

THE GRAPEVINE

ACEEE Summer Study at Asilomar, California

Sunday, August 18, 2002

It's a Team Effort

by Dariush Arasteh and Linda Sandahl



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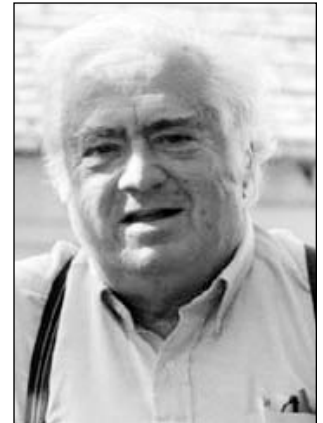
With great pleasure, we welcome you to the 2002 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings. Putting together a conference always requires the work of many contributors and the Summer Study is no exception. Warm thanks go out to all of you who helped to make this conference a reality, either by serving as a panel leader, author, reviewer, or presenter. We know still more of you will contribute to the thought-provoking discussions that are a tradition at the Summer Study.

This Summer Study's theme, *Teaming for Efficiency*, was selected to highlight the importance of public/private partnerships, regional collaborations, and inter-regional efforts. From the papers published, it's clear that the traditional definition of a team—a group of people joining together to bring a specific effort to fruition—is just one part of the meaning of "teaming" in practice. The complexity and global nature of today's energy concerns call for national and international collaborations and the linking together of fields of study and strategies that may have evolved separately.

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Tonight: The Extinction of the Supergiants

No, tonight's plenary will not cover the dying off of the *Sequoia sempervirens*. Instead, Kenneth Deffeyes will address the world's shrinking pool of oil resources. Supergiants—the largest fields that contain more than a couple of billion barrels of recoverable oil—appear to be going the way of the dinosaurs. With the exception of the South China Sea, where politics have delayed exploration, all of the world's supergiants have almost undoubtedly been found. What the end of the supergiants means, according to Kenneth Deffeyes, is that world oil production is peaking and will start to fall for good sometime during this decade.



Kenneth Deffeyes

Deffeyes' prediction is based on surprisingly simple but robust methods that started with M. King Hubbert, who predicted in 1956 that U.S. oil production would reach its highest level in the early 1970s. Hubbert's prediction came true in 1971. If Deffeyes' prediction is similarly borne out, then what will be the effect on our economy and our way of life? Were the energy concerns of the past year a preview of our future? Is the present chaos in oil prices the leading edge of a more serious crisis that will rock national economies around the world?

You'll have to attend tonight's plenary to get the answers to these questions, but here's a hint: Deffeyes argues that new exploration and production technologies aren't magic bullets and can't save us from a major economic crisis. Real solutions will require conservation and

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Interesting Times

by Steven Nadel, Executive Director, ACEEE

There's an old Chinese curse: May you live in interesting times. Those of us working in the energy efficiency field today are certainly blessed with this predicament. As we gather here at Asilomar, U.S. Congressional staff are meeting to try to work out the differences between the energy bills passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives. The staff hope to produce the first national energy legislation in a decade, but many contentious issues still must be resolved. It will be interesting to see what the staff finally generate. Look for more on this matter in tomorrow's *Grapevine*.

Closer to home (in other words, to Asilomar, our home for the next week), California is grappling with how best to implement energy efficiency programs. Last year, Californians pulled together in unprecedented fashion and used efficiency and load reduction programs to reduce energy use by about 6% and peak demand by 3,200–5,600 MW. These savings helped avert rolling blackouts that had been widely predicted for last summer. But, fresh from that success, California policy-makers have been toying for the past year with new ways to deliver efficiency services. The result, according to a recent story in the *Wall Street Journal*, is that "there are signs the state could soon be facing a renewed energy crisis." This is in part because "voluntary conservation efforts are easing as blackout memories recede, and important new conservation programs remain stalled." I expect a lot of discussion on this topic here at Asilomar.

In the United States, consumer interest in energy issues seems to wax and wane with the price of gasoline at the corner service station. Our plenary speaker tonight will talk about tightening world oil supplies. He has some very interesting information to share about future supplies and the role of energy efficiency and alternative energy in helping to address this situation. These trends are long term, but the sooner we start addressing them, the fewer dislocations there will be.

