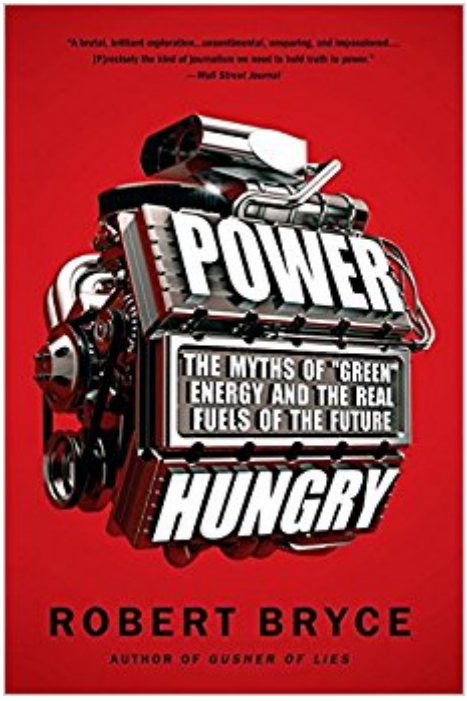
Power Hungry: The Myths Of ""Green"" Energy And The Real Fuels Of The Future



Synopsis

The promise of "green jobs" and a "clean energy future" has roused the masses. But as Robert Bryce makes clear in this provocative book, that vision needs a major re-vision. We cannot--and will not--quit using carbon-based fuels at any time in the near future for a simple reason: they provide the horsepower that we crave. The hard reality is that oil, coal, and natural gas are here to stay. Fueling our society requires that we make good decisions and smart investments based on facts. In Power Hungry, Bryce crushes a phalanx of energy myths, showing why renewables are not green, carbon capture and sequestration won’t work, and even--surprise!--that the U.S. is leading the world in energy efficiency. Power Hungry delivers a clear-eyed view of what’s needed to transform the gargantuan global energy sector.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Journalist Bryce, author of Gusher of Lies and managing editor of online industry newsmagazine Energy Tribune, is nothing if not polemical. While his swings are sometimes familiar ("The essence of protecting the environment can be distilled to a single phrase: Small is beautiful") and sometimes bizarre ("The world isn’t using too much oil. It’s not using enough"), the points he raises merit serious consideration. In this informed, opinionated state-of-the-industry overview, Bryce contends that energy policy must be based upon four imperatives: "power density, energy density, cost and scale." Wind and solar power, he says, fail those standards due to storage problems and the

vagaries of weather; Denmark, the poster child for renewable energy, nevertheless imports hydroelectric power from Norway and Sweden, relies heavily upon North Sea oil and coal, and increased its greenhouse gas emissions by 2.1 percent between 1990 and 2006. Pointing to the environmental cost of hydropower ("ruining habitats for aquatic life"), oil spills, and coal mining, Bryce makes a strong case for heavier reliance upon natural gas, a relatively clean and readily available carbon fuel, as a bridge technology: "The smartest, most forward-looking U.S. energy policy can be summed up in one acronym: 'N2N'," for "natural gas to nuclear power." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kirkus â œCapably arguedâ | advocates of renewable energy should familiarize themselves with the book, since oil, gas and coal lobbyists surely will.â • Philadelphia Inquirer â œBryce is especially good at explaining why fossil fuels have become entrenched as our main energy sources.â •Â Library Journal â œBryce uses copious facts and research to make a compelling case that renewable sources have their place in our energy future but they aren't the viable panacea we're led to believe.â • Ft. Worth Star-Telegram, April 23, 2010 â œAny new Robert Bryce book, in my opinion, had one tough hurdle to clear: Iâ ™d found Bryceâ ™s first book, Gusher of Lies, impossible to put down.â • American Spectator, April 26, 2010 â œEndlessly fascinating reading.â • Wall Street Journal, April 27, 2010 â œA brutal brilliant explorationâ | If Power Hungry sounds like a supercharged polemic, its shocks are delivered with forensic skill and narrative aplombâ |. It is unsentimental, unsparing and impassioned; and, if youâ ™ll excuse the pun, it is precisely the kind of journalism we need to hold truth to power.â • Washington Times, May 31, 2010 â œ[Bryceâ ™s] magnificently unfashionable, superlatively researched new book dares to fly in the face of all current conventional wisdom and cantâ |. I have never yet found any book or author who does a more thorough, unanswerable job of demolishing universally held environmental myths than Mr. Bryce doesâ |. Mr. Obama is reputed to be an omnivorous reader of serious intellectual volumes. He should drop everything else and put Robert Bryceâ ™s invaluable book at the top of his list. So should every senator and Congress member and every self-important, scientifically illiterate pundit in America, right and left alike. They will all learn a lot.â •Â National Review, August 2, 2010 â œShould be mandatory reading for U.S. policymakers.â • --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is an excellent book to understand the pros and cons of all the various forms of energy.

