

## Climate and Energy Crises Short Web and Book List

With global warming visibly happening now, not in the distant future, notably with the tipping point crisis of Arctic sea ice, coal power plants have become a policy battleground.

With conventional oil plateauing starting in 2005, and world fuel supplies upheld by short lived deep-water oil (and natural gas liquids), we are entering a period of global energy challenges affecting the economy, transportation, war and food that in a few years will dramatically worsen.

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### Selected Websites on Climate Change and Peak Oil

[www.earth-policy.org/index.php?/books/pb4](http://www.earth-policy.org/index.php?/books/pb4) has online PDF version of Lester Brown, *Plan B 4.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization*. Has overviews of peak oil and global warming as well as of associated food, water, environmental crises, failing states and what we can do. Most chapters focus on solutions with a budget. Translated into many languages.

[www.monthlyreview.org](http://www.monthlyreview.org) issues for July-August and Nov., 2008 (vol. 60, #3 & #6) are a two part series. Part one, [www.monthlyreview.org/julaug2008.php](http://www.monthlyreview.org/julaug2008.php), has overview, peak oil and warming, water, while [www.monthlyreview.org/nov2008.php](http://www.monthlyreview.org/nov2008.php) addresses political aspects. Specific articles are online. Provides alternative view of a comprehensive solution.

### Climate:

<http://stephenschneider.stanford.edu/Climate/ClimateFrameset.html> has basic info and many links

[www.eoearth.org/article/Climate\\_Change\\_%28collection%29](http://www.eoearth.org/article/Climate_Change_%28collection%29) starting point for series of articles

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effects\\_of\\_global\\_warming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Effects_of_global_warming) Starting point for series of articles

[www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch) is the site of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The 52 page synthesis report on their 4<sup>th</sup> assessment is a free PDF at [www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-syr.htm](http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-syr.htm)

[www.climateark.org](http://www.climateark.org) and [www.grist.org](http://www.grist.org) have frequently updated global warming news

[www.realclimate.org](http://www.realclimate.org) is a commentary site on climate science by working climate scientists

[www.columbia.edu/~jeh1](http://www.columbia.edu/~jeh1) NASA climate researcher, James Hansen's Columbia U. site

[www.climatecodered.net](http://www.climatecodered.net) takes a risk management approach to a sustainability emergency.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar\\_ice\\_packs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar_ice_packs) Arctic sea ice visuals with importance addressed

[www.beyondzeroemissions.org](http://www.beyondzeroemissions.org) Australian campaigner site has podcasts that provide insight.

<http://350.org> youth oriented campaign backing Hansen's call to roll back carbon in atmosphere.

[www.climateprediction.net](http://www.climateprediction.net) contribute idle cycles on your computer for climate modeling

### Energy:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peak\\_oil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peak_oil) is the Wikipedia peak oil discussion and links.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oil\\_Megaprojects](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oil_Megaprojects) Assess prospects of future replacement projects.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Energy/Explore> Gateway to specific topics on coal, etc.

[www.wolfatthedoor.org.uk](http://www.wolfatthedoor.org.uk) has a thorough beginner's guide to peak oil and related issues.

[www.iea.org](http://www.iea.org) and [www.eia.doe.gov](http://www.eia.doe.gov) have OECD country US oriented world energy data series

[www.peakoil.net](http://www.peakoil.net) is the site of ASPO, Association for the Study of Peak Oil. It links to reports, data and about 20 national ASPO groups,.

[www.aspo-usa.org](http://www.aspo-usa.org) is site of ASPO-USA. Has daily news briefs.

[www.communitysolution.org](http://www.communitysolution.org) Has PowerPoint slides on peak oil, zero energy housing, food, etc.

[www.energybulletin.net](http://www.energybulletin.net) Has frequent updates from the world press and some original items.

[www.globalpublicmedia.org](http://www.globalpublicmedia.org) Has podcasts, video and transcripts with varying themes

www.theoil drum.com has moderated discussions of specific topics at a high level  
www.energycrisis.com or www.hubbertpeak.com or www.oilcrisis.com are the same pioneering  
site by Santa Cruz, CA alternative energy focused engineers. Many links.

### **Selected Books and PDFs**

Lester Brown, *Plan B 4.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization*, 2009 paperback (also PDF above).

Clear overview of global warming and climate change, associated issues and what can be done. Most chapters focus on proposed solutions. Translated into many languages.

*Monthly Review* issues for July-August and Nov., 2008 (vol. 60, #3 & #6) are a two part series.

The first part has overview, articles on peak oil and war, global warming, etc. The Nov. issue addresses politics with an argument for system replacement by democratic socialism.

Some articles are online. Go to [www.monthlyreview.org](http://www.monthlyreview.org) for prices and translations.

### **Climate:**

Robert Henson, *The Rough Guide to Climate Change*, 2nd Edition, 2008. Called “a perfect example of how to write a science book for nonscientists.” See <http://www.ucar.edu/news/staff/henson.shtml>

Kirstin Dow and Thomas E. Downing, *The Atlas of Climate Change: Mapping the World's Greatest Challenge*, 2nd Ed., 2007. This is a short primer on global warming.

Mark Bowen, *Censoring Science: Inside the Political Attack on Dr. James Hansen and the Truth of Global Warming*, 2008 hardcover. Fast read about Hansen's 30 year career at NASA.

Gabrielle Walker and David King. 2008. *The Hot Topic: What We Can Do About Global Warming*. Recent overview by science writer and the UK science advisor.

George Monbiot, 2007. *Heat: How to Stop the Planet From Burning*. The book is passionate and practical at the same time. Monbiot is a thoughtful journalist.

