

Man, Energy and the Environment

The Balance of Survival

A Series of Public Television Special Presentations

More than 130 energy and environmental (oil, nuclear, natural gas, renewable energy) experts, drawn from the academic, political, non-governmental and corporate communities, debate and discuss their respective views about the shape and direction that America's energy and environmental policies should take.

Former Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs Mr. Hodding Carter III moderates the discussions.

Many of the programs were hosted by a specific academic institution.

Program List

(1) NUCLEAR POWER: RE-EMERGING IN THE 1990'S?

Very few issues have polarized the U.S. public as strongly as the issue of nuclear power. Today, nuclear power provides one fifth of the country's electricity. In this program, experts discuss public opinion, hazardous waste disposal, utility demand projections, environmental impact, and the overall future for nuclear power. Program originally aired live on 10/3/90. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: B. Drummond Ayres, New York Times; Jan Beyea, National Audubon Society; Remy Carle, Electricite de France; Kenneth Carr, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Andrew Kadak, Yankee Atomic Electric Company; Dan Reicher, Natural Resources Defense Council; Neil Todreas, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Bertram Wolfe, G.E. Nuclear Energy.

(2) COAL: THE CHALLENGE OF ABUNDANCE

Coal mining leaves scars on the earth, and coal burning emits carbon dioxide, further exacerbating acid rain and the greenhouse effect. But coal is one of the world's most abundant fossil fuel resources, and more than half of U.S. electricity is generated from it. New technologies may one day make coal processing a clean operation. Experts discuss coal and the future. Program originally aired live on 10/25/90. (Pennsylvania State University)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: Alden Meyer, Union of Concerned Scientists; Warren Brookes, Detroit News; Robert Dawson, Southern Company Services, Inc.; Michael Deland, Council on Environmental Quality; W.G. Karis, Consolidation Coal Company; James McCormick, Shell Oil Company; Richard Tallboys, World Coal Institute.

(3) THE POLITICS OF ENERGY

In Washington, DC, lawmakers, the administration, environmentalists and members of the world energy community discuss the effects of global and national political actions and agendas on the balance between man, energy and the environment. Program originally aired live on 11/14/90. (Washington, DC – WETA Studios)

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Robert J. Anderson, ARCO; Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, American Enterprise Institute; Richard L. Lawson, National Coal Institute; James McClure, U.S. Congress; Philip R. Sharp, U.S. Congress; Bruce Smart, Jr., World Resources Institute; Mortimer B. Zuckerman, U.S. News & World Report.

(4) NEW POWER FOR A NEW CENTURY: ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY

Energy from non-renewable resources such as the sun, geothermal heat, wind and the ocean currently supply 9% of the country's energy, but can we realistically expect them to meet all of our energy needs? Costs to research and implement these resources are high, but so are the national security and environmental costs of not developing them. Experts discuss the issues. Program originally aired live on 12/3/90. (University of Hawaii)

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Harold Forsen, Bechtel Group, Inc.; Ronald Hays, Pacific Intl. Center High Technology; Terrel Minger, Institute for Resource Management; Stanford Ovshinsky, Energy Conversion Devices; Patrick Takahashi, Hawaii Natural Energy Institute; George Vandervelde, Waste Management.

(5) THE FUTURE OF OIL: RECURRING CRISES OR NEW POTENTIAL?

Growing U.S. and worldwide reliance on OPEC oil suppliers has serious implications for the energy, economic, foreign policy and national security interests of the U.S. Debate centers on realistic options for reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil. Program originally aired live on 1/23/91. (University of Texas, Austin)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: James Akins, former ambassador to Saudi Arabia; Senator David Boren; Charles Ebinger, Center for Strategic & International Studies; William L. Fisher, University of Texas, Austin; Robert Kelly, Noble Affiliates, Inc.; Robert McClements, Jr., Sun Company; Robert K. Watson, Natural Resources Defense Council; Brooks B. Yeager, National Audubon Society.

(6) THE CHANGING GRID: NEW RULES AND RESOURCES FOR ELECTRIC POWER

Electricity's reliability, precision, convenience, and inherent flexibility has fueled U.S. economic growth through much of the 20th century. Electricity is vital, and partly as a result, electric utilities are the most heavily regulated of all energy industries. What does the future hold as industry becomes more competitive and deregulated? And how will new electricity- generating technologies affect U.S. and global consumers? (University of Washington)

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Richard E. Balzhiser, Electric Power Research Institute; Bob Bergland, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; Christopher W.J. Boatman, British Columbia Hydro & Light Company; Amory B. Lovins, Rocky Mountain Institute; Branko Terzic, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(7) RESPONSIBLE ENERGY USE: BANKING ON BIG SAVINGS

Conserving energy doesn't have to mean "doing without"--it can also mean increasing the efficiency with which we use current resources. The U.S. has made a start with alternative fuel sources for cars, improved designs, materials and technologies. Current efforts plus fascinating new technologies such as superconductivity are re-shaping the way we think about and conserve energy. 1991 (Duke University and the Research Triangle Energy Consortium)

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Richard Bilas, California Energy Commission; Debora Bleviss, International Institute for Energy Conservation; Jack B. Chaddock, Duke University; J. Michael Davis, U.S. Department of Energy; John C. Fox, P.G. & E.; Eric Hirst, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Peter Passell, New York Times; William K. Tell, Jr., Texaco, Inc.

