Renewable Energy: Alternative Consumption and the consumption of alternatives

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Here’s a question for all those genetic engineers out there: What do you get if you cross new-age greenie hippies with corporate greed?...
Biodiesel of course!
Apparently loads of plants produce oils that the lazy have discovered can be used to save them having to walk or cycle anywhere. Renewable energy is the term used to describe energy sources that haven’t been conclusively shown not to be renewable.

Dr. T. N. B. Kaimal of IICT, Hyderabad, has said that many plants will provide oil, listing a variety of plants that produce it. As many 25 families of plants have been catalogued for their oil richness. As Dr. Kaimal says with respect to castor seed oil: “if 100 million hectares is brought under cultivation we can get castor seeds of 150 million tonnes out of which we can get 50 million tonnes of oil”.

A hundred million hectares is a very large size. Indeed, it is four times the size of the entire United Kingdom. Thus in order to get 50 million tonnes of fuel oil we need to plant the whole of the UK,
France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, with no room for anything else! If it was possible to get two crops per year out of this, we would have 100 million tonnes of oil per year. This would provide one third of the USA's annual imports, ignoring the amount they consume of their own production. This kind of calculation really brings home the scale of our profligate use of earth’s energy.

This level of production, inadequate though it is, would necessitate a monoculture with an incredibly high input of bioicides and fertilisers. All in all not very green. The proponents of this ‘solution’ fall into two groups: desperate business leaders and stupid professional environmentalists. It seems very few people are willing to actually change their lazy habits in order to allow life to continue. If you suggest that a small amount of self-discipline is an essential part of any viable solution, you will come up against the full indignant wrath of the human rights lobby.

According to Stanford University’s Paul Ehrlich, humankind has co-opted for its use about 40 per cent of the net primary productivity on the planet — that is, of the energy fixed by photosynthesis each year. The earth is straining to it’s photosynthetic limits just to provide the rich “First World” with all the wasteful packaged crap that the food adulteration industry has foisted upon us, and now the ravaged fields must provide fuel for a billion lazy entities who will do anything rather than use their own energy to get around. (That’s five billion if we are aiming for social justice, but it seems the new age will be just as bad as the old on that score.)

This is by no means a new phenomenon; the idle races have been insinuating themselves into the human genome since before history began. This is just the latest advancement in the process that probably started with the enslavement of the dog and the horse. Paul Shepherd described this latter unfortunate soul as “that domestic animal which, more than any other symbolised and energised the worldwide pastoral débacle of the skinning of the earth... No wonder the horse is the end-of-the-world mount of Vishnu and Christ. As famine, death and pestilence, it was the apocalyptic beast who
less of inconvenience. If no alternative exists this is usually a non-
essential item.

(It is said that the main reason that community supported agri-
culture has not taken off is because the corporations are opposed to
it. Could it perhaps be because the vast majority of the population
are too apathetic to get up and find out about these things?)

I must stop working for the system, regardless of the personal
hardship this may seem to entail. This is a personal thing. There is
no set course, we must all find our own and help each other. No
leader will be needed, we must take back our self-respect and stop
relying on cult figures and green gurus, who are obviously not up
to the task. We don’t need any experts to tell us what to do, we
pretend that we need them because we don’t really want to do it.
Stop consuming.

It seems bad, but if we do it, maybe we will start living again.

carried Middle East sky-worship and the sword to thousands of
hapless tribal peoples and farmers from India to Mexico."

Along with hydro-electricity, wind power and tidal energy, plant
fuels are the latest attempt by technocracy to stay in business. On
the bright side, this does at least show that the corporations are
slowly becoming aware that even they will have big problems very
soon. All these so-called ‘solutions’ overlook the fact that energy
sources are not the problem. The people who live in the third world —
and that is most people — do not have anything like the amount
of energy consumption that we do. Their low life expectancy and
ill health is due to the fact that all the good land is taken up by
western corporations to overfeed us, not because of a lack of tele-
visions or electric toothbrushes. These people are living proof that
the power consumption of the rich world is totally unnecessary.
All these ‘renewable’ energy sources are not solutions at all, they
are irrelevant to the problem.

