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News. March, 2015. Issue #36. 54,000 ESB [video views](#). *100% Renewable by 2035*.

I conclude that the globe is warming and that carbon dioxide has something to do with that fact. Those who say otherwise will wind up being mugged by reality.

- George P. Shultz (secretary of state under Ronald Reagan)

In the article he proposes increased R & D into renewables & storage and a revenue neutral carbon tax as a very Reagan-esque insurance policy against climate change.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-reagan-model-on-climate-change/2015/03/13/4f4182e2-c6a8-11e4-b2a1-bed1aeea2816_story.html

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Electricity

Georgetown Texas - 100% Renewable Electricity in 2016

When its staff examined their options last year, they discovered something that seemed remarkable, especially in Texas: renewable energy was cheaper than non-renewable.

“We didn’t do this to save the world – we did this to get a competitive rate and reduce the risk for our consumers.”

The move to renewables may prove good for business as well: *Chris Foster, Georgetown’s manager of resource planning and integration, said that since the announcement he had “gotten calls from businesses as far away as California and Maryland wanting to know: what does it cost to move over here?”* (G)

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/mar/28/georgetown-texas-renewable-green-energy>

New Zealand 80% Renewable in 2015

Their goal is 90% by 2025. It seems likely that they will reach that goal years early. (G)

<http://cleantechica.com/2015/03/31/wind-replaces-coal-geothermal-overtakes-gas-major-sources-power-generation-new-zealand/>

China: More Wind Electricity Than All the Tea?

For the last 2 years there has been more wind electricity than nuclear in China. Enough to power 110 million Chinese homes. And wind power is growing at a spectacular rate. (G)

http://www.earth-policy.org/data_highlights/2015/highlights50

Computerworld: World's Largest Solar Installs

There are two things that I find particularly interesting about this article (beyond the obvious list of very big solar installations). The first is that its in Computerworld - not the first place I look for solar information. The second is that back in 2001 when I got into renewables in a serious way, an announcement of 100 kW's of solar was a big deal. We are now seeing announcements of 100 GW's of solar - an astonishing million times larger than 2001. (Article: G. Keep clicking on the **Next** button on the right side just under the first big picture to see the list of projects)

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/2891127/sunny-days-the-worlds-biggest-solar-energy-projects.html>

Transportation

Why Tesla Motors Could Be the World's Most Important Car Company

An interesting short video by JP Morgan-Stanley. This is the only car company stock that we cover "*who's stock price can realistically multiply by ten. It can also get cut in half.*" (video: G)

http://linkback.morganstanley.com/web/sendlink/webapp/BMServlet?file=srncrj5u-3p67-g000-85b4-d8d385599200&store=0&d=1&user=4dq1c4ddnte5j-0&_gda_=1552219545_ea99d3c891089f1667cd5e1ede9bed03#0021&4dq1c4ddnte5j-2&1552219545_e64826b722ad4ac1e9c43ca81dd9abd6&0011&4dq1c4ddnte5j-1&1552219545_d980ecb359dc5849b2f5c6821774ac9a

Energy Storage, Etcetera

District Solar Thermal Heat Storage in Canada

Perhaps the biggest problem with using solar thermal systems for home heating is that there is way more solar in the summertime than you need, and not nearly enough in the winter time when you need heat. This 52-home development in Canada near Calgary was built starting in 2007. It uses a Borehole Thermal Energy Storage system to store summer heat to use in the winter. It has achieved a phenomenal 97% solar heat fraction for heating these homes. The website is quite interesting and has lots of detail including an animation of the current conditions (click on the big red thermometer in the left margin) and extensive reports. (Website G. Reports PG. First link: website how it works. Second link is a sample of one of the reports - 5 year results).

<http://www.dlsc.ca/how.htm>

http://www.dlsc.ca/reports/DLSC_SHC_2012_final.pdf