The environment is also very much in the news. As I write this, the newspaper next to me has a page one story, "Alaska's Big Thaw" that reports on new research that finds that Alaska's glaciers are melting at accelerating rates. Alaska's Senator Ted Stevens notes, "Many changes

predicted worldwide appear to be happening first and with greater severity in arctic regions, including Alaska."

The White House proposes to address this problem by reducing the ratio of greenhouse gas emissions to GNP by 18% over the next 10 years. This reduction is only a small improvement over the 14% reduction in this ratio predicted by DOE's Energy Information Administration in their base case scenario. Democrats (and an Independent) in the Senate are proposing tight new limits on carbon and other emissions beginning in 2007—a position that seems intended to be a starting point for negotiations. Creative ideas and tough decisions will be needed to bridge the differences between these two approaches in order to provide substantial emissions reductions in ways that can garner political support. We invite Asilomar attendees to contribute their ideas.

Meanwhile, the states are not waiting on Washington. California's governor has just signed the first legislation to regulate carbon dioxide emissions of passenger vehicles at the tailpipe, and New Hampshire passed a bill this year setting targets for multiple pollutants including carbon dioxide.

And, as we approach the anniversary of September 11th, homeland security is very much on people's minds. Questions loom about our country's reliance on oil imports from volatile regions of the world and the safety of large energy facilities in the face of terrorist threats. Energy efficiency, by reducing the need for large energy facilities, can help to address these questions. After all, CFL factories are unlikely to be tempting terrorist targets.

In the midst of this interesting maelstrom of issues, more than 600 of us have chosen to meet at the 12th biennial Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings. There will be presentations on some of the interesting issues discussed above, as well as lots of discussion on the technologies and programs that can reduce energy use. I encourage each of you to make the most of these presentations, but also to participate actively in informal discussions on these topics. I hope that, together, we can create interesting times over the next decade not just for the problems we face, but also for the solutions we design.

Last summer, Californians responded to this campaign in unprecedented fashion. How to sustain this interest will be a subject of many Summer Study discussions.



Very Important Asilomar Information

Since we know the *Grapevine* is the source that Summer Study attendees turn to for critical information, we are highlighting here the Asilomar fundamentals that you wouldn't want to ignore.

Don't embarrass yourself by inadvertently setting off the fire alarm while chatting on your cell phone.

Due to the fact that cell phones and our in-room fire alarm system operate on radio frequencies, occasionally a false alarm will sound if a guest is using their cell phone directly under the alarm. Please instruct your guests to stay calm, security will arrive shortly to disarm the alarm.

****PLEASE DO NOT USE A CELLPHONE TO DIAL 911.**** In the event of an emergency, please dial "0" and we will dispatch the proper authorities.

Do you want to stay in touch with your office?

A business center is located next to the Front Desk. Its hours of operation are 6:30 AM to 12 midnight daily. Charges are collected on the honor system. There are four dedicated local access lines for checking e-mail. There is one personal computer available for word processing needs. Fax and copy services are available at the Front Desk. Conference calls can be held in the Business Center. Please ask the Front Desk staff for assistance.

Overlook parking signs at your peril.

Roadways in the State Park are considered State highways. Speeding and parking laws are enforced; violators will be cited. The speed limit in the Park is 15 miles per hour when conditions permit. Please park in designated parking spaces. Disabled parking is enforced. Do not use disabled spaces for loading and unloading. Disabled spaces are indicated with BLUE paint.

Or would you rather recreate?

Volleyballs, ping pong paddles and balls, pool cues and balls, board games, and the lending library can be found at the Front Desk.

If you are busy socializing, how can your friends and family contact you?

A message box is located in the Administration building. All messages for guests will be delivered to the message box, with the exception of emergency / priority messages which will be delivered to the ACEEE office in Surf & Sand.

When is that next social event coming up?

Date	Time	Location	SPECIAL EVENT
8/18	4 pm - 6 pm	Admin. Deck	Reception/Bar
8/18,19,20	9 pm - 11 pm	Fred Farr Forum	Reception/Bar
8/20,21 & 22	4 pm - 6 pm (3-5 pm on 8/21)	Merrill Hall	Reception/Bar
8/22	7:30 pm - 11:30 pm	Merrill Hall	Dance/Bar

Activities for Spouses and Companions

Are you looking for scintillating conversations and fun activities to pursue while the meetings are in process? Would you like company while hiking, sight-seeing, or exploring Carmel shops?

