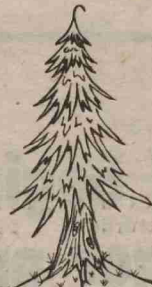


Perspectives



Efficiency needed

Washington state utilities project Pacific Northwest residents will be consuming twice as much energy within 20 years. They also project energy use patterns will continue unchanged during that period.

Meanwhile, a UW research group, WashPIRG, estimates these new energy needs could be met by increasing energy efficiency.

Could be. Without having to build more nuclear power plants, or dams or having to rely on coal-burning plants, we could meet our future energy needs with resources available today.

Energy use in the United States is between 10 to 15 percent efficient. That means that at least 85 percent of the energy you use is wasted. By using energy more efficiently, both through improved product design and through improved energy production, we can meet our future energy needs.

A recent study in Denmark found that energy savings from improved production of a mix of household appliances could save from 20 to 65 percent of the energy now used to power those appliances.

The study also found the savings could not only be made with existing technology, but also would be economically attractive.

Among energy production techniques, the possibilities solar energy production are the most promising. There are already more than 30,000 solar heated homes in the U.S., some appliances are now being powered by solar energy and automobiles have been designed to run on solar-made methane.

Solar heating can reduce reliance on conventional heating by at least 50 percent. And clouds do not significantly reduce its ability to operate.

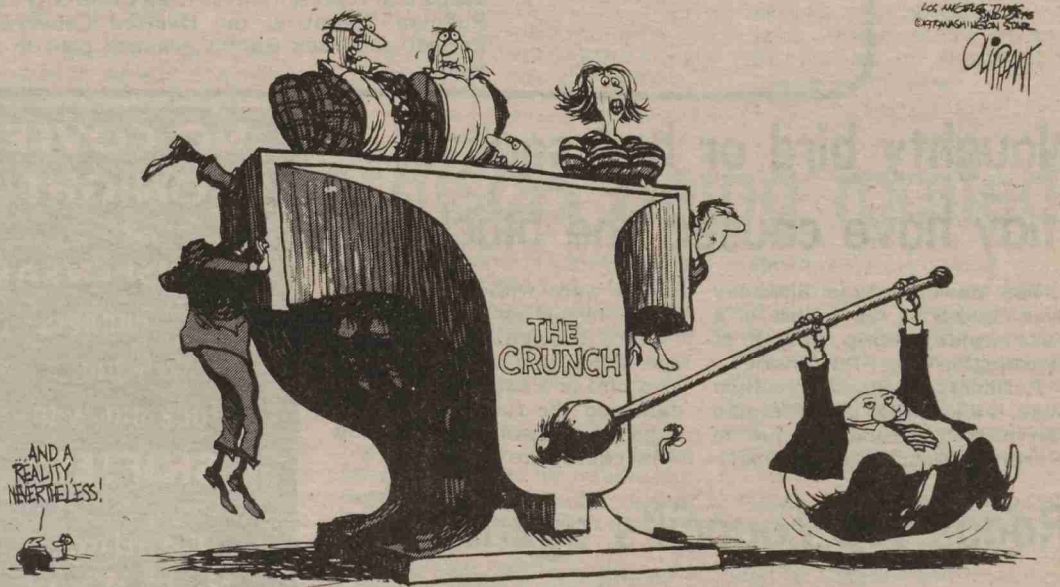
India and West Germany have long used waste to generate electricity. Germany, in fact, produces 25 percent of its electricity from burning trash.

The power of the wind can also be harnessed to provide energy. Although such a system would depend on the weather, the energy it would generate can be stored and combined with other energy producing systems.

In New York City a tenement was recently renovated by its tenants and a windmill was installed to provide power. Now, during peak production periods, the tenants sell some of their electricity back to the utility.

America has the ability to convert to safe and clean sources of energy. But to take advantage of the ability, government must furnish leadership away from the waste and sources of energy that cannot be replenished.

—Jay L. Dexter



YES, I STILL THINK THIS IS ALL A BIG OIL COMPANY HOAX... QUITE A CONVINCING HOAX, MIND YOU, BUT A HOAX, NEVERTHELESS...

Seafirst presents its dilemma

To the WSU community:

As social policy officer of Seattle-First National Bank, I have been following the concern of some WSU students about bank lending to South Africa. For those of you who feel the deposit of your money in a bank with international loans to be a personal ethical question, I would like to add what useful information I can for your consideration.

It is my job to analyze the social consequences of SeaFirst business decisions and to recommend policy changes to our management. I talked by telephone the week before your student body decision to join the South African boycott with Tom Pirie, whom I regard to be sincere and thoughtful in his concern over this issue. I did my best to explain to him the complexities of international lending which have thus far defied the adoption by any bank of a social measure for making loans. I told Tom that I would work with him. I would welcome any information or suggestions he has and, if they prove viable, I would recommend them for adoption. I asked him a lot of the questions we haven't been able to answer; he couldn't either. He said he would keep working with WSU students and faculty on the questions, and that he would get back to me. He has not.

So the Evergreen report that SeaFirst "has rejected the intrusion of social accountability into their business practices" is in error.

If you are asking yourself whether you should withdraw your funds from banks lending to South Africa, I will ask you the same questions I asked Tom.

1) International trade is impossible without international finance, so I assume the intent of the boycott is to embargo trade with South Africa. Are you certain what that will accomplish? An orderly transfer of civil rights to non-white South Africans? The fall of the government? If it does fall, whom do you expect to come to power? The "black majority"? Do you know that the blacks of South Africa are members of more than 10 different tribes, many of whom are fiercely hostile to each other?

2) Won't South Africans be starved by a trade embargo? Won't the powerless starve first?

3) Can you give me an example, historical or contemporary, where a trade embargo has resulted in expanded civil liberties for the citizens of the embargoed nation? I can give you many examples of nations where economic development and improved communication with the United States have produced that result over time.

4) Why only South Africa? If banks were to adopt a loan policy which required civil rights by an American standard, we could not make loans to most nations of the Third World. If we ever expect to see anything approaching international cooperation, developed nations must share their capital with developing nations.

5) If banks were to adopt a measure of moral judgment for lending and we start by using it in South Africa, where do we stop? Shall we stop with nations? Corporations? How do we justify making moral judgments on nations and not on individuals? Your Padilla Principle would have us cease lending to any government whose "conduct shocks the conscience of civilized humanity." Whose conscience? Homosexuality shocks the conscience of some civilized members of your university. Shall we stop lending to gays? Do you want banks making moral judgments about you, or just other people?

If you are sure in your own mind of the answers to those questions, then I respect your ethical decision as an individual to put your money in a bank that does no international lending. I hope you will respect Seattle-First as well for the ethical dilemma it presents to us.

We are bankers and we trudge along doing the best we can to do it responsibly and well. You are trying out some ideas about how you can play a responsible and beneficial role in the world. It is unusual and commendable for students to be concerned with an international issue. We were in Vietnam for five years before a lot of Americans knew where it was. I write this letter to explain that, if we are not able to do what you ask, it is not because we have not heard you.

—Linda Miller
Asst. Vice President,
Seattle-First National Bank

DOONESBURY



by Garry Trudeau

Daily Evergreen

Staff

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