



Social aspects of nuclear technology



SEREN

Krakow - 24 May 2007

by Bruno Comby

Independent scientist,

Director of the Comby institute (IBC)

Founder and President of EFN

(Environmentalists For Nuclear Energy

SEREN - Stowarzyszenie Ekologow na

Rzecz Energii Nuklearnej)





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Introduction

The life of an environmentalist

Social aspects, energy and the environment

Information on energy

Climate change

What can we do?

Energy conservation

Renewable energies

Nuclear energy

Nuclear waste and reprocessing

Radioactivity in nature

Energy dependence

Risks and accidents

EFN - Conclusion



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Why an environmentalist is in favor of nuclear energy ?





The life of an environmentalist - childhood in nature

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France

Gabon

United States

Canada ...





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The life of an independent scientist - Scientific background

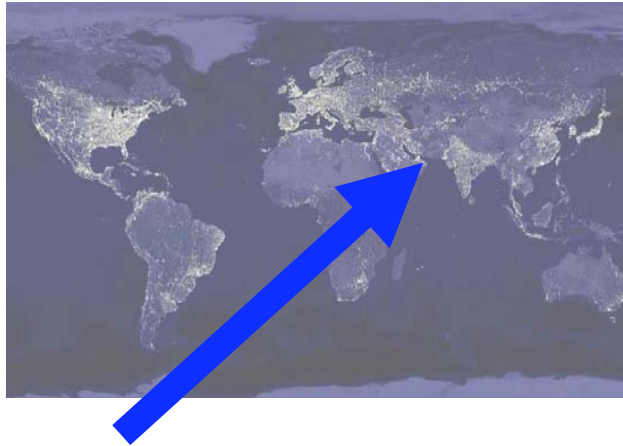


Graduate in nuclear physics (Ecole Polytechnique Paris + National University of Technical Sciences)



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The life of an independent scientist - Military service



War zone :
Persian Gulf
Hormuz strait

Problem :
Safety of oil tankers



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Bruno Comby - The life of an Environmentalist



Photo rights reserved

25 years dedicated to pioneer work in fundamental research, publications, and teaching the public about natural health and the protection of the environment.



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Bruno Comby - a non smoking pioneer





An ecologist promoting alternative sources of protein

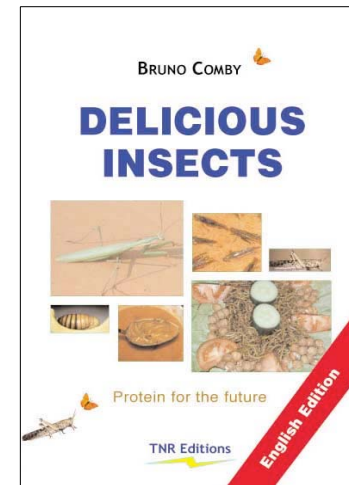
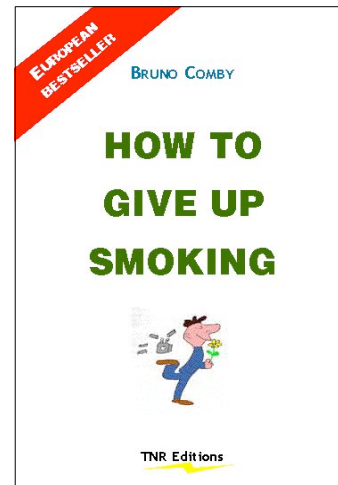
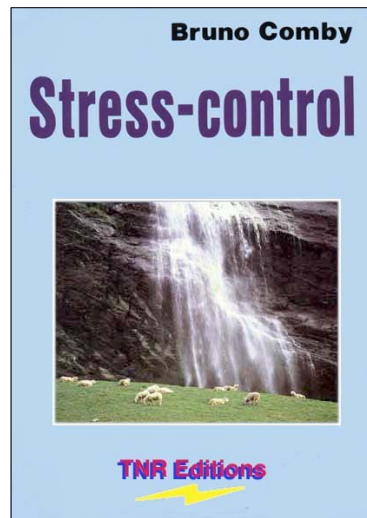
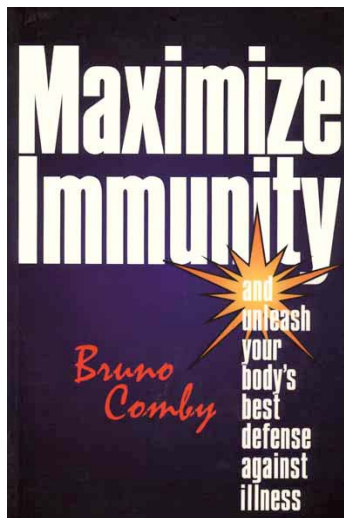




The life of an environmentalist - research and books

25 years of pioneer research on healthy living and the protection of the environment

8 books published in 12 languages with over 1 million readers



More than 1500 TV and radio presentations and press articles
Popular lecturer around the world

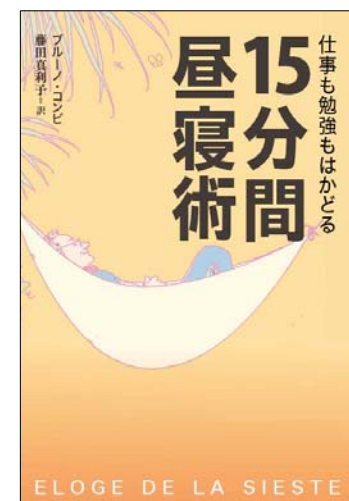
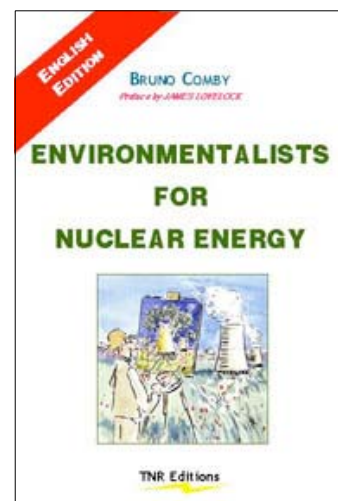


Photo of the world at night



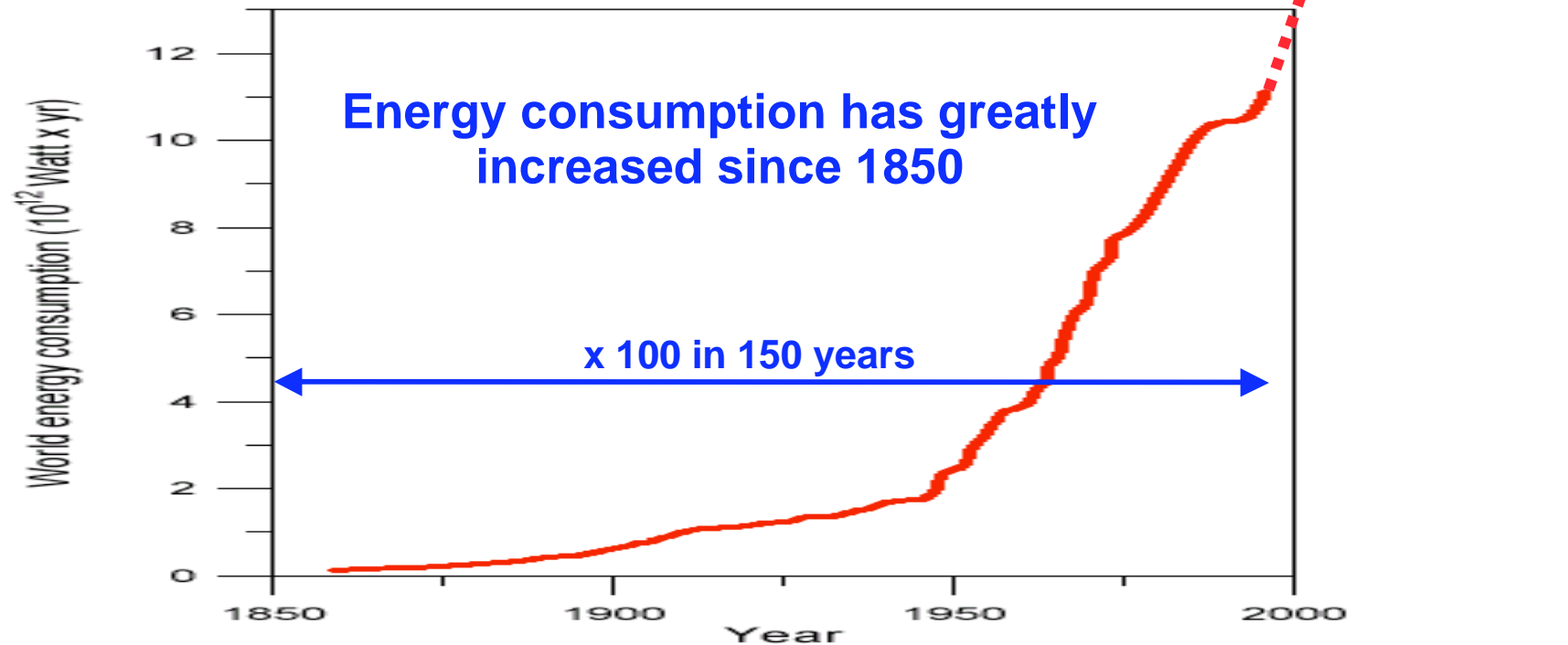
**Today, 20% of the world's population
consumes 60% of the energy**

Planet Earth seen at night from outer space (reconstructed image) - © Nasa 2000



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World Energy Consumption since the Industrial Revolution

