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News. May, 2013. Issue #14. 6,500 ESB [video views](#).

Every time you are tempted to react in the same old way, ask if you want to be a prisoner of the past or a pioneer of the future.
- Deepak Chopra

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News About EnergyShouldBe (ESB)

We have been averaging 2,000 video views per month for the last few months. This is in comparison to 1,600 views total for 2012.

We will soon have three, 3-minute videos with over 1,000 views each (G, G, & PG):

[The Best Lawnmower? Cordless Electric.](#)

[The Best Cooktop? Magnetic Induction.](#)

[To Allow Lots of Renewables, Baseload Coal & Nuclear Must Go.](#)

Electricity

3,000 MW PV on Contaminated Land in California

This is the biggest project I've heard of in the US. The land is selenium & salt contaminated ex-farmland. It is unusable for economic purposes and is not considered ecologically sensitive. (G)

www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/article/2013/04/growing-a-solar-park-in-californias-central-valley

Who is Going to 100% Renewable Energy?

What countries and cities have committed to 100% renewable electricity and to 100% renewable energy (all energy - electricity, transportation, & heat). (G)

<http://www.go100percent.org>

Conservative Lancaster, Liberal Sebastopol, Both Cities Now Require Solar on Homes

Two California cities now require solar electric panels (PV) on every new home. (G)

www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20130507/ARTICLES/130509624/1033/news

Electricity Storage Using Compressed Air & Geothermal

Usually, Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES) systems use heat from natural gas to improve their overall storage performance to an acceptable level. This article & study describes two projects in Washington state. One is a conventional natural gas fired CAES system. The other uses geothermal energy instead of natural gas for that heat. (G & PG)

<http://www.intelligentutility.com/article/13/05/not-just-blowing-wind-compressing-air-renewable-energy-storage>
<http://caes.pnnl.gov/pdf/PNNL-22235.pdf>

Transportation

Plug-In the Electric Car. Earn Money From the Grid. (G)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/26/business/energy-environment/electric-vehicles-begin-to-earn-money-from-the-grid.html>

Consumer Reports Gives Tesla Model S Very Rare 99/100 Rating. Tesla Posts Profit.

From the video: *This car performs better than anything we've ever tested before. Not just electric cars, but in comparison to any car they have ever tested. It's really amazing that a small company in California that has only just begun building cars built a car that performed better than entries from any of the other car companies even companies that have been around for over a hundred years.* The video also includes nice detail on using Tesla SuperChargers to drive long distances - 30 minutes of charging gets 150 miles of range and its free to Model S owners. Article & 3-minute Video (G & G)

<http://www.autoblog.com/2013/05/09/consumer-reports-scores-tesla-model-s-99-out-of-100>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=458TLFRkAlk>

Tesla posts its first quarterly profit (G):

<http://green.autoblog.com/2013/05/08/tesla-posts-first-quarterly-profit-model-s-best-selling-ev/>

Misc.

Saving Summer Heat for Winter Use

52 house subdivision in Alberta, Canada, stores summer heat in the ground for winter use. (G)

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

3D Battery Charges 1,000 Times Faster, Much Smaller

"You could replace your car battery with one of our batteries and it would be 10 times smaller, or 10 times more powerful. With that in mind you could jumpstart a car with the battery in your cell phone." (G)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-22191650>

The Most Efficient Way to Dry Clothes? Heat Pump Clothes Dryer Study

Hanging clothing on a line is, of course, the most efficient way to dry clothes. But in Europe, Heat Pump Clothes dryers (HP-Dryer) have become very popular.

In comparison to a regular clothes dryer, HP-dryers use half to 1/3 the electricity (kWh), have 1/5th the electric peak demand (kW), take twice as long, the box & drum are physically smaller for the same size laundry load, and (for now) have limited availability in the US and cost twice as much. However, the study (page 27) concludes that typical payback in energy costs for the additional cost of the dryer could be in a reasonable 5 or 6 years - this assumed that the cost differential would drop to \$300 with increased adoption.

One area that was not studied - HP-dryers do not vent to the outside (they don't vent much at all). This could be a significant energy savings because conditioned household air is not vented to the outside (e.g., in the winter, you are not venting warm house air to the outside which has to be replaced with cold outside air). Additionally, HP-dryers create very little waste heat, so summer air conditioning costs should be lower.

A second issue for further study is the impact of drying wear & tear on the clothing itself. The authors observed that the impact would be reduced by the lower temperatures the HP-dryers ran at but increased by the longer drying time. Article & study (G & VG).

<http://www.clasponline.org/en/Resources/Resources/StandardsLabelingResourceLibrary/2013/Clothes-Dryer-Heat-Pump-Technology-Offers-Substantial-Cost-and-Energy-Savings-for-North-America>

http://www.clasponline.org/~media/Files/SLDocuments/2013/2013_Analysis-of-Potential-Energy-Savings-from-Heat-Pump-Clothes-Dryers-in-North-America.pdf

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