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The Energy Education of Fossil Fools: How Obama & Romney Can Still Save the World

Santa Rosa, CA (1 Nov 2012) The U.S. presidential campaign now nearing its noisy conclusion has nearly entirely ignored the facts when it comes to the pivotal issue of energy. If ignorance is bliss, energy illiteracy is sure to usher in the most blissful wave of catastrophic failures the world has ever experienced. Happily, both candidates now have at their disposal an exciting eight-pound edifice of energy education in the newly released book, [ENERGY: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth](#).

A partnership between the [Foundation for Deep Ecology](#) and [Post Carbon Institute](#), the 278-page coffee table tome offers a compelling introduction to energy literacy, helping readers (even electeds!) see through industry hype and reject political rhetoric inconsistent with the reality of our shared energy predicament. *ENERGY* takes an unflinching look at the systems that support our insatiable thirst for more power (and the ideas behind those systems) along with their unintended side effects. From oil spills, nuclear accidents, mountaintop-removal coal mining, and natural gas “fracking” to renewables, every source of energy has costs. As the authors and photographers assert and show, no place is sacred, no landscape is safe from the relentless search for resources to power perpetual economic growth.

ENERGY features the writing of more than thirty leading thinkers on energy, society and ecology and powerful full-color photography from dozens of today’s most respected nature photographers.

“Facts have consequences. It’s thrilling to trumpet robust oil and gas production numbers, but not so cheery to look honestly at our current energy system,” says contributing author Richard Heinberg. “Pro-growth boosterism may be the lifeblood of politics, but the candidates’ failure to discuss these hard problems serves the electorate poorly at a time when sensible public policies could begin remaking the energy economy as if nature, people, and the future actually mattered.”

On November 6, an emperor will be crowned. If he truly seeks to make informed decisions about the intertwined energy crises that will define the century and beyond, it would be wise for him to obtain a copy of *ENERGY* and clothe himself in its pages.

Authors Tom Butler and Richard Heinberg are available for interviews through November 2012. Send your interview request by electronic mail to tod@postcarbon.org or by engaging your telephonic equipment to connect to 707-823-8700 (extension 105).

Richard Heinberg is Senior Fellow at Post Carbon Institute and a globally recognized energy expert. His most recent book is *The End of Growth* (New Society Publishers, 2011).

Tom Butler is Editorial Project Director at the Foundation for Deep Ecology and the board president of the Northeast Wilderness Trust. His books include *Wildlands Philanthropy*, *Plundering Appalachia* and, of course, *ENERGY: Overdevelopment and the Delusion of Endless Growth*.

ENERGY was edited by Tom Butler and George Wuerthner; foreword by Douglas Tompkins; introduction by Richard Heinberg/

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