(8) THE NATURAL GAS DEBATE

Addresses the role natural gas has played in the past, what uses we currently rely upon it for, and what potential it has to relieve the current U.S. dependency on foreign oil. Natural gas burns much more cleanly than oil, and is relatively easier to distribute. Yet many find it to be just another carbon-based energy source which will contribute to climatic changes and maintain the status quo. 1991 (University of Oklahoma)

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: James S. Cannon, IMFORM, Inc.; Paul J. Hoenmans, Mobil Oil Corp.; Richard B. Hillary, Independent Petroleum Association of Canada; George L. Mazanec, Panhandle Eastern Corp.; Charles R. Imbrecht, California Energy Commission; Charles A. Trabandt, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Jon Rex Jones, The Jones Co.; Maurice K. Shaw, Brooklyn Union Gas Co.

(9) ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The U.S. is at the forefront of superconductivity and fusion energy research, but far behind in engineering research, the translation of basic research into products and processes. Today's funding decisions often determine tomorrow's energy technologies. How are these decisions made for research at universities, corporations and government labs? Experts discuss the issues. Program originally aired live on 4/10/91.

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Jan Beyea, National Audubon Society; James F. Decker, U.S. Department of Energy; Henry R. Linden, Illinois Institute of Technology; Keith W. McHenry, Amoco Corp.; Jonathan Piel, Scientific American; Donald L. Runkle, General Motors Corp.; Alan Schriesheim, Argonne National Laboratory; Nathaniel D. Woodson, Westinghouse Electric Corp. (Washington, DC)

(10) DOUBLE JEOPARDY

While focusing mainly on the future energy use of the U.S., this program addresses the larger issues of world energy supply, distribution and use, of which the U.S. must be a part. The debate features a wide ranging panel of experts in the fields of energy and the environment, touching specific issues and concerns brought out in the previous programs in this series. (Stanford University)

Moderated by Daniel Schorr. Participants: Charles Cicchetti, Harvard; Lloyd Elkins, Chevron; Richard Lawson, National Coal Assoc.; John Miller, Miller Energy; William Moomaw, World Resources Institute; Sharon Nelson, Washington Utilities & Transportation Comm.; Richard Stegemeier, Unocal; Harold Finger, U.S. Council for Energy Awareness; James Sweeney, Stanford; Mason Willrich, PG&E; Ann Ehrlich, Stanford; Mack Wallace, Texas Railroad Comm.

(11) NATIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY: THE DEBATE

What are the trade-offs involved in balancing environmental and energy issues? Does the U.S. have a national energy strategy? What role should Congress and the White House play in formulating an energy strategy? Identifying and assessing the implications of our energy choices is central to the energy problem. In this program six experts discuss the issues. Program originally aired live on 9/25/91. (Washington, DC)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: Kenneth L. Lay, Enron Corporation; T. Boone Pickens, Mesa Limited Partnership; Linda G. Stuntz, U.S. Department of Energy; Malcolm Wallop, United States Senate; Nathaniel D. Woodson, Westinghouse Electric Corporation; Daniel Yergin, Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

(12) NUCLEAR WASTE AND THE WEST

The U.S. government has until 1998, when it takes control of the waste from the nation's commercial nuclear power plants, to find a permanent waste repository. The process of selecting a permanent repository has become a bitter debate between the people of Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico and other western states and the government. Government officials, U.S. senators, industry representatives and other respected leaders argue the issues. 1992

Moderated by Hodding Carter, III. Participants: Cecil Andrus, Governor of Idaho; John Bartlett, Civilian Radioactive Waste Disposal, U.S. Department of Energy; Senator Richard Bryan (D-Nevada); Sol Burstein, Wisconsin Electric; Dan Reicher, Natural Resources Defense Council; Russell Jim, Yakima Indian Nation.

(13) FUTURE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LAND

Focuses on offshore oil development, deep water drilling, new technologies, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), and the potential role of oil in the energy future of the U.S. Originally aired live from the Offshore Technology Conference held in Houston in May 1992, the program features top experts in the field of energy and is hosted by Hodding Carter III. (Houston Astrodome)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: Raymond E Galvin, President of Chevron U.S.A. Production Co.; Lynn A Greenwalt, Vice President of International Affairs - National Wildlife Federation; S. Scott Sewell, Director of Minerals Management Service - U.S. Dept. of Interior; and Douglas P Wheeler, Secretary of Resources Agency of California.

(14) BUSTED FLAT IN BATON ROUGE: AMERICA'S OIL DEPRESSION

Provides an in-depth look at the causes and effects of the collapse of the domestic petroleum industry in the 1980's and 1990's. Discusses plans to save what is left of America's domestic oil industry and how those plans will affect the states and regions involved. Uses short documentary pieces to focus the debate among industry leaders and government officials. (University of Southwest Louisiana)

Moderated by Hodding Carter III. Participants: William Adams, Chairman of Union Pacific Resources; John Breaux, U.S. Senator, D-LA; Philip Burguières, President and CEO of Weatherford International; S Scott Sewell, Director of Minerals Management Service - U.S. Dept. of Interior; Matthew R Simmons, President of Simmons and Company; and Linda G Stuntz, Deputy Secretary of U.S. Dept. of Energy.