The major problem that this planet has today is the incredible ca-
pacity a minority of humans has to consume ever increasing quan-
tities of everything. This is the problem, yet it is never addressed;
ever even recognised. Instead the problem is seen as one of contin-
uing to consume as much as possible; of finding alternative things
to consume when the current consumables run out. The green gu-
rus keep parroting out the same old crap about treading lightly on
the earth, and their followers keep lapping it all up, sending in their
subscriptions, buying the videos, going to the meetings, writing
their letters, recycling their ideologies and reciting their platitudes
— anything rather than face up to the fact that the party is over and
hard times are on the way.

We are running out of slaves. There is a world shortage of slave
material and the rich idle West is too deeply habituated to the
‘good’ life to see that it is time to face up to that reality. Never

1Shepherd, Paul; “A Post-Historic Primitivism” from the collection “The
mind all the other species, we don’t even provide the whole hu-
man population with this level of consumption, most of the rest of 
humanity are slaves of the west too! The clever slave driver will not 
drive the slaves too hard; they are no use to him dead. We have not 
even been clever. Now we are scraping the bottom of the barrel. We 
have used up most of the earth’s available stored energy, and are 
laying into the latest deliveries. The soon-to-come shift into large 
scale plundering of this energy will further accelerate the already 
alarming rate of devastation. That these ‘solutions’ are being touted 
as ‘green’ is the ultimate example of Orwellian doublespeak. These 
people claim to be looking towards a new future — as indeed they 
are, with the same rapacious eye that the first colonialists viewed 
the ‘new’ world of 500 years ago.

So what is the solution then? All we need to do is to look at the 
problem: Consumption. It is very, very simple. We must reduce 
consumption. Now. Not in 2002 when the UN sets some kind of 
target. Not next year when the government raises some kind of 
tax a bit. What kind of lifeforms are we who need some kind of fi-
nancial incentive to save ourselves from oblivion? Are we really so 
powerless that we can’t stop buying things until the government 
tells us we have to? Is it really the government’s fault that millions 
of supposedly free-thinking individuals go shopping in vast depersonalised hypermarkets miles from their homes on new bypasses 
built specially for that purpose? (an average of 75% of traffic on UK 
bypasses is local.)

I hear people whinge about how they just don’t have the time, 
or the local shops are too expensive... or some other feeble excuse. 
The worst excuse, and the most difficult one to overcome is the one 
about freedom of choice: “but people have the right to choose...” 
they whine, “you can’t tell people what to do.” Well, leaving aside 
their total blindness to the existence of all other life forms, what 
about the people in other parts of the world, who, to provide land 
for food to fill these supermarkets and tins to put it in, are forcibly 
removed from their homes to live in filthy shanty towns watching 
their children starve or go into prostitution? What about all the 
families devastated by war fought on their land over resources they 
will never see or even benefit from; wars to ensure the free flow of 
oil so that these pathetic mollycoddled perversions of humanity 
can excersize their ‘right’ to shop where they choose? Do these 
people really give a shit about anybody’s rights other than their 
own?

They claim not to know about all this, they say that they don’t 
boycott (old example this, sorry!) South African goods because 
(wait for it, mindless zombie statement no.1) “You can’t boycott 
everything, can you?”

So they don’t boycott anything!

Brilliant!

Blank smile, blank eyes, blank brain.

And then there are those who do their bit... “I do my bit for the 
environment,” they say. God, yes, perhaps I should do my bit for 
my dog. I won’t kick him on Thursday afternoons! They are just a 
load of pathetic sheep (sheep have been bred to be pathetic over 
thousands of years... just like a lot of humans) who can’t even be 
bothered to take responsibility for their own actions. If I buy a tin 
of food, who is responsible for the open cast mine where the tin 
was extracted from? Who is responsible for the pesticides used in 
producing the contents, or the transport infrastucture involved in 
getting it through the convoluted route from field to me? The gov-
ernment? Bill Gates?

Of course not. I must stop buying these things. I can’t extricate 
myself from the sick parasitic system overnight — the grip is too 
tight, real alternatives either don’t exist or are on the way out and 
very fragile. So this must be my priority. I may seek out those 
places, co-ops, small grocers etc and support them, find other peo-
ple and work with them in the hope that we will enhance each 
other’s efforts. The alternatives may be difficult to get but this is 
of no relevance, if an alternative exists it is the thing to do, regard-