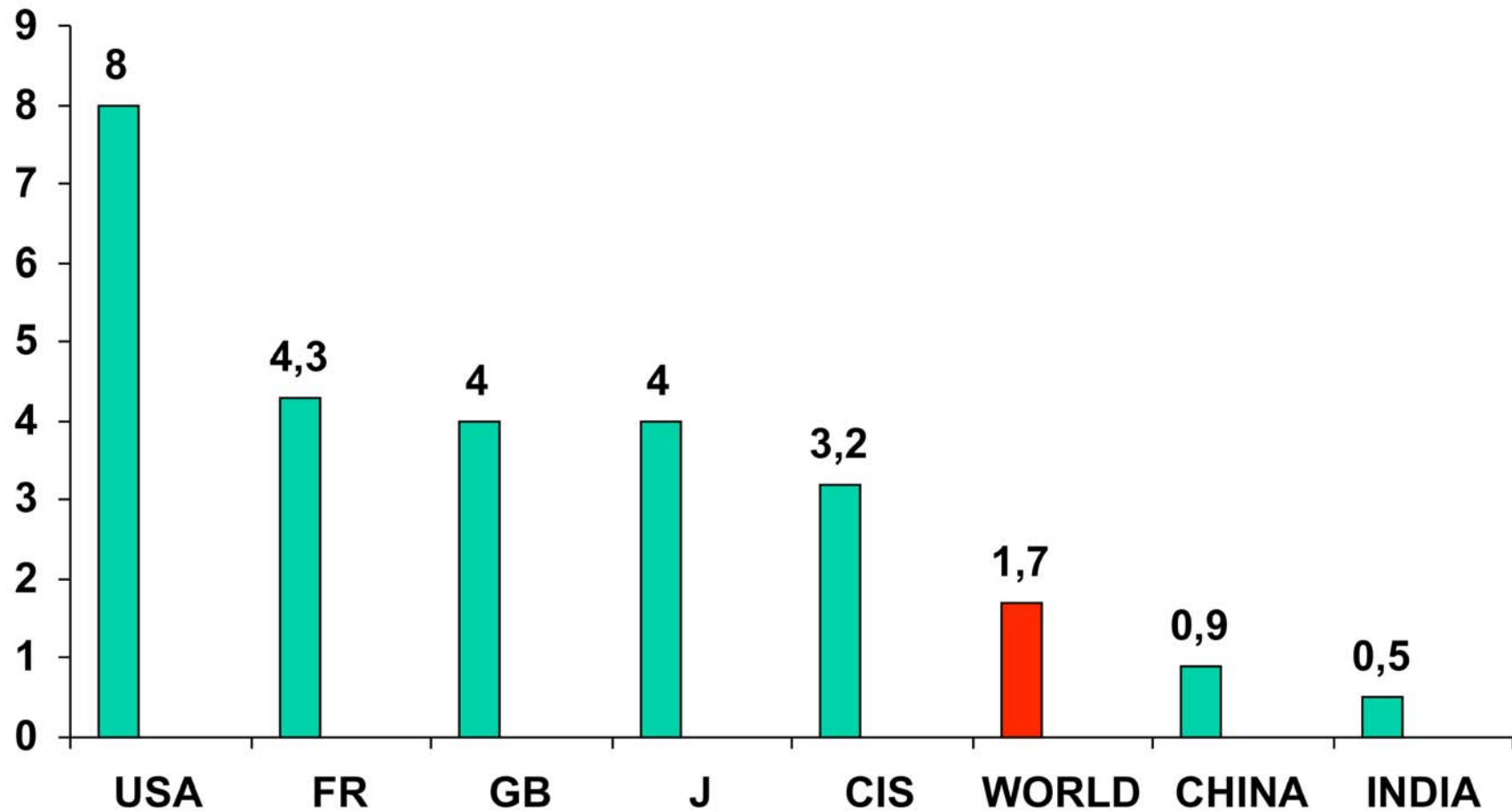


Today, energy consumption is increasing rapidly in developing countries, and moderately in industrial countries.



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ENERGY CONSUMPTION (toe/capita/year)





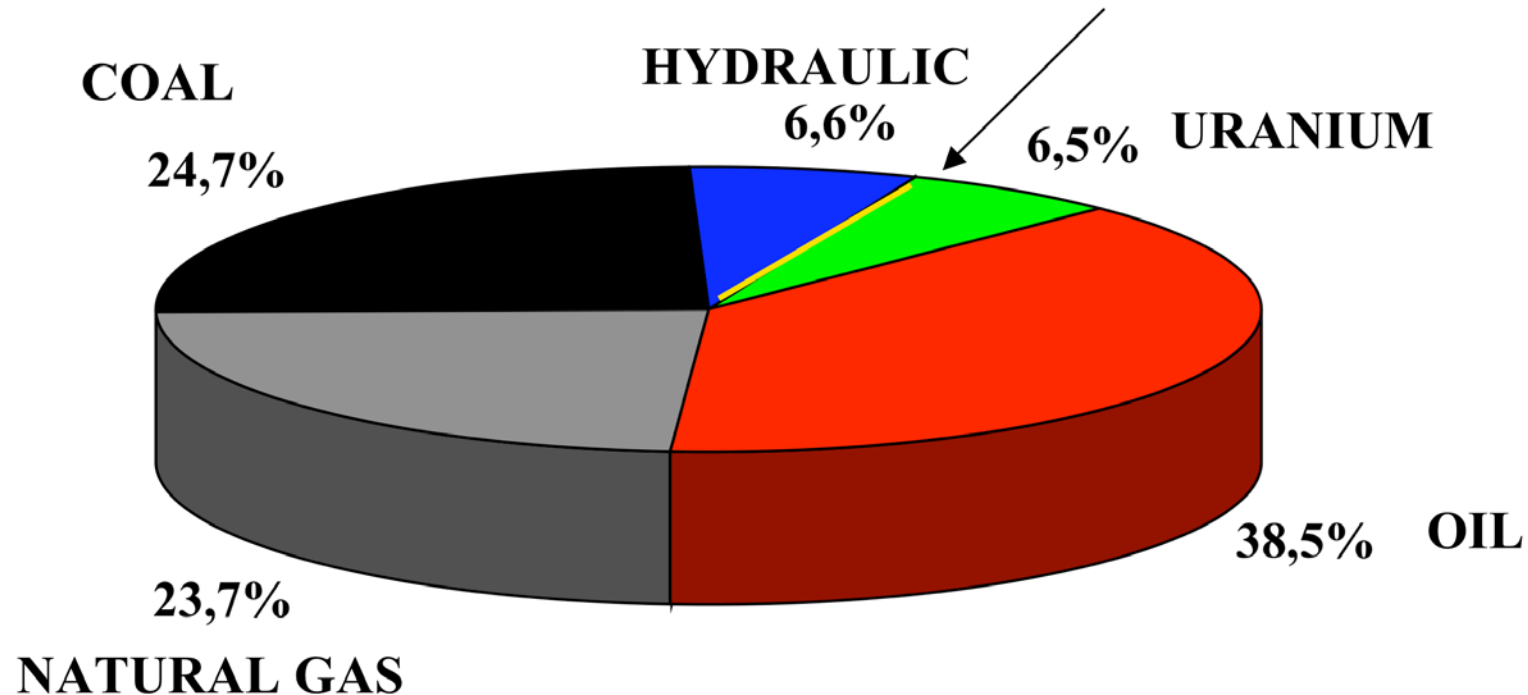
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ENERGY SOURCES

excluding biomass - fire wood (world 2002)

87% of the energy is fossil (coal, oil, gas) and contributes to the greenhouse effect

Wind + geothermal + solar = less than 1%



9,1 Gtoe/yr + biomass \sim 10 Gtoe/yr

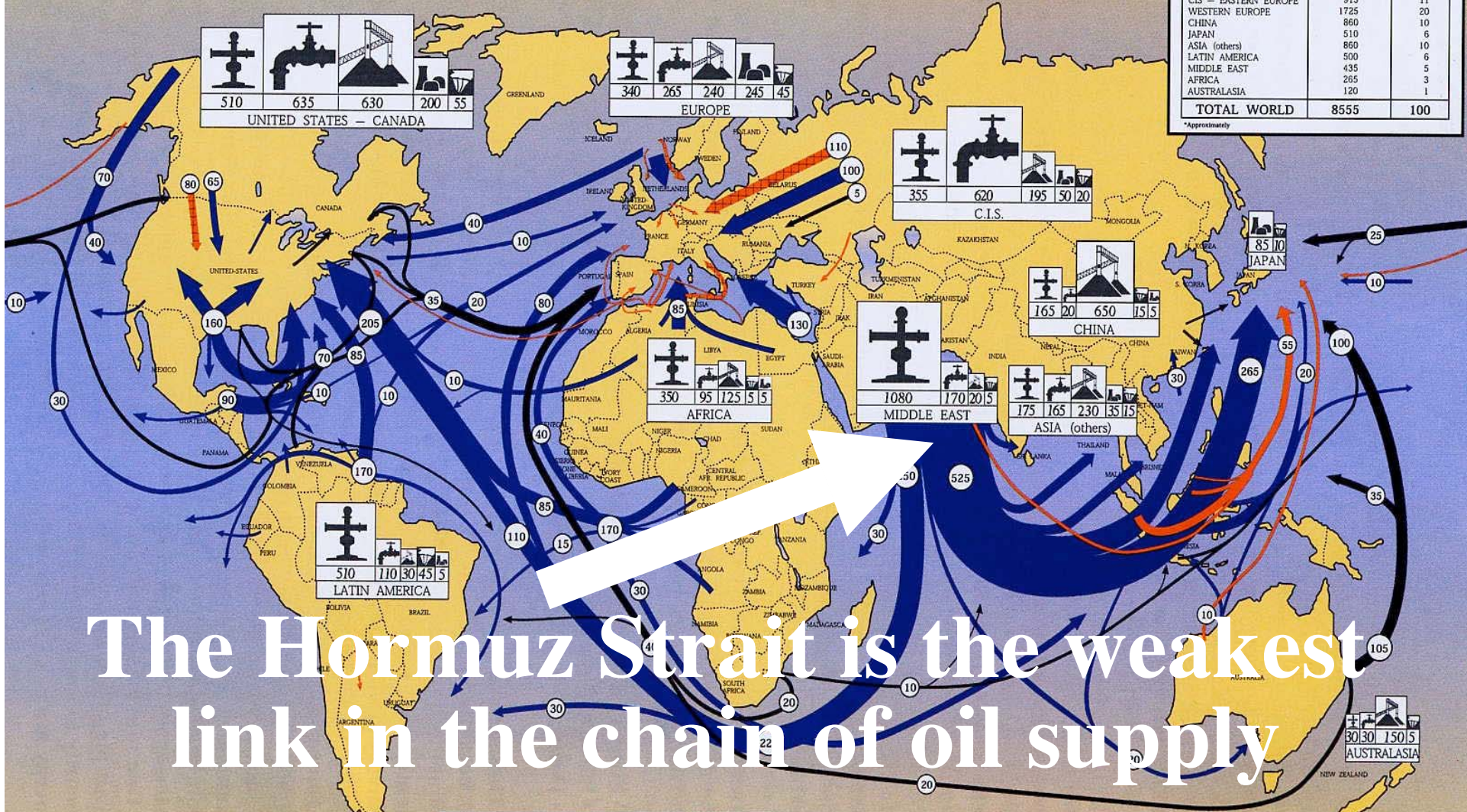
Source : BP 2002

ENERGY WORLDWIDE IN 1998

70% of the world's oil supply comes from the Middle East with all its geopolitical implications

PRIMARY ENERGY CONSUMPTION*		
Areas	Consumption (Million tonnes oil equivalent)	Share (%)
UNITED STATES – CANADA	2365	28
CIS – EASTERN EUROPE	915	11
WESTERN EUROPE	1725	20
CHINA	860	10
JAPAN	510	6
ASIA (others)	860	10
LATIN AMERICA	500	6
MIDDLE EAST	435	5
AFRICA	285	3
AUSTRALASIA	120	1
TOTAL WORLD	8555	100

