

Nothing that Works.

Another Issue of "Carbon Sense" prepared for The Carbon Sense Coalition by Viv Forbes and volunteer helpers. Please help us by spreading this around.

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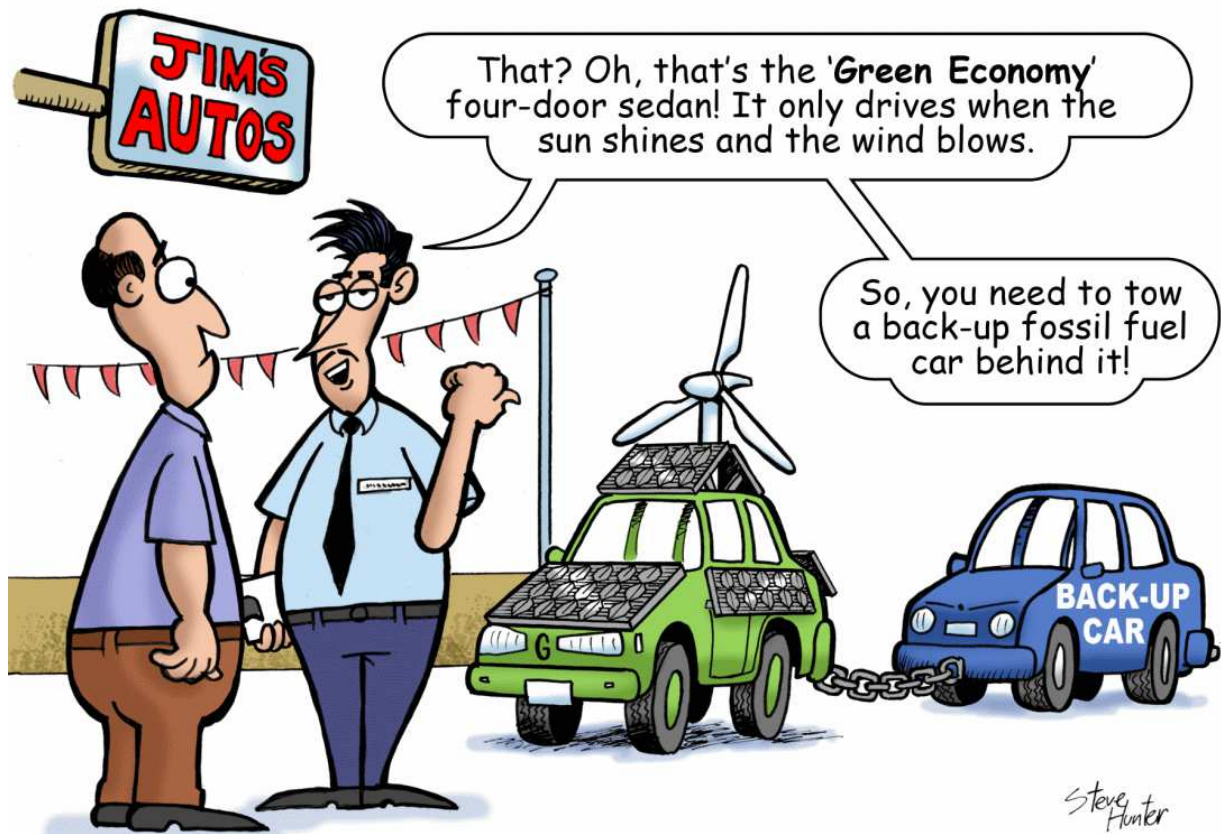
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Tags: Green Energy, alarmism, UN, Agenda 21, hydrogen energy, pollution, smog, greenhouse effect, missing heat, UK rejects greens.

Green Energy Policy? - "Nothing that Works".



Source: <http://stevehunterillustrations.com.au/political-cartoons/>

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Modern industrial society commenced with the use of coal and oil to power factories, trains, ships and agriculture and to generate electricity. With abundant energy, prosperity increased, and people could save enough to support leisure, education, culture and environmental concerns.

But the dark greens have a dream to dismantle all this, and return society to the hunter/gatherer era.

In an unguarded moment Maurice Strong, a leader of the international green movement, said:

“Isn’t the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn’t it our responsibility to bring that about?”

