

FRACKING POSTPONED RATIONING

Hydraulic fracturing — “fracking” — permanently pollutes groundwater, causes earthquakes and is ultrahazardous for nearby communities. The motive for fracking is not profiteering (many fracked wells lose money) but to replace declining flows of conventional oil and gas due to depletion.

Fracking provided a “stay of execution” for Peak Energy in America. It postponed energy rationing — which we are totally unprepared for, logistically and psychologically.

The disruptions caused by the 1973 / 1974 oil embargo and gas lines in 1979 were merely warnings (mostly ignored). The economic shocks of oil rationing after the fracking boom goes bust could trigger the biggest onslaught of scapegoating in US history, especially since this may be permanent.

How will “stop drilling” groups respond to being blamed for the shortfalls? Will groups create cooperatives to insulate homes to reduce energy use, create car sharing networks, repair bicycles, revitalize community interdependence? Practicalities could be much more important than protests. Energy literacy about finite fuels might mitigate anger about the impacts of depletion.

The five stages of Peak acceptance:

Peak Denial and Plausible Deniability

Peak Blame: Pique and Scapegoating

Peak Bargaining: techno-fixes

and the promised land after oil

Peak Trauma Social Disaster (PTSD)

Peak Acceptance: Nature is abundant and finite

What the Frack?

www.peakchoice.org/peak-frack.html

Peak Energy and Climate Chaos

www.peakchoice.org/peak-climate.html

Peak Money: a permanent change

www.peakchoice.org/peak-money.html

Peak Electricity was 2007 in USA

www.peakchoice.org/peak-electricity.html

100% renewable energy after finite concentrated fossil carbon: solar power will run a smaller, steady state society

Directly using solar electricity since 1990 taught me it is wonderful but not a replacement for fossil fuels. Living on our solar budget after oil, coal and unnatural gas deplete will force us to relocalize production.

It takes fossil fuels and mineral ores to make, move, and install solar panels and wind turbines. We should use some of what is left for the “transition” instead of more consumerism and militarism. Here are resources on how “sustainable” energy will power a smaller, steady state society, not based on endless growth on a round, abundant, finite planet. We all need to wean ourselves away from the American Way of Life (AWOL).

Richard Heinberg and David Fridley, Post Carbon Institute

Our Renewable Future: Laying the Path for One Hundred Percent Clean Energy

www.postcarbon.org www.ourrenewablefuture.org www.shalebubble.org

www.greens.org/s-r/60/60-09.html

A Critique of Jacobson and Delucchi’s Proposals for a World Renewable Energy Supply by Ted Trainer

www.greens.org/s-r/48/48-11.html

Renewable Energy Cannot Sustain a Consumer Society by Ted Trainer

www.resilience.org/stories/2009-11-09/scientific-americans-path-sustainability-lets-think-about-details/

Scientific American's Path to Sustainability: Let's Think about the Details by Gail Tverberg

www.resilience.org/stories/2017-09-19/100-percent-wishful-thinking-green-energy-cornucopia/

100 Percent Wishful Thinking: The Green-Energy Cornucopia

by Stan Cox, author, **Any Way You Slice It: The Past, Present, and Future of Rationing**