*Approximately



The Hormuz Strait is the weakest link in the chain of oil supply

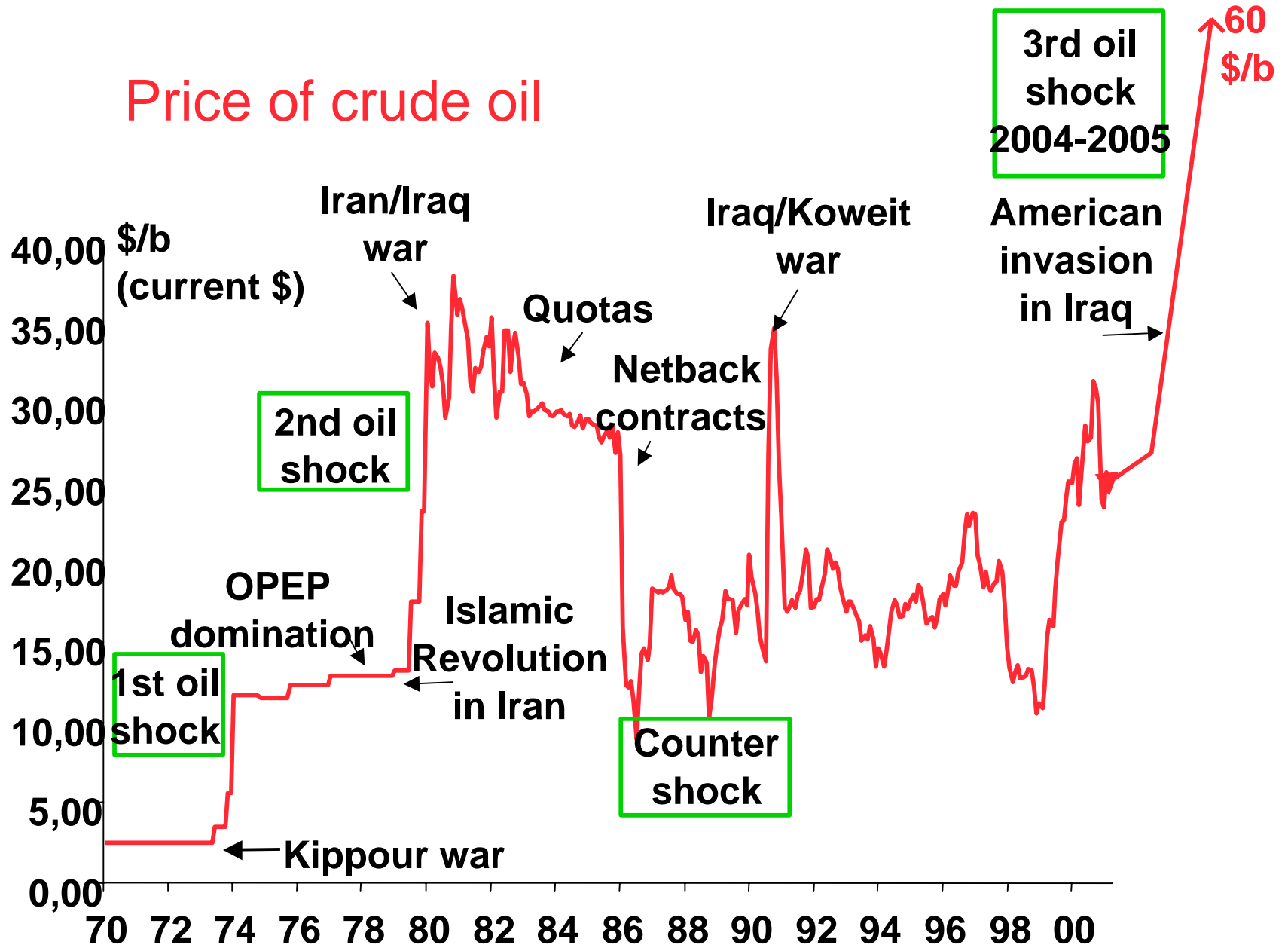
PRIMARY ENERGY PRODUCTION					TRADE FLOWS WORLDWIDE			
(Million tonnes oil equivalent)								
					Petroleum		Gas line	
					Natural gas		Liquefied natural gas	
					Coal			

*1000 kWh = 0.26 toe for nuclear production
 **1000 kWh = 0.086 toe for hydroelectricity



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Price of crude oil



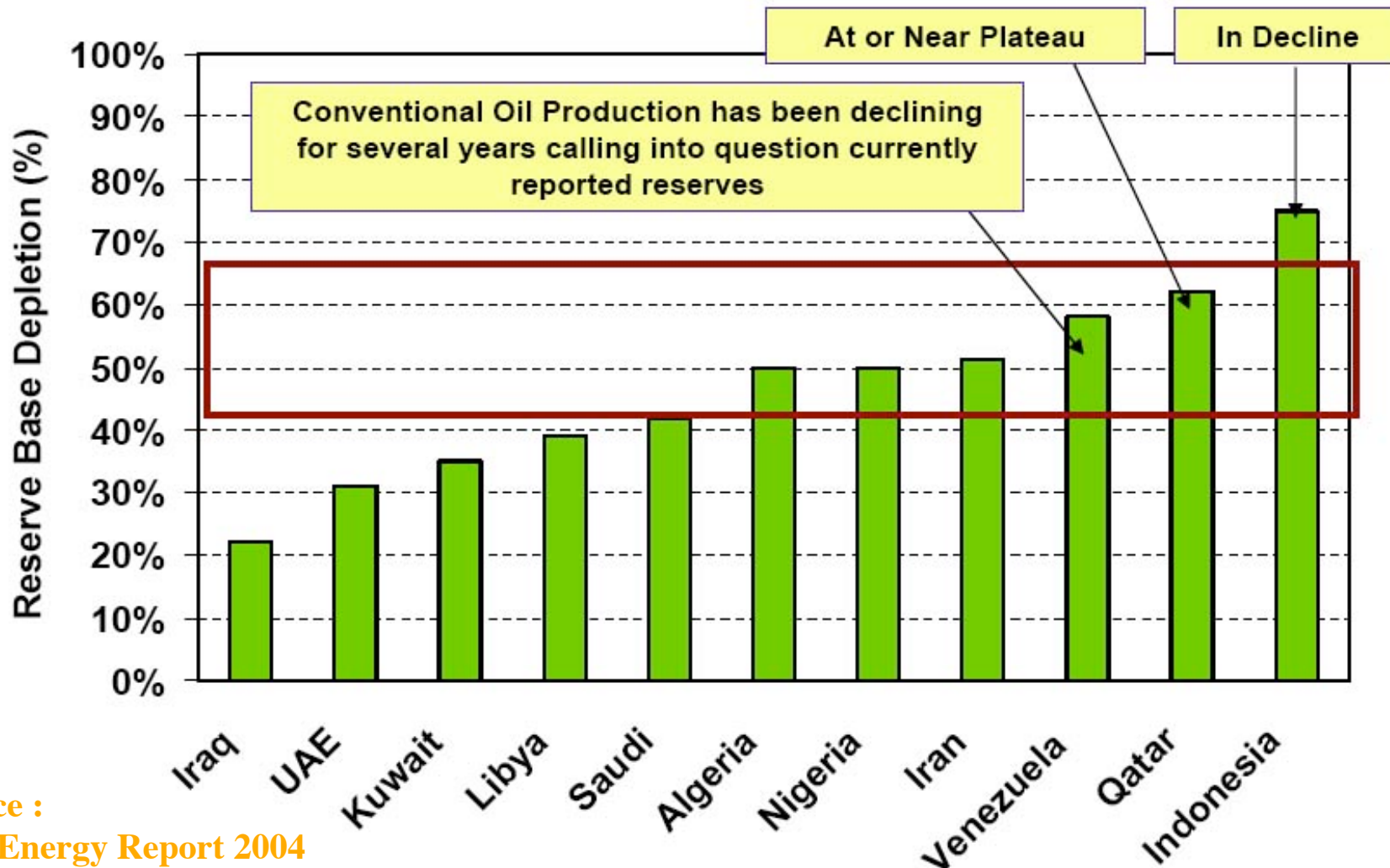
Source : Platt's

IFP



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OIL PRODUCTION PEAK IS IMMINENT - OIL PRODUCTION WILL START DECLINING SOON

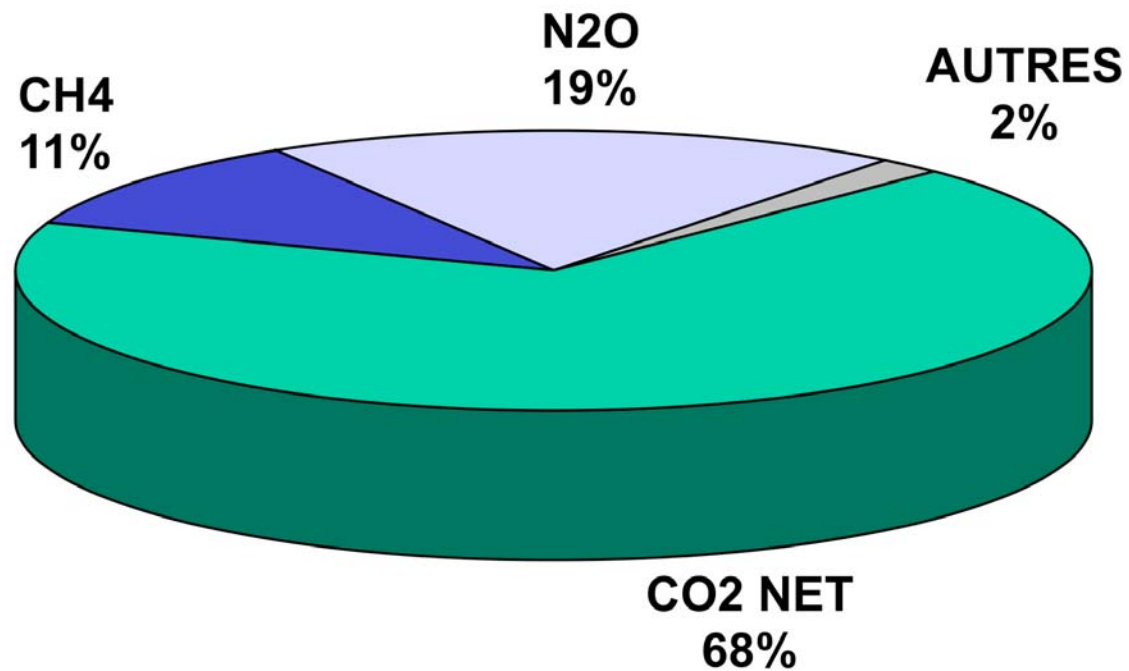


Source :
PFC Energy Report 2004



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CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL WARMING*



* Share in the increase of
the greenhouse gas effect

Ref: GIEC 1995-X Environment
Figures for France

GreenHouse Gas Effect

20th century : +0.5 to 1°C

21st century : +3 to 10° C

Let 's suppose... : we stop emitting greenhouse gases today, what happens with global warming ?

