

Spotlight – September 2009

Energy

U.S. Energy Use Drops in 2008 by Anne Stark. *Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory*. July 2009.

Americans used more solar, nuclear, biomass and wind energy in 2008 than in 2007, according to the study. The nation used less coal and petroleum during the same time frame and only slightly increased its natural gas consumption. Geothermal energy use remained the same. [ARTICLE 732](#)

[Can the Military Find the Answer to Alternative Energy?](#) By Steve LeVine. *Business Week*. August 03, 2009.

America's Energy Future: Technology and Transformation: Summary Edition. *National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council*. July 28, 2009.

With a sustained national commitment, the U.S. could obtain energy-efficiency improvements, new sources of energy, and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions through the accelerated deployment of existing and emerging energy technologies, according to the report. [ARTICLE 733](#)

Energy Market and Economic Impacts of H.R. 2454, The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. *Energy Information Administration*. August 4, 2009.

The report responds to a request from Chairman Henry Waxman and Chairman Edward Markey for an analysis of H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACESA). ACESA, as passed by the House of Representatives on June 26, 2009, is a complex bill that regulates emissions of greenhouse gases through market-based mechanisms, efficiency programs, and economic incentives. [ARTICLE 734](#)

OPEC Revenues Fact Sheet. *Energy Information Administration*. August 2009.

The members of OPEC could earn \$555 billion of oil export revenues in 2009 and \$667 billion in 2010. In 2008 OPEC earned \$968 billion in net oil export revenues, a 42% increase from 2007. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share, \$285 billion, representing 29% of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net export earning reached \$2,680 in 2008, a 40% increase from 2007. [ARTICLE 735](#)

Fighting Oil Addiction: Ranking states' Oil Vulnerability and Solutions for Change by Deron Lovaas. *Natural Resources Defense Council*. August 2009.

America's addiction to oil continues to threaten our national security, global environmental health, and our economic viability. The report analyzes how heavily drivers in each state are affected by increases in oil prices and ranked states on their adoption of solutions to reduce their oil dependence, measures they are taking to lessen their vulnerability and to bolster America's security. [ARTICLE 736](#)

Thirst for African Oil: Asian National Oil Companies in Nigeria and Angola by Alex Vines et al. *Chatham House Report*. August 10, 2009.

The report on the activities of Asian oil companies in Africa exposes the flaws in many general assumptions about Asian engagement with Africa. The report analyzes the impact of these companies in the two leading oil producing countries in sub-Saharan Africa, and contrasts the stability and policy consistency that are features of the Angolan system with a more insecure and unstable system in Nigeria. [ARTICLE 737](#)

Managing the Nuclear Fuel Cycle: Policy Implications of Expanding Global Access to Nuclear Power by Mary Beth Nikitin et al. *Congressional Research Service*. July 01, 2009.

After several decades of stagnation, nuclear power is attracting renewed interest. New license applications for 30 reactors have been announced in the U.S., and another 150 are planned or proposed globally, with about a dozen more currently under construction. In the U.S., interest appears driven by tax credits, loan guarantees, and other incentives in the 2005 Energy Policy Act, as well as by potential greenhouse gas controls that may increase the cost of fossil fuels. [ARTICLE 738](#)