Come and meet like-minded companions Monday morning about 9:00 am on the front porch outside the Dining Hall. Also check the notice board in the ACEEE office for further news.

Today's Checklist

- ✓ HAVE FUN. If you arrive early, go to the beach.
- ✓ Pick up Summer Study Registration Packet from ACEEE staff in Admin Bldg.
- ✓ Pick up room keys at Asilomar's front desk in the Admin Bldg. if you are staying on the conference grounds.
- ✓ SOCIALIZE with others who are wandering around lost trying to find their rooms. Maps are in packets and at the Asilomar desk.
- ✓ SOCIALIZE at the informal reception (4:00 pm-6:00 pm) on the west deck of the Admin Bldg. before or after hunting for your room.
- ✓ EAT, DRINK, AND SOCIALIZE SOME MORE. Enjoy dinner at Crocker Dining Hall from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Those who are not staying on the conference grounds must purchase dinner tickets at the Asilomar front desk.
- ✓ Take in the stimulating discussion on global climate change at the opening plenary session in Merrill Hall. Arrive by 7:00 pm to be warmly welcomed and to hear any late-breaking announcements.
- ✓ PARTY. Head for the Hospitality Suite in Firelight Forum. Beverages, snacks, and music by Lee Schipper and company. 9:00 pm-11:00 pm.
- ✓ Find your room again—this time in the dark. And get a good night's sleep because there's a full week of meetings and more fun ahead.

Tonight: The Extinction of the Supergiants

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alternative energy sources, and we cannot put off starting to implement these solutions.

Kenneth S. Deffeyes is a professor emeritus at Princeton University. Before joining the Princeton faculty in 1967, he conducted research at the Shell Oil research laboratory in Houston and taught at the University of Minnesota and Oregon State University. The coauthor of *Physical Geology* and the author of numerous papers, he is perhaps best known to general readers as the guide/mentor in John McPhee's series of popular books on geology, collected and republished under the title, *Annals of the Former World*.

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Some of the key points that will emerge from various panels this year include:

- A renewed commitment to residential energy efficiency as states and utilities have faced power constraints and responded to restructuring legislation;
- Improved understanding of technologies and systems, both new and existing, that contribute to achieving real energy efficiency;
- The increasingly important role of ENERGY STAR as a brand for consumers to equate with energy efficiency and with quality—whether it is for lighting, appliances, windows, or new homes;
- The permanent progress that building energy codes and equipment standards are achieving, with help from voluntary energy-efficiency program activities, through rebates, marketing and communications, and other energy efficiency program efforts;
- The challenge of getting the tools that help to create energy-efficient additions to the residential and commercial building stock into the hands of people who design, build, and operate buildings;
- How resource-acquisition style energy efficiency programs can benefit from, and be consistent with, previous or on-going market transformation programs; and
- The newest trends that have accompanied the field of evaluation's return to fundamental practices. "Logic models" have emerged in planning evaluations, and practitioners are now placing renewed importance on assessing whether and how underlying program assumptions are met during program implementation.

At this Summer Study we have created a new presentation format, Round Table sessions, and an exhibit of new and emerging energy-efficient technologies, the Technology Showcase. Round Table sessions involve a full hour-and-a-half session within a particular panel's topic area, and allow industry and non-industry participants to share varied views and perspectives in a dynamic format.

The Technology Showcase, an exhibit of efficient appliances, equipment, controls, materials, and hardware, is also new this year. This session offers you the chance to see and discuss a wide set of new products and technologies that have the potential to improve the efficiency of buildings in the years to come.

We, the co-chairs, thank the 25 panel leaders who evaluated more than 600 abstracts, selecting and leading 270 papers through a rigorous review process. We also thank the many peer reviewers who worked with the panel leaders through this process. Most importantly, we thank ACEEE staff, in particular Glee Murray, Rebecca Lunetta, and Renee Nida for their tireless efforts to make this an extremely successful conference and to produce the proceedings.