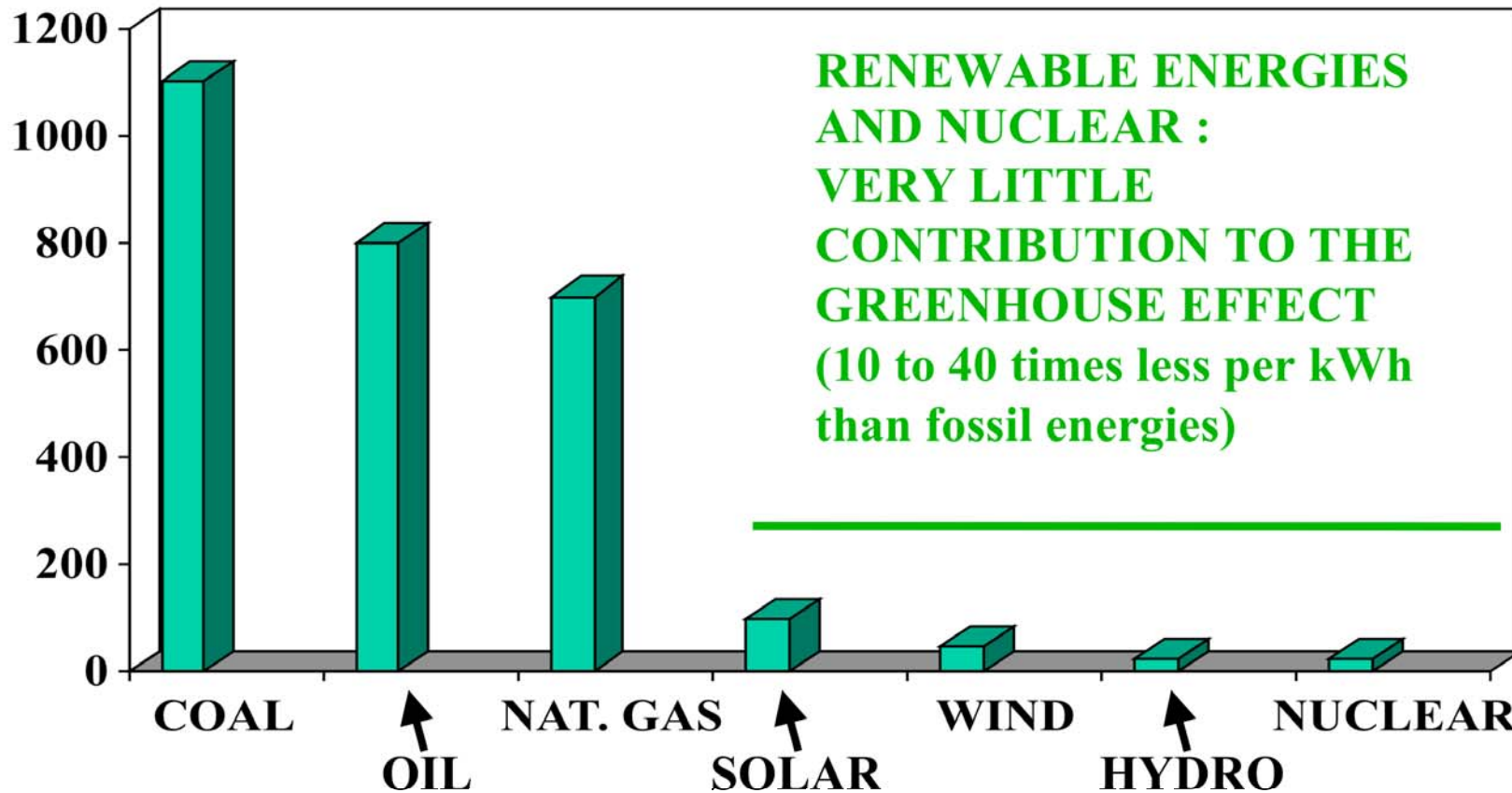
A GLOBAL EFFECT with a long time constant : URGENT action is required.



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GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS OF VARIOUS ENERGY SOURCES

gr CO₂/kWh

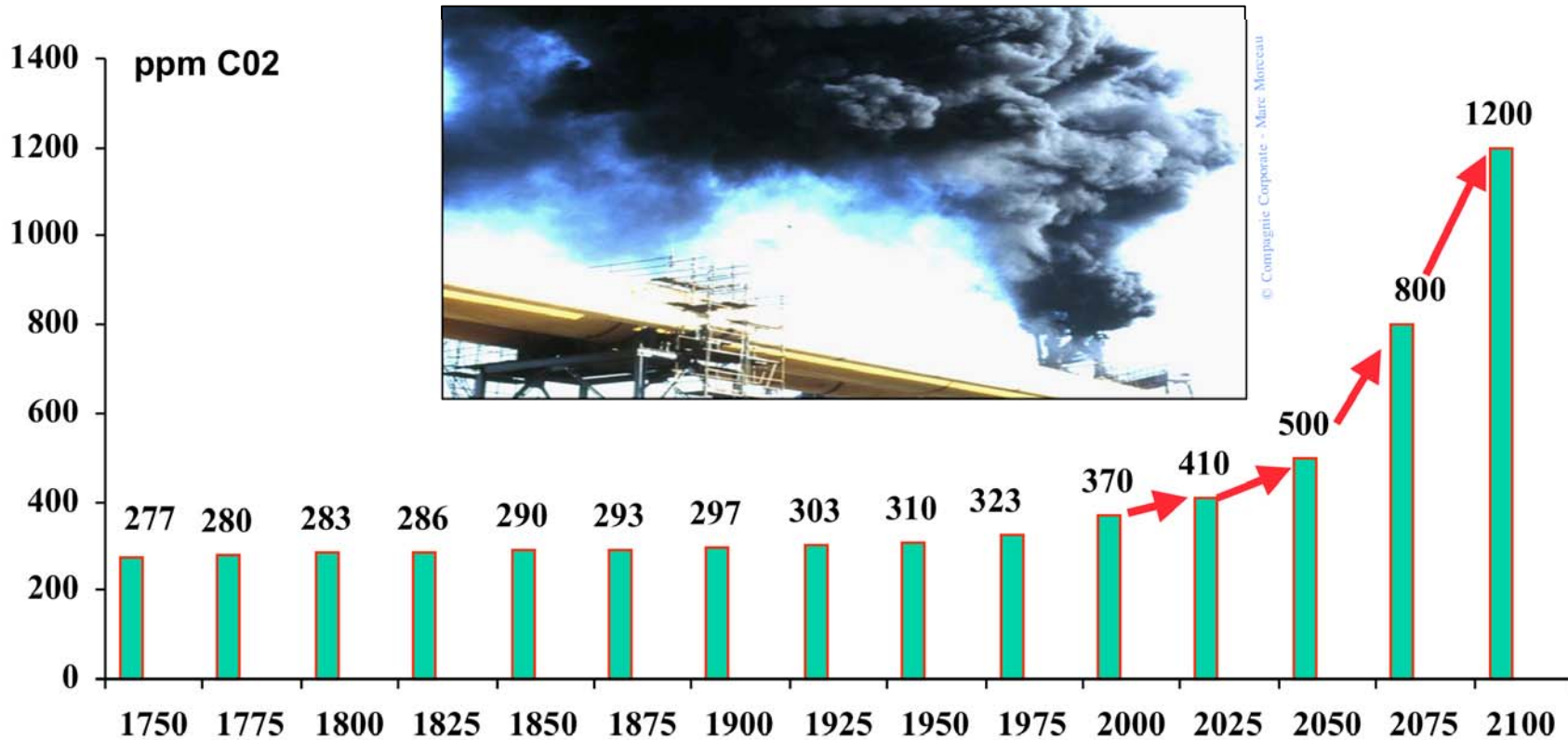


Ref: NEW 01/96



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CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere



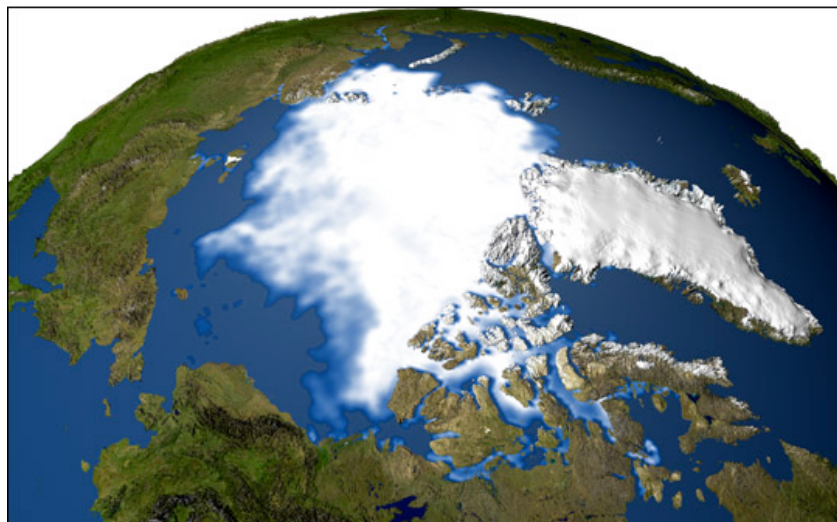
The CO₂ content of the atmosphere is higher than it has ever been in the last 400 000 years, and it continues to rise.



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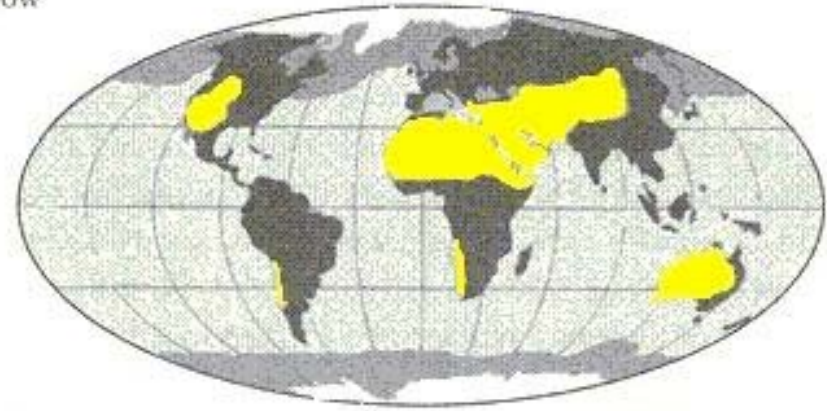


1979 SSMI Composite Data

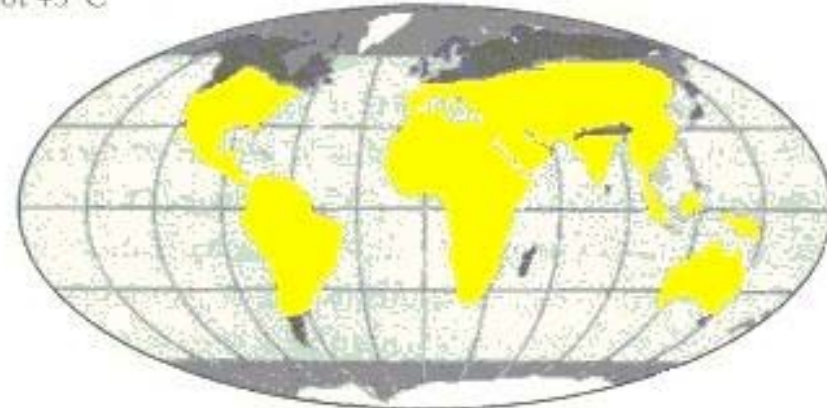


2003 SSMI Composite Data






Now



Hot +5°C



Nature of surface

-  Ice
-  Ocean with life
-  Ocean desert
-  Forests
-  Scrub and desert

Source: The Revenge of Gaia / James Lovelock



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WHAT CAN WE DO ?