Greens have thus gleefully spread the global warming scare to justify a massive political war on hydro-carbon fuels. Timothy Wirth, ex-President of the UN Foundation, spilt the beans:

“We've got to ride this global warming issue. Even if the theory of global warming is wrong, we will be doing the right thing in terms of economic and environmental policy.”

<http://carbon-sense.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/exposing-the-green-agenda.pdf>

To mask their real aim of de-energising modern industry, they continually promote “alternative energy”.

The only alternatives to coal, oil and gas for stable, reliable and economical grid power are nuclear energy, and in favourable locations, hydro or geothermal.

Nuclear power could be one of our cheapest and safest energy sources. However greens have opposed and denigrated it for decades, and erected such bureaucratic and financial hurdles that it is seldom considered in most pampered western societies.

They are in favour of hydro, providing it does not disturb one fish or frog on their favourite river.

But they continually spruik the benefits of wind and solar power.

Wind/solar can be useful in some mobile or remote locations, and for some people with deep pockets who wish to become independent of the grid. But being totally unable to supply 24/7 grid power, they need reliable backup (or massive batteries) for about 75% of their rated capacity. Once we subtract the energy and resources needed to build and maintain the towers/panels, plus the roads and transmission lines, plus backup/batteries and then run it all intermittently, the whole-of-life net-contribution of wind/solar to energy supply or emission reduction is negligible or negative.

Another dark green leader, Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountains Institute, said:

“It would be little short of disastrous for us to discover a source of clean, cheap, abundant energy, because of what we might do with it.”

Green energy policy promotes this dictum by supporting “Nothing that Works”.

The world focus on carbon dioxide is simply a useful tool in a much larger political agenda:

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/04/26/opinion-co2-is-the-demon-because-malthus-and-ehrllich-were-wrong-about-overpopulation/>

Hydrogen – the Net-Negative Energy Option.

The same people who promoted intermittent energy (wind and solar) have trumped that with their latest green energy fad – hydrogen fuel.

Hydrogen is the most abundant element in the universe; it fuels the sun and is the third most common element on Earth. But it is so reactive that it is seldom found in its elemental state - it combines strongly with other elements such as oxygen to form water or with carbon to form methane. It is an essential component in all acids, alkalis, hydro-carbons and organic materials.

To extract hydrogen from natural compounds such as water, methane or coal requires very large inputs of energy. Most commonly hydrogen is produced from methane gas using heat and steam, or by electrolysis of water using large quantities of electricity.

Hydrogen can be used to power rockets, cars and engines of all types. However the energy used to produce the hydrogen can never be fully recovered from the energy in the hydrogen. It is thus NOT a source of energy – it is merely a storehouse for energy - a battery.

It is possible to produce hydrogen from water using electricity from nuclear or hydro-carbon fuels, or even intermittent green energy. The hydrogen gas could then be transported to cities as a clean energy source for cars, thus reducing pollution from petrol/diesel vehicles.

But hydrogen is a very dangerous gas. It has tiny lightweight molecules which have low energy density and are difficult to compress, contain and store. It also forms an explosive mixture with air. To provide a network of hydrogen car-fuelling stations, or to suggest hydrogen as a domestic gas, is inviting explosive disasters in the suburbs – (imagine the Health and Safety regulations!)

Inviting explosive disasters in the suburbs?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=MMB2VR0087w

Even the impractical electric cars have benefits compared to the hydrogen car. Electricity is safer and the supply network is easier and essentially in place. Moreover, electric cars do not reduce the oxygen content of city air - every tonne of hydrogen fuel consumes eight tonnes of oxygen to produce nine tonnes of water vapour. So instead of urban smog, we may get urban fog.

And to suggest that hydrogen can provide base-load power tops all green energy idiocy.

Hydrogen is a Net-Negative Energy Option.

Smoggy Thinking on Pollution

The war on hydro-carbon fuels is based on two feeble legs – “it causes global warming, and it creates pollution.”

Both legs are unsound, especially the pollution claims.

No sensible person approves of pollution of air, water, land or public places by humans.

Have a look at some real pollution:

<http://www.midwayfilm.com/>

But no pollution whatsoever is caused by the main product of the combustion of hydrocarbons - carbon dioxide. This is a colourless, non-toxic gas-of-life on which all plants (and animals) depend.

In these days of carbon-neurosis, coal-power gets blamed for all bad things, even the Asian Smog.

What causes the Asian Brown Smog?

