

END OF SUBURBIA

1. Panel - John Botti, Terry Dyke, Jason Burroughs
2. Issues brought up in film
 - a. Historical information of suburbia growth, post WWII, auto and oil influence
 - b. Suburbia very wasteful in energy usage, coming to an end
 - c. Pesticides and fertilizers made with oil & natural gas respectively
 - d. Our food production uses 10 cal per 1 cal of food, poor ratio
 - e. World peak oil is likely in the present, therefore energy cost will increase
 - f. Many alternative fuels have low net energy value, therefore society will need to learn to use less fuel in general
 - g. Mixed use communities will be the future, less energy consumption
 - h. Economy will become local, more community based
 - i. Communities need to create solutions for local fuel, food, employment
3. New technology
 - a. 2009 new diesel engines will be 90% cleaner, very efficient engines
 - b. Hybrid cars, very efficient in city, expensive battery technology
 - c. Higher efficiency solar panels will be available in the future, but the technology has progressed far enough to be a sound investment presently
4. Local Solutions
 - a. Energy production, household solar cells, city utility purchase of wind power
 - b. Farming, backyard and community farms, Community Supported Agriculture
 - c. Re-use oil for biofuels, higher net energy, DieselGreenFuels.com
 - d. Commuting line in Austin will use diesel; rail is most efficient for moving people
 - e. Attend CAMPO meetings and influence decisions on transportation
5. Discussion
 - Q: How will energy crisis affect the population growth?
 - A: We eat oil for food production, pesticides and fertilizers plus the fuel to harvest. Less fuel will mean less food / more expensive food. Excessive fuel has pushed our population growth. We need to create a sustainable "carrying capacity" appropriate for our ecosystem. Therefore economically, we could see a drop off in population growth in the states much like most of Europe and Japan.
 - Comment: Although the film at some points portrayed rich elitist moving to the suburbs, in our current reality suburbia is "the" cost effective solution to living while people of higher wealth can afford to live in the city. Austin needs more affordable housing to attract the small families living and moving to the suburbs.
6. Panel Bios
 - a. Jason Burroughs, Co-Founder of Austin Biodiesel Cooperative and DieselGreen Fuels. 512-391-0569 www.DieselGreenFuels.com. After working with biodiesel and vegetable oil in a co-op environment in 2005-2006, Jason turned his hobby into a business by helping to form DieselGreen Fuels with two fellow co-op members. Together, they collect waste vegetable oil from local restaurants (including many of the restaurants in the Cherrywood area), and turn this trash into fuel.
 - b. John Botti, Organizer of Crude Awakening Austin, has been concerned about environmental justice, peace and ecology since his teenage years in the Houston suburbs. In his spare time he likes to garden and to spread the word about global warming and

- energy depletion.
- c. Terry Dyke is currently a senior research analyst in telecommunications policy at the City of Austin., having worked variously as a computer programmer, cable television executive and media consultant. He has been following peak oil and energy issues since 2001. He and his wife Marilyn have lived in the neighborhood since 2002.
7. Local Solutions
 - a. www.dieselgreenfuels.com
 - b. www.austinev.org
 - c. <http://www.austinenergy.com> <<http://www.austinenergy.com/>> - Rebates Solar PV Systems
 8. Peak Oil
 - a. Association for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO) <http://www.peakoil.net> <<http://www.peakoil.net/>>
 - b. Energy Bulletin <http://www.energybulletin.net/>
 - c. Crude Awakening <http://www.crudeawakening.org/>
 - d. Hirsch Report (US Gov't study on the impact of peak oil): <http://www.hilltoplancers.org/stories/hirsch0502.pdf>
 9. Adaptation and Relocalization
 - a. Portland Task Force report on relocalization <http://www.portlandonline.com/osd/index.cfm?c=42894>
 - b. Post Carbon Institute <http://postcarbon.org/>
 - c. Oil Depletion Protocol <http://www.oildepletionprotocol.org/>
 - d. Powerswitch <http://www.powerswitch.org.uk/>
 - e. The Community Solution <http://www.communitysolution.org/>
 10. People in the movie
 - a. Richard Heinberg <http://www.richardheinberg.com/>
 - b. James H. Kunstler <<http://www.kunstler.com/>> <http://www.kunstler.com/>
 - c. Julian Darley <<http://www.postcarbon.org/blog/253>> <http://www.postcarbon.org/blog/253>
 - d. Matthew Simmons http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Simmons
 - e. Colin Campbell http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Campbell_%28geologist%29
 - f. Kenneth Deffeyes <<http://www.princeton.edu/hubbert/index.html>> <http://www.princeton.edu/hubbert/index.html>
 11. * End of Suburbia site <http://www.endofsuburbia.com/>