1 - ENERGY CONSERVATION

2 - ENERGY EFFICIENCY

3 - CLEANER ENERGIES

In 20 years divide in developed countries:

- energy consumption by factor 2
- CO2 emissions by factor 4.





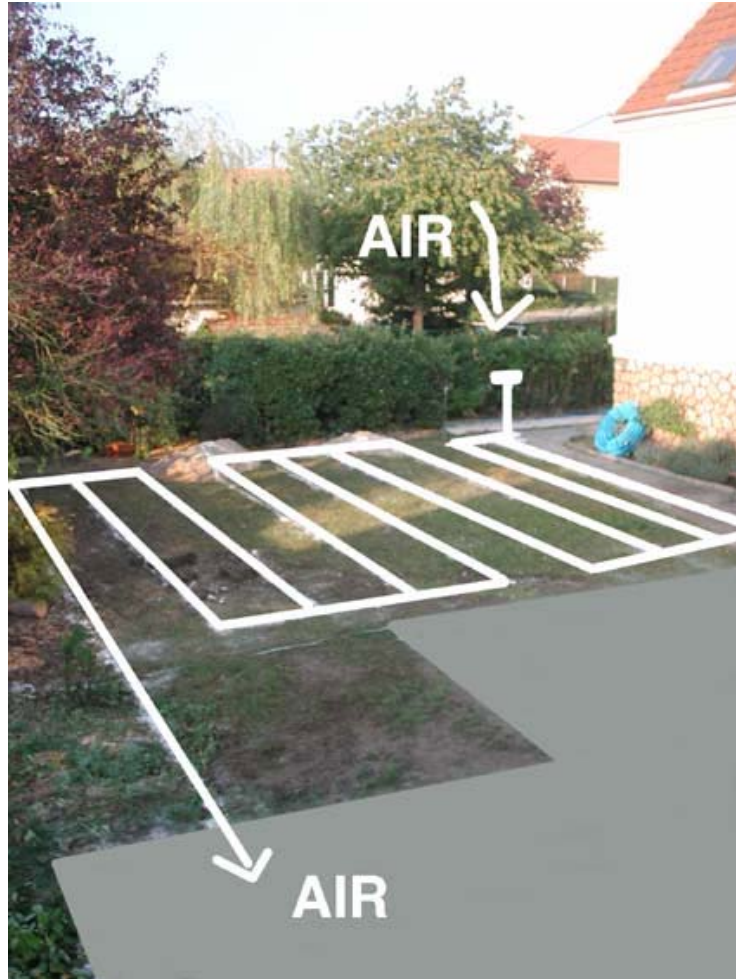
Ecological construction

Houses and buildings can require 10 times less energy and emit 100 times less CO₂.





Pre-heated air + free air conditioning





Construction Technology

- Better insulation
- Efficient materials
- Pre-heated air
- Heat-pump
- Double-flux ventil.

-> **Consumption divided by 10**

-> **CO2 emissions divided by 100**

Compared to a standard home.





Consumer's choices

make a huge difference

- Produce and consume less, better and locally
- less transportation
- less wrapping / recycle
- more durable products.



Make the
right choices !



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Industry :

- stop burning carbon
- electrify
- clean electricity





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Cleanova - L.I. SVE-Dassault-Heuliez -
2007 Tout élect 200 k ou hybride 500 km

Clean transports



Bluecar - Bolloré - LMP(÷3vol÷5kg - 200km)
10 ans - rech 6 h - 20kE - 125 km/h - 2008

- Make the right choices
- train, public transports
- electric vehicles
- electrify (clean)



« I » Mitsubishi - 400 km - 2010



Clean agriculture



- Less fertilizers
- less oil; be energy conscious
- improve the methods
- more (clean) electricity.



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Clean electricity

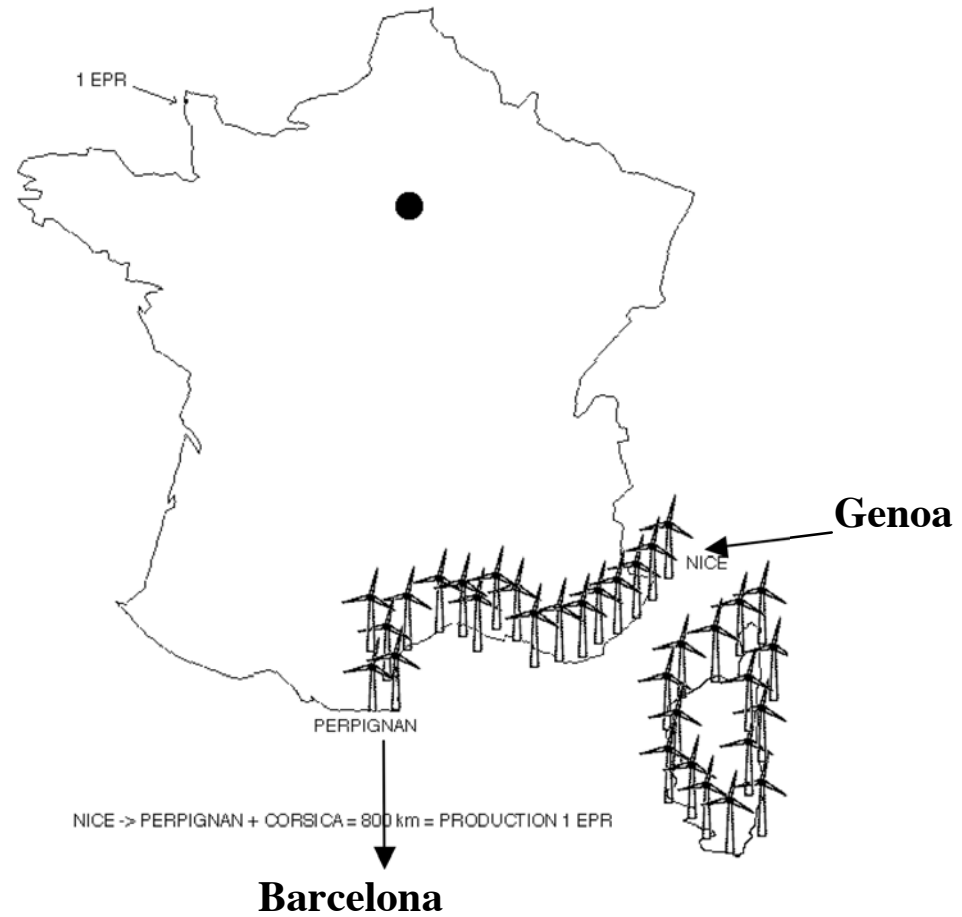
- ban carbon for electricity production
- leaves us with :
- renewables
- nuclear





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WIND ENERGY CAN HELP, BUT WILL NOT SAVE THE PLANET

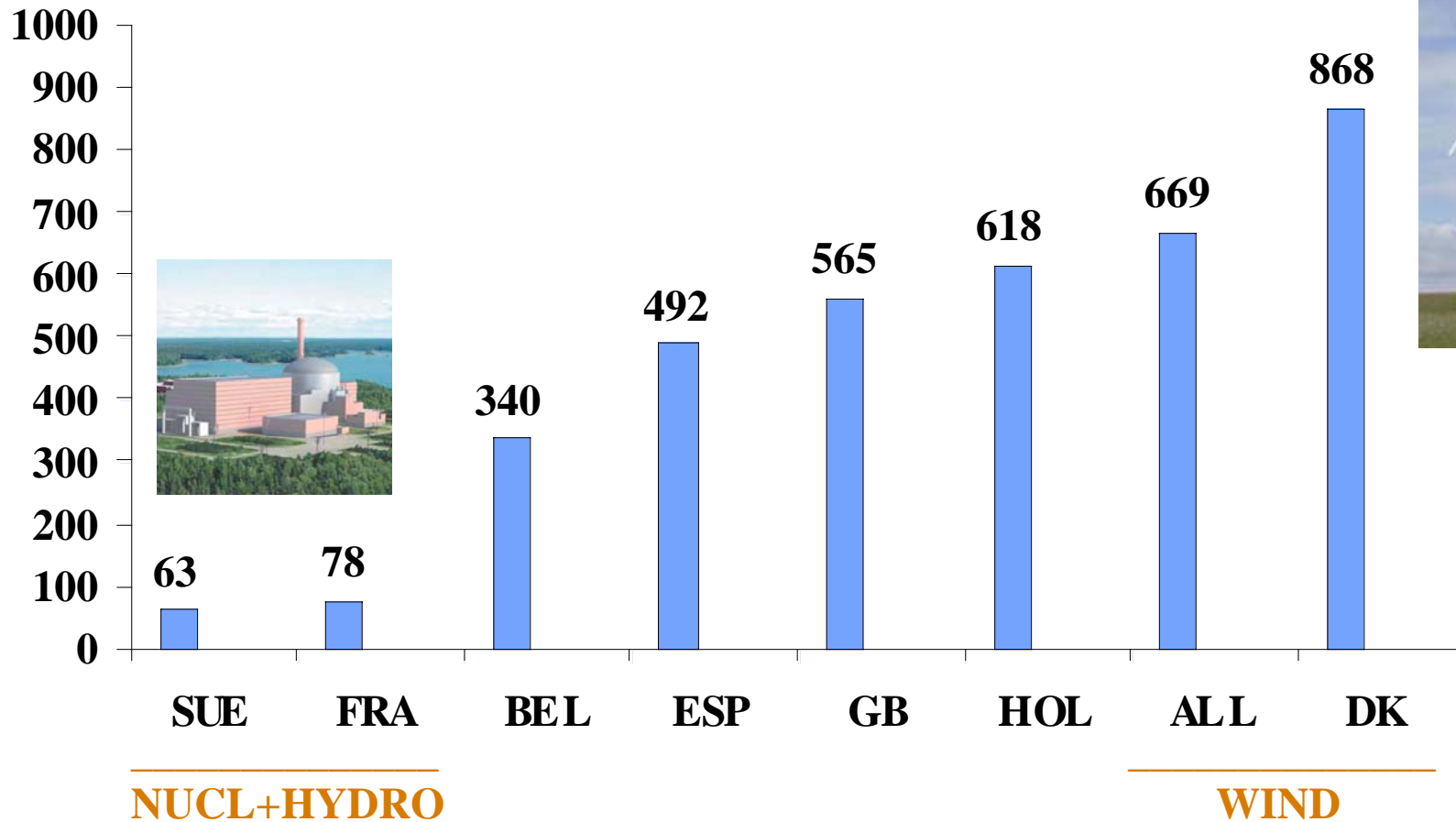




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CO2 EMISSIONS IN EUROPE

(TONS of CO2 /GWh)





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SOLAR ENERGY CAN HELP A LITTLE, BUT IS NOT ENOUGH





All clean energies are necessary



**No fundamental contradiction
between energy conservation
nuclear energy, and renewable energies.**

All clean energies should be developed.



