higher standard than coal for life-cycle costs -- Ken)

http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/business/article/0,1299,DRMN_4_4063138,00.html

From Doug Grinbergs.

Xcel Warns of High Costs to Implement A 37

http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_2987795

From Doug Grinbergs, Tom LaRocque & Rick Gilliam.

Western Governors Seek Comments on Reports for Clean, Diversified Energy Initiative

"The governors created the Clean and Diversified Energy Advisory Committee in 2004 to oversee the work of eight task forces: Advanced Natural Gas, Biomass, Clean Coal, Energy Efficiency, Geothermal, Solar, Transmission and Wind. The governors are examining the feasibility of and actions that would be needed to develop 30,000 megawatts of clean energy in the West by 2015, ensure adequate transmission and increase energy efficiency 20 percent by 2020."

<http://www.westgov.org/wga/initiatives/cdeac/comments.htm>

From Sol Shapiro and Craig Cox.

Fort Collins Energy Efficiency Job

Looking for a "jack/Jill-of-all-trades" who is excited about helping meet the City's Electric Energy Supply Policy goals.

<http://www.fcgov.com/humanresources/postings.php?id=5018&t=ft>

Sustainable Practices - 5 Years Old. On-line Archive.

David Schaller publishes the Sustainable Practices Newsletter from the EPA in Denver. Recent titles for news reports include:

- Spain Tops Germany in Wind
- Maitake Fungus Degrades PCBs
- Japanese City Features Organic-Waste-for-Fresh-Vegetables Exchange
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BREEE News borrowed from David's newsletters' style. SP, like BREEE News, is free and contains no ads.

Those interested in a picture of sustainability beyond energy should subscribe:
schaller.david@epa.gov

Archives at

<http://www.federal sustainability.org/archives/sustainablepractices.htm>

From Ken.

R & D on Cost-Effective Solar in Fort Collins

http://ncbr.datajoe.com/app/ecom/pub_article_details.php?id=59371

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Calendar:

9/13. 6 PM. Aurora. Energy Makeover Winner Home Tour

See what \$25,000 in energy retrofits can do for a home.

http://www.energyscience.org/homeowners/workshops/energymakeover05_reg.htm

10/14 - 15. Boulder. Bioneers Conference

<http://ecenter.colorado.edu/bioneers/index.html>

11/2 - 4. Denver. Brownfields Conference (Free)

Keynote speaker (one of Ken's favorites!) William McDonough.

<http://www.brownfields2005.org/en/Article.aspx?id=23>

Sustainability track.

<http://www.brownfields2005.org/en/Sessions.Browser.aspx>

(click on the "Track" tab, then select sustainability from the pop-up menu).

11/10 - 11. Denver. Peak Oil Conference

World-class lineup of 20 speakers. Day 1 will focus on the oil supply vs. depletion balance going forward, Day 2 will focus on intelligent responses and mitigating actions to the looming peak oil phenomenon. Fee.

<http://www.aspo-usa.com/fall2005/index.cfm>

From Morey Wolfson.

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From Elsewhere:

One-liners:

Renewable Hamster Power.

http://www.ananova.com/news/story/sm_1513938.html

California's Million Solar Roofs Bill Dies in California Assembly

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=36397>

Temple's Eternal Light Powered by the Sun. (see second article).

<http://www.wapa.gov/es/greennews/2005/aug2905.htm>

From Morey Wolfson, & others.

Katrina and New Orleans

"...should we rebuild New Orleans, 10 feet below sea level, just so it can be wiped out again?"

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/09/05/AR2005090501034_pf.html

Fortune: The High Cost of Climate Change

" While the great majority of climate researchers believe that global warming is real (and also that it is partly caused by human emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels), no one says Katrina sprang directly from the warming—that would be like arguing that a particular stock's plunge last Tuesday was caused by the onset of a bear market a year ago. But Emanuel and other experts have warned for over a decade that global warming may be creating an environment prone to more violent storms, droughts and other weather extremes, just as a bear market can pave the way for an outsized drop in a particular company's stock price."

<http://www.fortune.com/fortune/articles/0,15114,1101173,00.html>

Katrina's Real Name (Climate Change) by Ross Gelbspan (author of Boiling Point).

http://www.boston.com/news/globe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2005/08/30/katrinas_real_name/

What Real Climate has to say:

<http://www.realclimate.org/index.php?p=181>

NYT: The Storm Next Time.

Excellent summary in few words of what we know and suspect about climate change, hurricane frequency and intensity, and sea level rise. Ends with: " With corpses on the streets of New Orleans, we may have seen a glimpse of the future of climate change. Let's hope it shakes Mr. Bush out of his complacency."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/11/opinion/11kristof.html>

From the San Francisco Chronicle:

Depending on how you look at it, there are between 15,000 and half a million homeless from Katrina. With climate change and sea level rise ..." by 2050, it was entirely possible that 150 million people could be 'environmental refugees,' forced from their homes by rising waters."

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2005/09/11/ING38EJQKC1.DTL>

Response to Report That Methane Was the Biggest Cause of Climate Change

(A report and news releases that methane was much bigger in climate change than carbon dioxide, (with the action that we should all become vegetarians) went around a few weeks ago. It seemed sufficiently out of line that I figured someone would come up with an intelligent analysis. Links to the original report are in the link below. -- Ken)

<http://mustelid.blogspot.com/2005/09/gw-methane-and-vegetarianism.html#comments>

How States Can Help Us Achieve a New Energy Future

From the National Association of PIRGs.

Story:

http://www.sparkdata.co.uk/refocus/fp_showdoc.asp?docid=39687747&accnum=1&topics=

Report:

<http://www.texpirg.org/reports/achievinganewenergyfuture.pdf>

More Links on Plug-in Hybrids and Emissions

EAA flyer: The Truth About Auto Emissions:

<http://eaaev.org/Forms-Docs/eaaflyer-autoemissions.pdf>

A chart comparing emissions of gas, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and electric cars:
<http://www.sfeva.org/faq/faq-cacc.shtml>

Paper: Debunking the Myth of EVs and Smokestacks:
<http://www.evadc.org/pwrplnt.pdf>

(from an email from the San Francisco Electric Vehicle Association)

Vashon Island (WA): Energy Independence by 2015

Grid-tied island community of 11,000 people. First: efficiency. Compact fluorescents, insulation, appliances, installed and paid for by the new utility district.

Second: renewables. Wind, solar, and biomass.

From the report:

- "- Achieving these savings will require a disciplined, professional, comprehensive application of the technology, but the Net Present Value of energy savings on Vashon-Maury Island is \$95 Million for a \$35 Million investment;
- Once conservation is in place, the island can be powered by about 15 wind turbines, backed by biomass generators, solar photovoltaics and vanadium batteries with a total capital cost of less than \$40 Million;

...

We conclude that moving to energy independence is not only good for the environment and the economy but (with the exception of transportation issues) is achievable and economically attractive within 10 years."

(Note: the above is true even though they used the local - poor - wind resource and a solar resources that is much less than ours. Their biomass resource is likely better than ours.)

The report concludes with:

"Energy independence is within our grasp. It remains to be seen whether business, government and individuals will work together to achieve it."

News coverage:

<http://www.thenewtribune.com/news/local/story/5138994p-4675838c.html>

The report itself:

<http://www.iere.org/documents/EnergyIndependentCommunities-10yearplan.pdf>

Stirling Engine Central Solar Power