"Green" energy is not the "clean" and pure form of a source of energy that can replace fossil fuels. The technology for making cheap the alternative, green energy is not there and will not be there to compete with fossil fuels. The US has a huge source of various fossil fuels that can keep energy at a reasonable cost (if there is no cap and trade taxes) to last us a long long time. Natural gas supplies, petroleum will keep us supplied for well over a years. I also like nuclear, especially the use of thorium in small, localized power plants. This will keep down the infrastructure which people do not like to have near them. We don’t need a criss-crossing of power lines which would be necessary for "green" alternative fuels. I think large farms of solar panels and wind turbines are ugly. We have a 100 acre solar farm near us and this is a total waste of the land. You can’t farm it, nor is it good for wildlife.Read this book to get a better understanding of the various forms of energy with the pros and cons of each of them. Then you will have been better educated in making a decision as to which of the fuels is best to keep our economies running and keep employment up.

Well researched, expertly written, perfectly formatted, and professionally organized: I highly recommend this book. Never has a book so full of statistics, charts, etc., been so easy to read! Difficult to put down. Upon finishing, I hungered for more power...(sorry).I have never learned so much from 300 pages of text in my adult life. I wish all American citizens and politicians could read this book. I thoroughly enjoyed being educated.I do agree with the author on many points;1) Americans DO need better Math and Science education in high school.2) Wind Turbines and solar can not replace only adjunct. Gas, oil, far superior.3) Nuclear the best of all!!! Build some more facilities now!4) Stop putting Ethanol in our gasoline!!!5) With coal, CO2 not the real problem, mercury and lead are.6) Even if United States had no CO2 emissions, it would not make a difference in the world.(China, India, etc.)(Even if global warming was real...which it is not, by the way)I highly recommend this book!Dr. Stanley E. Toompas, Optometrist& Author of "I’m the One the Other Isn’t"

This book should be read by everyone. We are completely ignorant of the numbers around how electricity is actually produced. This book opens up your mind to the realities of how hard it is to simply change our sources of energy. I found this book to be incredibly insightful. I would recommend it to everyone. I have recommended it to others and they say that there are too many numbers in the book. I think that is what makes it credible.

Great read about all the green power sources myths out there. Take Germany as an example with

its plans to phase out nuclear power generation. The real winners of this plan: Sweden, Poland and Switzerland which will be selling Germany clean nuclear power when the Quixotic German wind generators do not rotate.

The author provides specific facts about the power generation types, which allows for the readers to make their own opinions. He does knock renewable energy, which is interesting because on a daily basis I read about technology advances and cost reduction measures. This book definitely geared me up to do more research and search for other similar books. If you have time, check out the book Clean Tech Nation.

This should be required reading for every US and State congressman prior to any vote on energy. Enough of fantasy land with wind, solar and ethanol. While they may well all have a place in the provision of energy we need to deal with reality regarding quantities of energy necessary. This book can shed some light to all.

This is a very interesting book written in a way that makes the topic interesting & easy to comprehend for un-scientists like me.

An excellent book to understand the energy issues in the US, in particular, the cost and availability now and in the future. Thee argument behind all of the energy issues is that mankind is emitting CO2 and this is leading to Catastrophic Anthropogenic (man-made) Global Warming (CAGW), and thus we must drastically cut or eliminate the burning of carbon fuel and emission of CO2.This is a book which addresses real numbers and requirements for USA energy now and in the future. He addresses the so called "green" systems specifically including solar and wind to point out their limitations. Specifically, they are intermittent in the case of wind, and in the case of solar, only operate during the day, and if clouds arrive, energy production can fall off by over half. He points out that Denmark which has extensively spent money on wind mills, has a cost per kilowatt hour of $0.38 in 2008. Please note in in 2013 in Texas, I am paying less than $0.06 per kilowatt hour.Denmark has the most expensive electricity in Europe. Denmark uses oil to generate over half of their electricity, due to the time of the day when they need the electricity. Much of the wind generated electricity is exported to Norway and Sweden, who have extensive hydo facilities, and I presume, use the electricity to pump water from a lower level to a higher level behind a dam when the excess power is available. All in all, the wind mills are an economic disaster for the Danish rate

payer and utility customer, as they are paying for luxury "green" energy, that really does not benefit the country.All in all, we and others in the world, are making a large mistake in letting electrical generation policy are driven by an unproven theory that man by burning fossil fuels will cause CAGW.A wonderful book for people who have an open mind and want to understand the issue.

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