NUCLEAR ENERGY



- Is quite compact
- Factor 1 million
(1g U = 1 Ton oil)
- Consumes very little uranium
(20 T=1m³ per year)
- Produces very small volumes of waste

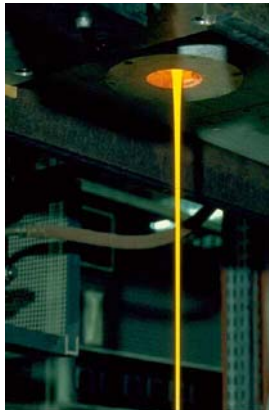


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NUCLEAR WASTE IS NOT A PROBLEM



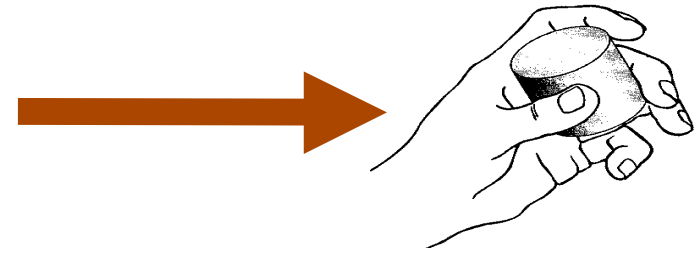
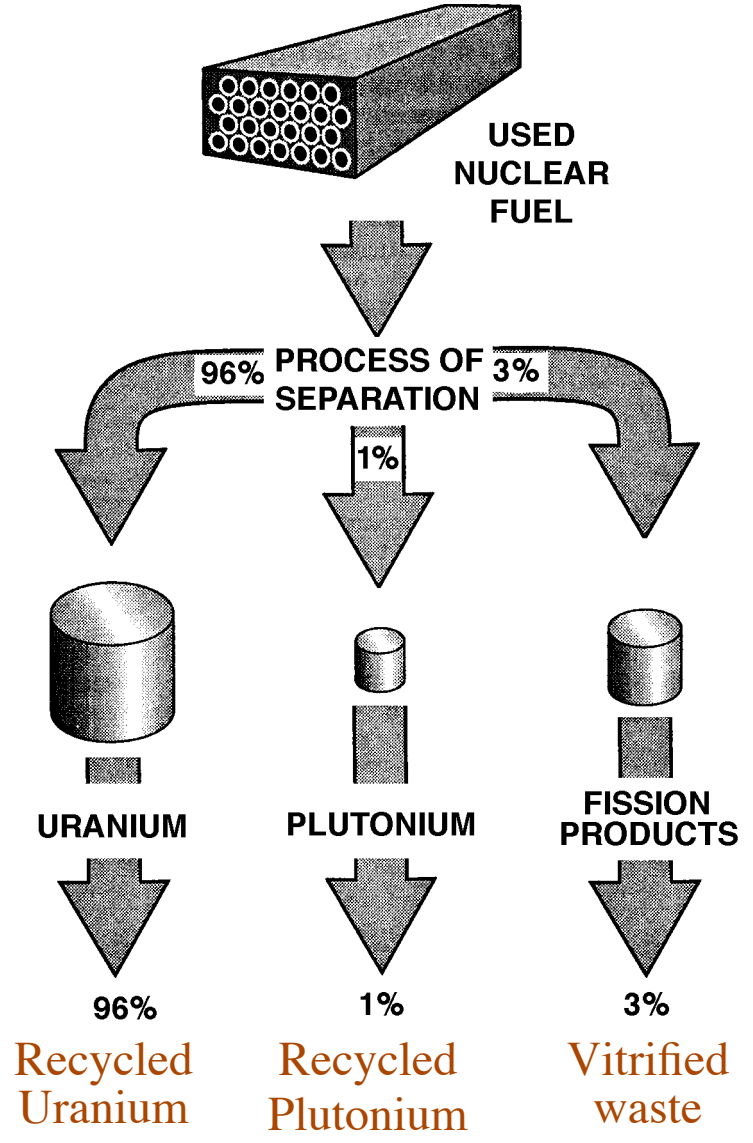
- **The volume of the waste is small**
- **Nuclear waste is confined - not rejected**
- **Nuclear waste decays spontaneously**



- **Initial toxicity decreases very rapidly**
- **Few meters of earth stops the radiation**
- **Used fuel can be reprocessed**



REPROCESSING OF NUCLEAR FUEL IS ECOLOGICAL

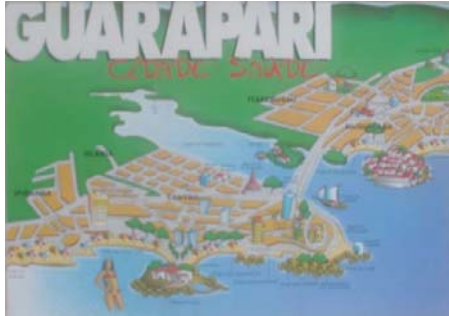


Volume of vitrified waste produced by a typical French family in 30 years



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Radioactivity is natural



Airplane : 5 $\mu\text{Sv}/\text{hour}$

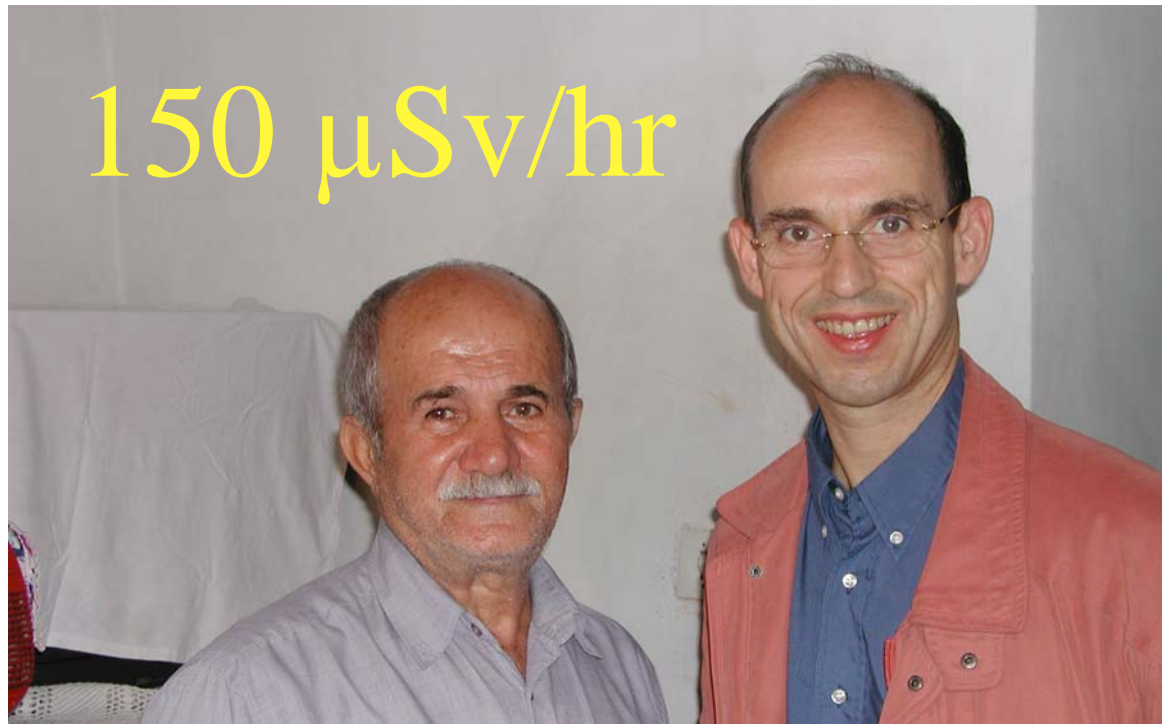
In Guarapari (Brazil) :

up to 50 $\mu\text{Sv}/\text{hr}$ on beach

In Ramsar (Caspian Sea) :