Dust is a significant component. Winds whip up dust from dry land, roads and the huge Gobi and Arabian Deserts, or an up-wind volcano explodes. No dust comes from the emissions of a modern well-designed coal-fired power station.

Smogs may also contain soot and ash. These come from open-air fires all over Asia burning wood, cow dung, paper, cardboard, plastic, rubber tyres and other rubbish; from stoves and heaters using unwashed high sulphur coal or high-ash briquettes; from forest fires and uncontrolled coal-seam fires, cremations in India and yeon-tans in Korea. Some comes from worn-out internal combustion engines and old dirty coal/oil power stations, boilers and furnaces. Air is even polluted in classy neighbourhoods by pot-belly stoves, diesel SUV's and coastal shipping. No soot or ash comes from a modern coal-fired power station with full pollution control equipment.

Some smog contains compounds of sulphur, nitrogen or other chemical pollutants. These fumes are produced in open fires and vehicle exhausts, especially from badly-maintained vehicles, boilers and phut-phuts. They are not released by modern coal-power stations whose exhausts contain little other than nitrogen, water vapour and carbon dioxide - the three natural gases-of-life.

See how well-designed coal-fired power stations prevent pollution:

<http://carbon-sense.com/2010/01/08/electricity-from-coal/>

Those blaming coal power for smog need to read the history of last century's deadly smogs in London and Pittsburgh. These were cleared by bans on open-fire heaters and cookers and the provision of "clean-coal-by-wire" – electricity produced in modern power stations with good emission controls and burning washed high-quality coals. Piped coal gas also helped clean the air of London.

See: <http://carbon-sense.com/2013/04/29/clean-coal-by-wire/>

Replacing dirty open fires and boilers with clean electricity and cleaning up vehicle exhausts will also clear today's Asian Smog.

The Overflow Column

Al Gore and David Suzuki lie about CO2. It has 600% less effect than claimed.

A great comment by Christopher Monckton:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9Q8wPkoFAU>

No missing Heat in the Oceans. Measurements trump Models again:

<http://www.co2science.org/articles/V18/apr/a21.php>

No Global Warming for 18 years:

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/05/04/el-nio-has-not-yet-paused-the-pause/>

Climate Change Alarm is UN Hoax:

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2015/05/08/climate-change-un-hoax-end-democracy-abbotts-chief-business-advisor-says>

Alarmists Desperate as Paris Deadline Looms, but UK rejects Greens.

The drum-beat of climate alarm continues but the political climate is getting chilly. The disastrous showing of the green Liberal Democrats in the recent UK elections shows there are no votes in windmills, support for shale gas exploration, and widespread concern on the soaring costs and looming shortages of electricity. This stunning success of the UK Conservatives will encourage climate realists in their ranks and overseas.

Britain now has a chance to repair the damage to its energy industry (but probably won't):

Here is a good comment from WUWT:

“Unfortunately the Conservative energy policy is likely to continue with little change from that of the Coalition and Labour before it. It is unlikely that Cameron will appoint somebody like Owen Paterson to sort out the mess that the UK electricity supply is in. The bureaucrats will ensure that it is business almost as usual, with lots of useless renewables being subsidised at the expense of the necessary new despatchable power stations. Only UKIP had an energy policy that made sense and would have stopped all subsidies to useless wind and solar power, not to mention tidal, wave and biomass.”

See: <http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/05/08/kpmg-addressing-britains-energy-crisis-a-priority/>

To keep up the spirit of pre-Paris alarm, several feel-good conferences are being held at taxpayer expense.

See: <http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/05/09/martinique-climate-summit-for-people-who-cant-wait-until-paris/>

Make sure NOTHING is achieved in Paris. Keep the pressure on your local federal MP and Senators of all parties. Tell them:

“No binding Agreement in Paris and a ‘Get Out’ clause on anything agreed”.

*Viv Forbes
19/05/15*

Disclosure: *Viv Forbes has tertiary qualifications in geology, chemistry, physics, maths and soil science, and post graduate studies in economics, politics and climatology. He has worked in earth sciences, mining and financial analysis for governments and several private companies. He is currently occupied with his wife in raising cattle and sheep, and is a non-executive director and small shareholder in a small Australian coal exploration company.*

"Carbon Sense" is an independent newsletter produced for the Carbon Sense Coalition, an Australian based organisation which opposes waste of resources, opposes pollution, and promotes the rational use of all energy resources including carbon energy.

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