

Citizens For Responsible Solar - Articles

Good and Effective Use of Solar

The best idea in a long time: Covering parking lots with solar panels

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/01/28/the-best-idea-in-a-long-time-covering-parking-lots-with-solar-panels/>

This Is the First U.S. Airport to Be Fully Solar-Powered

https://www.afar.com/magazine/this-is-the-first-us-airport-to-be-fully-solar-powered?utm_source=sshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=socialshare

A Virginia parish switched to 100% solar power — and paid nothing

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/earthbeat/virginia-parish-switched-100-solar-power-and-paid-nothing>

Bad and Devastating Impacts of Solar

Green solar farm is turning an Essex County watershed brown

<https://www.wtvr.com/2018/02/08/green-solar-farm-is-turning-an-essex-county-watershed-brown>

Solar Panels Are Starting to Die, Leaving Behind Toxic Trash

https://www.wired.com/story/solar-panels-are-starting-to-die-leaving-behind-toxic-trash/?fbclid=IwAR3LOsCLKBRcunX0T13j_he-TJAEVi5WvPpJX0gSzVVDVMmiAi2VG02BQE0

Why California's Climate Policies Are Causing Electricity Blackouts

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2020/08/15/why-californias-climate-policies-are-causing-electricity-black-outs/#50a489bc1591>

The 5 Things You Need To Know About Solar

1. Industrial-scale solar power plants on rural land negatively impact our ecosystem and contribute to climate change
 - *Industrial-scale solar on agricultural land puts pressure on our farming and food supply*

Big solar farms may be stressing agricultural ecosystem

<https://www.carolinajournal.com/news-article/big-solar-farms-may-be-stressing-agriculture-ecosystem/>

UN climate report: Change land use to avoid a hungry future

<https://apnews.com/article/afb6990efd7c437da19c6d4d9976899c>

Solar Farming: Not a Good Use of Agricultural Land

<https://coastalagro.com/solar-farming-not-a-good-use-of-agricultural-land/>

- ***Deforestation contributes to Climate Change***

Report: we have to change how we eat and grow food to fight climate change

<https://www.vox.com/2019/8/8/20758461/climate-change-report-2019-un-ipcc-land-food>

Deforestation explained

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/deforestation/>

Restoring forests may be one of our most powerful weapons in fighting climate change

<https://www.vox.com/2019/7/4/20681331/climate-change-solutions-trees-deforestation-reforestation>

2. Solar Demand

- ***Big Tech companies buy RECs (Renewable Energy Certificates) and claim their companies are powered 100% by renewables, while still being connected to electric grids that use fossil fuels. In reality, only a fraction of each company's energy comes directly from solar or wind installations.***

What It Really Means When Google and Apple Say They Run on 100% Renewable Energy

<https://onezero.medium.com/what-it-really-means-when-google-and-apple-say-they-run-on-100-renewable-energy-f6d1719fd865>

Microsoft, Google, Amazon – Who's the Biggest Climate Hypocrite?

<https://www.greenpeace.org/usa/microsoft-google-amazon-energy-oil-ai-climate-hypocrite/>

Amazon, Google, Microsoft: Here's Who Has the Greenest Cloud

<https://www.wired.com/story/amazon-google-microsoft-green-clouds-and-hyperscale-data-centers/>

- ***Lucrative federal tax credits and subsidies, paid by US taxpayers, incentive the solar industry to build solar power plants.***

Wind and Solar Tax Credits

<https://www.instituteforenergyresearch.org/renewable/wind-and-solar-tax-credits/>

It's Time to End Subsidies for Renewable Energy

<https://www.americaspower.org/its-time-to-end-subsidies-for-renewable-energy/>

Why Do Federal Subsidies Make Renewable Energy So Costly?

https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2017/05/30/why-do-federal-subsidies-make-renewable-energy-so-costly/?fbclid=IwAR2t_XxPPvHbFJf2EdIA7WKc8g8R8aoV0jnGopoM2bQF-_FRULFc-nhRAvs#3130ff28128c

3. Solar Energy produces large amounts of toxic waste

Solar waste is toxic. You thought the plastic landfills were bad; you wait for solar waste landfills. With current plans, the IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) calculates that by 2050 the disposal of worn out solar panels will constitute over double (x2) the tonnage of all of today's global plastic waste.

Solar Panels Are Starting to Die, Leaving Behind Toxic Trash

<https://www.wired.com/story/solar-panels-are-starting-to-die-leaving-behind-toxic-trash/>

If Solar Panels Are So Clean, Why Do They Produce So Much Toxic Waste?

https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2018/05/23/if-solar-panels-are-so-clean-why-do-they-produce-so-much-toxic-waste/?fbclid=IwAR1gOafilUFDB9d33bBVhYIU_qf4jjlybn1J9GcLzcy7mNar76u-ewxJytk#4562b192121c

California Pushes for Solar Panel Waste Policy

<https://www.waste360.com/solar/california-pushes-solar-panel-waste-policy>

4. Solar Energy is Unreliable

Solar panels do not produce electricity when it is dark or in bad weather. This makes solar unreliable and solar plants require 100% back up all the time by fossil fuels. Battery technology doesn't exist to store even 1 day of energy in the USA.

Unreliable Nature Of Solar And Wind Makes Electricity More Expensive, New Study Finds

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelshellenberger/2019/04/22/unreliable-nature-of-solar-and-wind-makes-electricity-much-more-expensive-major-new-study-finds/#40a4e52b4f59>

The Myth Of Wind And Solar 'Capacity'

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexepstein/2016/03/29/the-myth-of-wind-and-solar-capacity/#433565802eb6>

Unreliable Nature Of Solar And Wind Makes Electricity More Expensive, New Study Finds

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2018/07/27/141282/the-25-trillion-reason-we-cant-rely-on-batteries-to-clean-up-the-grid/>

5. Solar Energy is NOT clean or free from CO2 emissions

The sun is free, but harnessing the sun's power into usable energy requires industrial processes to make cement, steel, glass and other components. These processes emit CO2. Where's all this stuff going to come from? Massive new mining operations, destroying more land that should be protected, and in places hostile to the U.S.

If You Want 'Renewable Energy,' Get Ready to Dig

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/if-you-want-renewable-energy-get-ready-to-dig-11565045328>

WHERE WILL THE MATERIALS FOR OUR CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE COME FROM?

<https://www.theverge.com/2019/2/15/18226210/energy-renewables-materials-mining-environment-neodymium-copper-lithium-cobalt>

We Might Not Have Enough Materials for All the Solar Panels and Wind Turbines We Need

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/energy/a25576543/renewable-limits-materials-dutch-ministry-infrastructure/>