up to 150 $\mu\text{Sv}/\text{hr}$ in houses

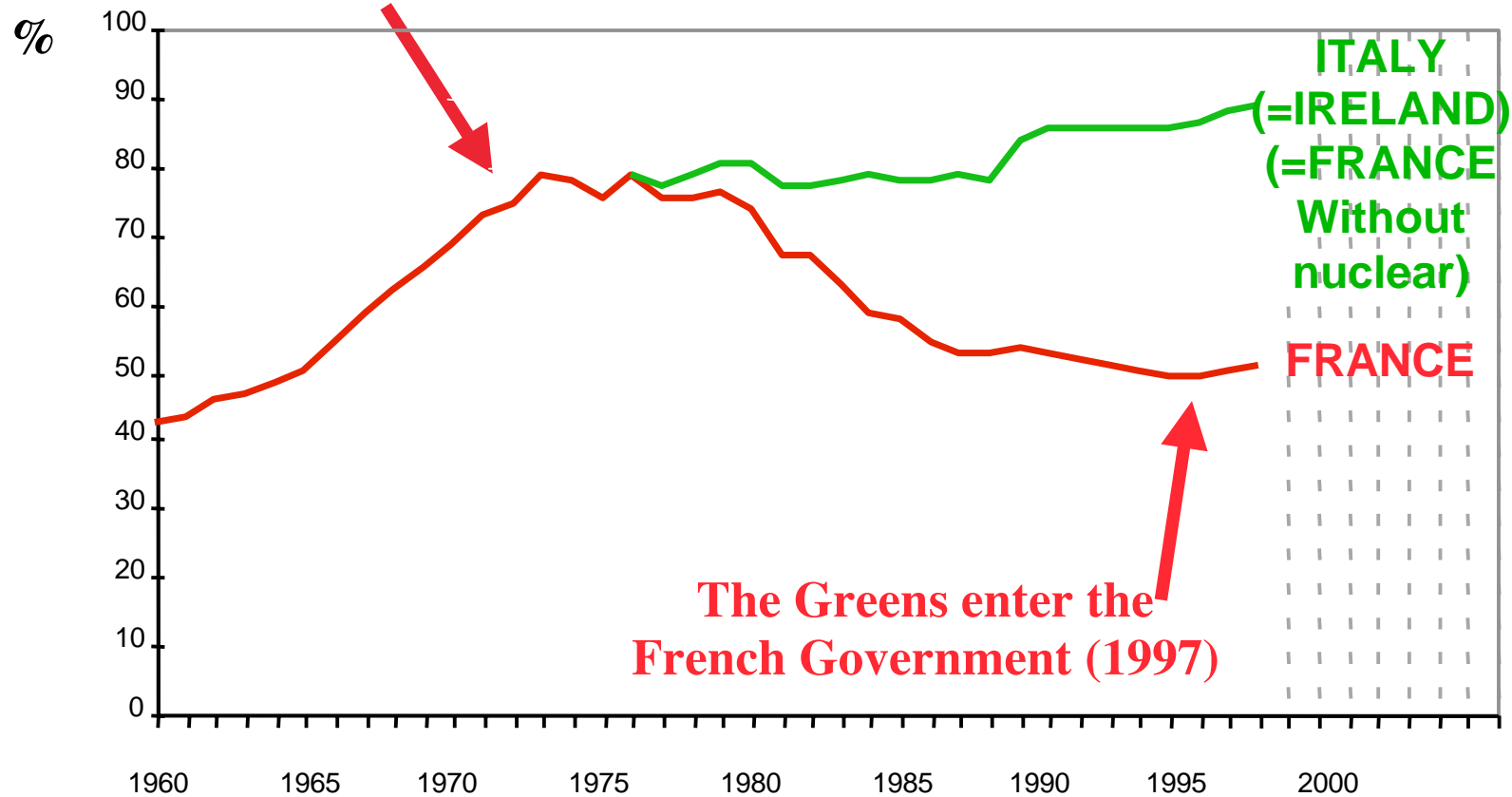






Energy dependence (%)

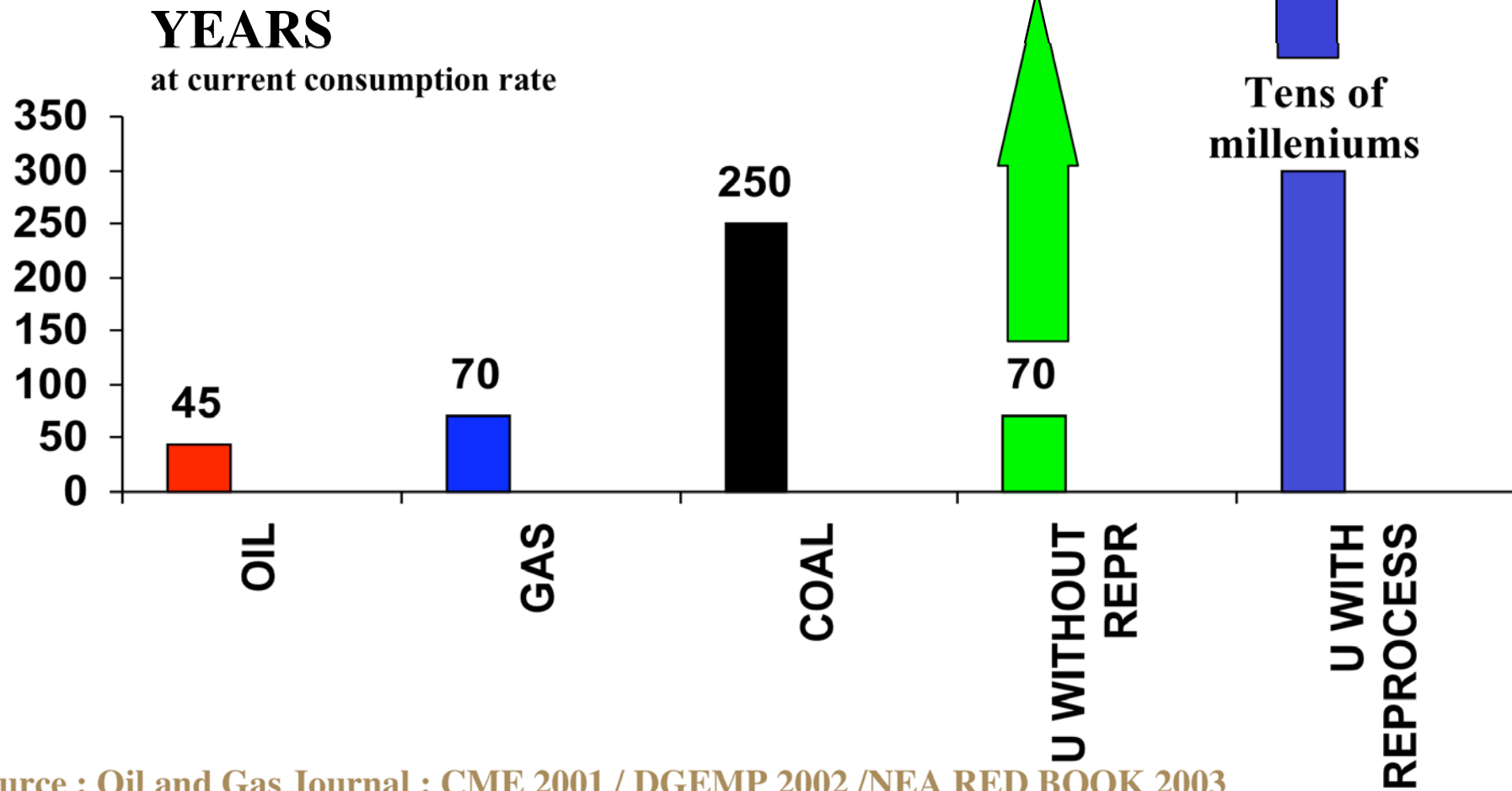
Start of the French nuclear program (1973)



The Greens enter the French Government (1997)



PROVEN RESERVES



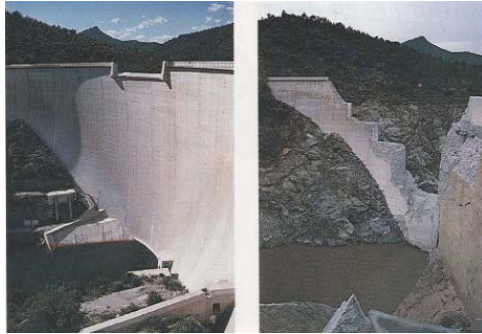
Source : Oil and Gas Journal : CME 2001 / DGEMP 2002 / NEA RED BOOK 2003

Risks and accidents





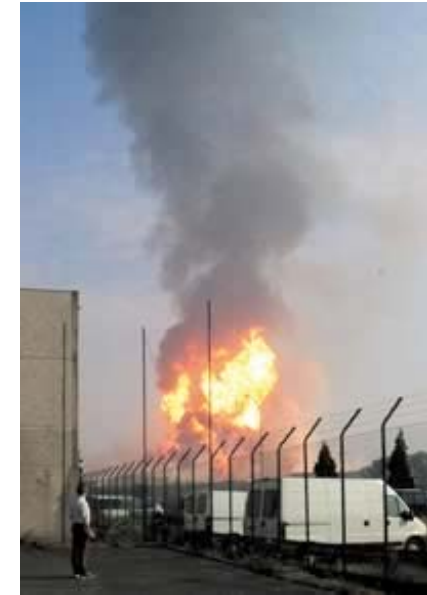
No energy is risk-free



Malpasset - 423 died
2 December 1959
Average=hundreds/yr



Mihama - 5 died
10 August 2004
INDUSTRIAL
accident



Ghislenghien - 30 July 2004
22 died



Steam explosion - 1865
Mississippi -> 1547 died

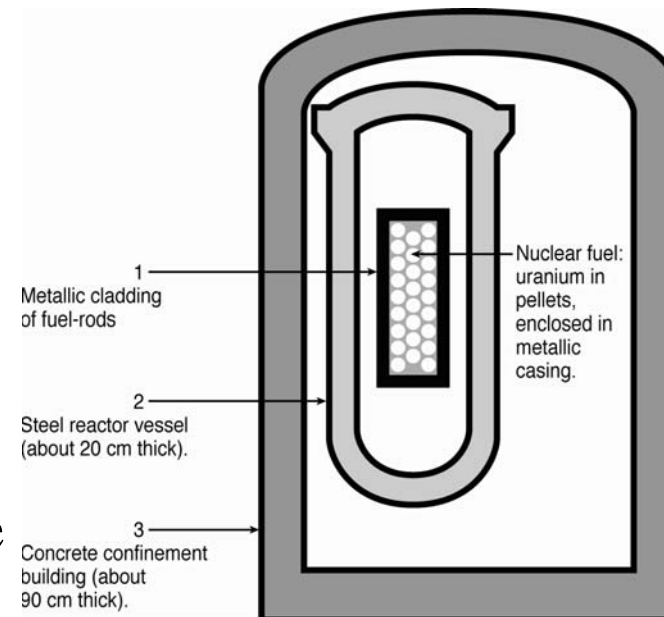
350 000 die in work accidents each year -> only 1 in nuclear industry



Basic concepts of nuclear safety

Risks are minimized by:

- Multiple & redundant safety systems
- Multi-level safety
- Multiple confinement barriers
- Discipline is important - safety culture



Well built nuclear energy is
the safest energy available



Chernobyl



- An example of what should not be done:
- Major mistakes at all levels: design, operation...
- <100 died (smoking = 6 million/yr = 300 Chern/day = 1 Chern/4 min)
- Impossible in a PWR: no graphite/no containment
- **COAL MINES: 15,000 deaths per year** (>10 Chernobyls/month)



Risk of terror attack

WTC
tower

Relative size



CONCLUSION :
Frightening for the
mass media, but
NOT AN EASY TARGET



Reactors of the future



- Advanced reactors :
- EPR, AP-1000, ACR, ABWR
- New HTR reactors :
- Small, very safe reactors
- For developing countries
- Worst case not dangerous

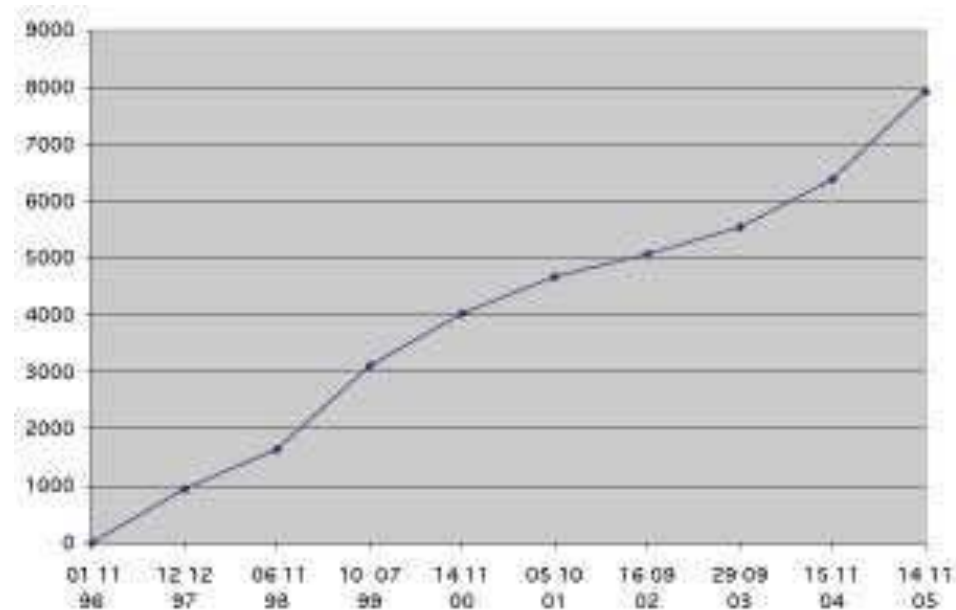
- Generation IV :
- Resources x100
- Less waste
- 6 concepts (SFR, LFR, GFR, VHTR, MSR, SCWR)



EFN : Environmentalists For Nuclear Energy



- An international organization gathering over 9000 members and supporters in favor of clean nuclear energy
- Growing rapidly
- In 56 countries
- On all 5 continents.