IS WAL•MART GOOD FOR AMERICA (Frontline Special Report)

1. Panel (March 2, 2007)
 - a. Susan Moffett of Austin Full Circle
 - b. Paige Hill of Northcross RG4N
2. Points of Film
 - a. Walmart pull economic system, tells manufacturing what, when and the costs
 - b. With permanent trading status with China, moved production to China
 - c. Since trade agreement, trade deficit grows, moving production jobs over seas
 - d. China has low labor costs and no labor rights, not appropriate trading partner
 - e. Lowered prices for consumers but either lost jobs or exchanged jobs with reduction of pay and benefits
3. Discussion
 - a. The presence of Walmart in a county increases percentage of poverty in area
 - b. Market baskets comparisons show not the lowest price
 - c. Walmart often sells products at a loss in a region to destroy competition, then increase cost later
 - d. The town Walmart killed twice – comes in, destroy competition, profits low then move out, leaving town without existing infrastructure
 - e. 4 Walmarts in Austin with Northcross
4. Local Solutions
 - a. Big Box Ordinance of Austin needs public hearing, considers economic and social impact, but did not apply to Walmart Northcross.
 - b. Shop local businesses, studies have shown 3X money will stay in community
 - c. Ethical procurement policy (anti-sweatshop) for City of Austin
 - d. HEB is good about buying local agriculture, Farmer's Market best solution
 - e. Smart growth for Austin, promote to City Council
 - f. Lincoln development not an ally in Smart growth

KILOWATT OURS

1. Panel

- a. Mark Kapner, P.E. - currently the Senior Strategy Engineer at Austin Energy. While Manager of Conservation and Renewable Energy at the utility, he was instrumental in developing and running Austin's GreenChoice Program, the nation's leading renewable energy marketing program. His 30 years of experience in energy technology and environmental policy includes managing projects in energy storage, biomass energy, solar, and cogeneration, as well as consulting for several federal government agencies.
- b. John Touchet - Planner with the Texas Department of Community Affairs Energy Assistance Section, and an officer of the Austin peak oil awareness group, Crude Awakening.
- c. Michele L. Van Hyfte, AIA LEED AP, president of Monarch Design/Consulting, is a registered architect and sustainable design consultant. She also serves as Co Vice Chair of the US Green Building Council Central Texas Chapter, and Co Chairperson of the American Institute of Architects Austin Chapter Committee on the Environment.

2. Panel Opening Comments

- a. Mark Kapner
 - i. Austin energy does include 35% coal (WY), natural gas, and nuclear
 - ii. City Council is our "Board of Directors", we need to increase renewable, currently 6%
 - iii. Wind is the largest growing renewable energy, TX has a large wind resource
 - iv. 40% renters in Austin
 - v. Coal is a majority of electrical power in the US, nuclear second
- b. John Touchet
 - i. Stand alone houses not energy efficient, vertical use condos much more efficient
 - ii. Frig is one of the most energy savings (10 yrs), technology much changed
 - iii. For central air, SEAR rating ≥ 13 very good, higher the better
 - iv. 25-50% savings from replacing AC, frig, and lights
 - v. Always look for "energy star" rating
- c. Michelle Van Hyfte
 - i. Primary steps I) Make home efficient and II) use renewable energy
 - ii. April 14, Step It Up at the Capital

3. Questions

- How can renters participate?
 - Demand change, efficient frig and AC, solar screens, and use bulbs, Green Choice
- Why is solar not more popular?
 - Cost is still high, return payment for user is still long
- Are computers and radios still using power?
 - Called a phantom load, anything with a remote and computers use power when "off". Solution would be to use a power strip, turn off when you leave town or over night
- What is the costs of turning a house Green?
 - City will provide an evaluation of energy efficiency, as well as possible loan to make improvements. Calking is one of the most cheapest and best solution for cracks.

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