David Spratt and Philip Sutton. 2008. *Climate Code Red: The case for emergency action*, Order July 2008 Australian book direct from [www.climatecoded.net](http://www.climatecoded.net) (ISBN: 978-1921372209) or send me an email for the 1 MB, 75 page text draft PDF. Amazon.com in the US is now shipping imported copies. Their study takes a detailed risk management approach based on rapid warming beyond IPCC projections, esp. loss of Arctic sea ice, etc.

Johannes Lehmann. “Commentary: A Handful of Carbon,” *Nature* (Vol 447, 10 May 2007) online at [www.css.cornell.edu/faculty/lehmann/publ/Nature\\_447\\_143-144\\_2007\\_Lehmann.pdf](http://www.css.cornell.edu/faculty/lehmann/publ/Nature_447_143-144_2007_Lehmann.pdf) (Accessed 17 Sept. 2009). Cornell agricultural sciences expert discusses “biochar” as way of drawing down carbon from air (sequestration of carbon).

James Hansen, Makiko Sato, et al. “Target Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>: Where Should Humanity Aim?.” Published in 2008 in the online *Open Atmospheric Science Journal*. Go to: [http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Hansen\\_et\\_al.html](http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Hansen_et_al.html) (Accessed May 18, 2009).

Technical paper with a clear summary calling for WW II style mobilization of economic and political institutions to halt emissions of GH Gases and draw down CO<sub>2</sub> to reduce accumulated CO<sub>2</sub> to below 350 ppm as an initial target (currently the world is at 387 ppm, far above pre-industrial level of 280 ppm). The world last saw 350 ppm in 1988.

Pushker A. Kharecha and James E. Hansen. 2008. “Implications of “peak oil” for atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and climate.” *Global Biogeochem. Cycles* Go to: [http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Kharecha\\_Hansen.html](http://pubs.giss.nasa.gov/abstracts/2008/Kharecha_Hansen.html) (Accessed October 24, 2008). Uses official (IPCC and WEC) data [too high for most oil peak geologists to find credible], but makes strong case for need to curtail coal emissions, especially.

John Houghton, *Global Warming: The Complete Briefing*, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ed., 2004 paperback. Sir Houghton chaired many IPCC sessions. His primer is for educated readers who are not specialists in climate science to elucidate the technical issues and their human meanings.

## Energy:

Richard Heinberg, *The Party's Over: Oil, War and the Fate of Industrial Societies*. 2nd Ed., 2005 paperback. This is still my favorite popular overview. His social ecology understanding is what makes his treatment deeper. His website is [www.museletter.com](http://www.museletter.com)

Richard Gilbert and Anthony Perl, *Transport Revolutions: Moving People and Freight Without Oil*. 2008 hardcover. Canadian experts show how it can be done. They have website with data and slides at [www.transportrevolutions.info](http://www.transportrevolutions.info)

David Strahan, *The Last Oil Shock*. 2007 UK Paperback available at Amazon in USA. Former BBC financial journalist covers political and economic dimensions with great insight. He does many on-the-record interviews. See also <http://lastoilshock.com>

Richard Heinberg, *The Oil Depletion Protocol: A Plan to Avert Oil Wars, Terrorism and Economic Collapse*. 2006 paperback. Plan decline in consumption with loss of oil.

Kenneth S. Deffeyes, *Beyond Oil: The View from Hubbert's Peak*. 2006 paperback. Considers alternatives to oil like natural gas, coal, tar sands, oil shale, nuclear that he understands as a geophysicist.. Has short updates at [www.princeton.edu/hubbert/current-events.html](http://www.princeton.edu/hubbert/current-events.html)

Kenneth S. Deffeyes, *Hubbert's Peak: The Impending World Oil Shortage*. 2001 hardcover now has updated 2003 paperback edition. Deffeyes worked with Hubbert at Shell Research. He explains how oil is created and why we can't drill our way out of the crisis. I read this book after reading a review in *Scientific American* that is still available on the [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) site for the book.

Colin J. Campbell, *Oil Crisis*. 2005 paperback. This updates his 1997 *The Coming Oil Crisis*. Campbell tells the story of his growing understanding of oil depletion. Campbell and French natural gas expert, Jean H. Laherrère, wrote an earlier well argued and illustrated article for *Scientific American* that you can find at <http://dieoff.com/page140.pdf>

Matthew R. Simmons, *Twilight in the Desert: The Coming Saudi Oil Shock and the World Economy*. Paperback updated edition, 2006. Houston based energy investment banker challenges optimistic Saudi Aramco assurances. Search for online interviews.

David Goodstein, *Out of Gas: the End of the Age of Oil*. 2005 small paperback. Cal Tech Dean Goodstein outlines energy situation with insight from development of physics. Goodstein, Simmons and Colin Campbell are on the Advisory Board of ASPO-USA.

Michael T. Klare, *Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Dependency on Imported Petroleum*. 2005 paperback. Military affairs and peace studies expert Klare puts Iraq in context.

Julian Darley, *High Noon for Natural Gas: The New Energy Crisis*. 2004 paperback. Focuses mostly on North America's emerging natural gas shortage and the alternatives. North America and Britain face simultaneous, worsening natural gas and oil crises.

Robert L. Hirsch, Roger Bezdek, and Robert Wendling. *PEAKING OF WORLD OIL PRODUCTION: IMPACTS, MITIGATION, & RISK MANAGEMENT*. 2005. Go to: [http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/others/pdf/Oil\\_Peaking\\_NETL.pdf](http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/others/pdf/Oil_Peaking_NETL.pdf) This is a key risk management approach. Note mitigations take decades, some worsen global warming.

Bruce Podobnik, *Global Energy Shifts: Fostering Stability in a Turbulent Age*. 2006 paperback. Sociologist Podobnik uses the World Systems perspective in an extraordinarily thorough historical review of prior energy transitions to put the current one in context.