EFN's mission :
information about energy and the environment



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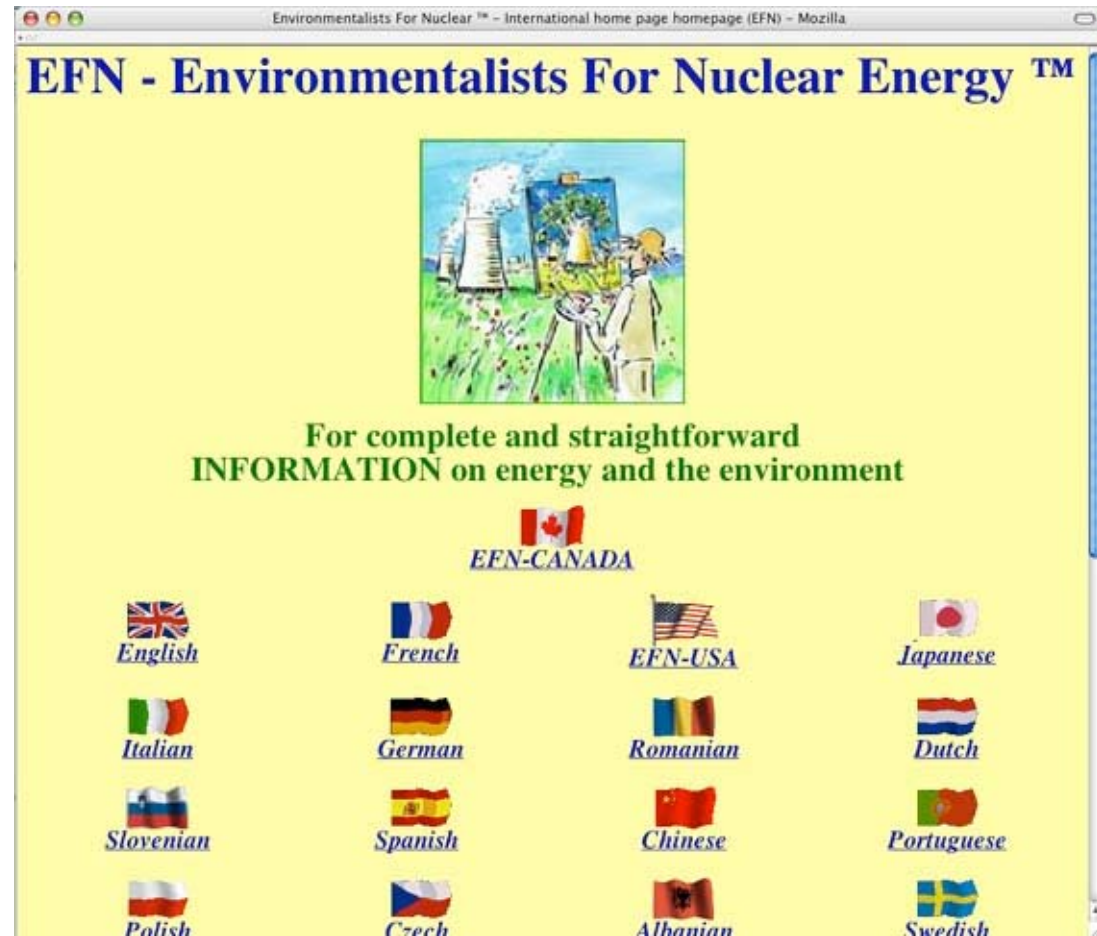
EFN's activities

Web site : www.ecolo.org

in English, French,
German, Spanish,
and 15 languages...



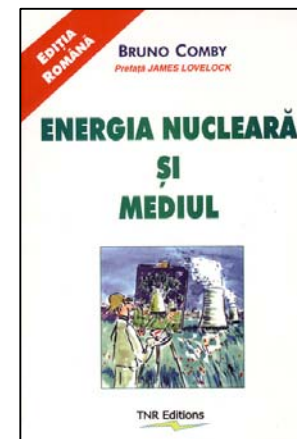
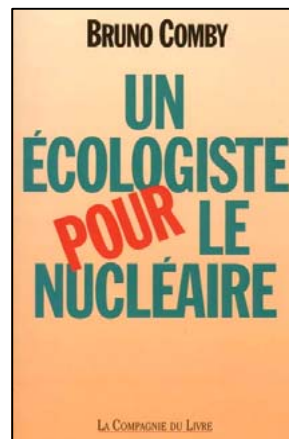
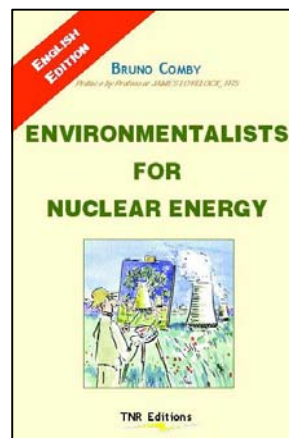
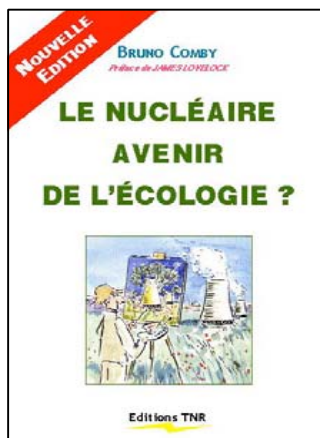
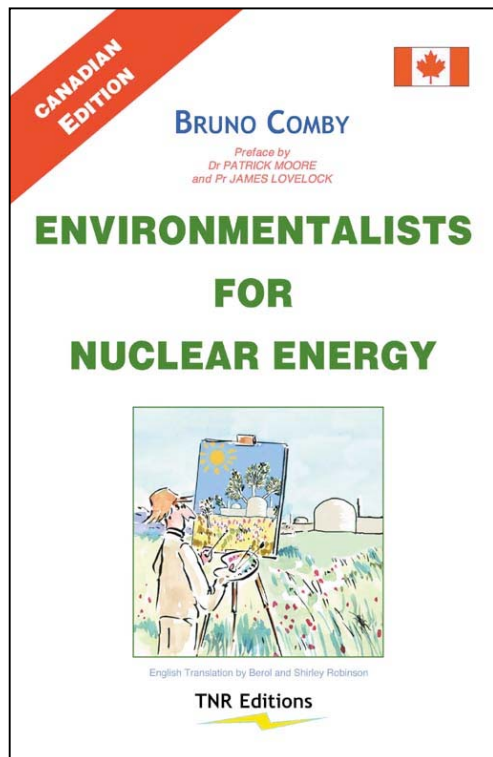
Civaux Nuclear Power Plant





The book:

Bruno Comby's books have informed over one million readers on ecology and the environment published in French, English, Japanese...



Preface by Pr. James Lovelock and Dr. Patrick Moore

www.comby.org -> click on « books »



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© Institut Bruno Comby

Pr. James Lovelock

- **Historical father of environmental thinking since the 1960 's**
- **author of the Gaia theory**
- **member of EFN**

« Nuclear energy is THE ONLY ecological solution »

“ The dangers of continuing to burn fossil fuels as our main energy source (...) threaten not just individuals but civilization itself (...) I hope that it is not too late for the world to emulate France and make nuclear power our principal source of energy.” (in his preface to Bruno Comby's book)



Other Environmentalists For Nuclear (members of EFN)

Patrick MOORE, EFN-Canada 

Founder of Greenpeace, former President of Greenpeace-Canada and director of Greenpeace international, Honorary chairman of EFN-CANADA



Bishop Hugh MONTEFIORE, UK

Former member of the Board of Friends of the Earth

Yumi AKIMOTO 

Survivor of Hiroshima explosion

GuI GOKTEPE

Award of UN Black Sea Medal
environmental prize





We have only one planet



© Luc Massart/ IBC



A livable future



for
our
children



and future generations...

CONCLUSION

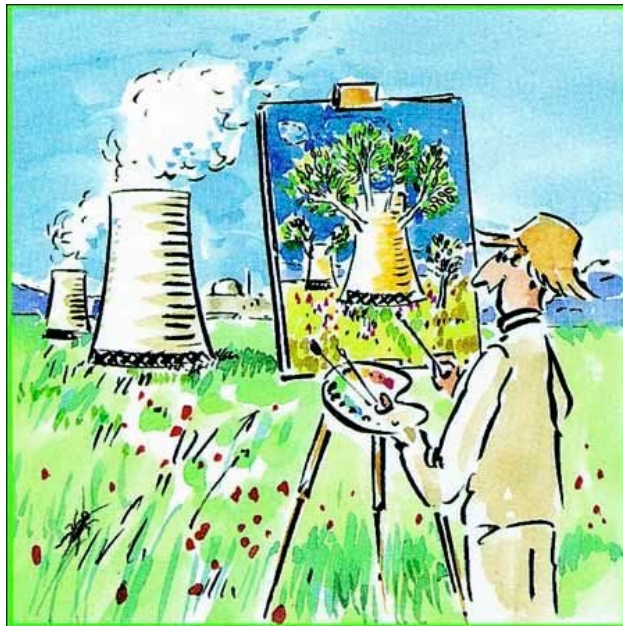
A MAJOR ENERGY CRISIS IS
DOWN THE ROAD

THE WORLD NEEDS A LOT
MORE ENERGY

CONSERVATION, RENEWABLE
ENERGIES AND CLEAN
NUCLEAR ENERGY
ARE NECESSARY



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More information :
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