

# Reaping the Wind

How Mechanical Wizards, Visionaries, and Profiteers  
Helped Shape Our Energy Future



Peter Asmus



# Reaping The Wind How Mechanical Wizards Visionaries And Profiteers Helped Shape Our Energy Future

**Geoffrey Jones**



## **Reaping The Wind How Mechanical Wizards Visionaries And Profiteers Helped Shape Our Energy Future:**

Reaping the Wind Peter Asmus, 2001 Journalist Peter Asmus presents the fascinating and convoluted history of commercial wind power in the United States Beginning with the early pioneers he offers an animated narrative that profiles the colorful cast of characters involved with the development of the American wind power industry **Unsustainable** James T. Bennett, 2021-08-20 This book examines the history politics and economics of alternative energy Since the energy crisis of the 1970s governments around the world have subsidized and otherwise incentivized alternative forms of energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels This search has taken on added urgency in the twenty first century as the specter of climate change has engendered ambitious state level renewable portfolio standards enhanced federal incentives and inspired 100% renewable electrical generation targets in such states as Vermont and Hawaii To save the planet from destruction wind solar and other renewable energy alternatives must replace fossil fuels But how did we get here and what is the cost After an in depth study of the Carter administration s synthetic fuels program the focus shifts to the two most prominent perhaps most promising and certainly most promoted and government subsidized green and renewable energies today wind and solar Because wind has made the most headway and drawn the most controversy it receives the most attention Although the primary focus is on the American experience with renewable energy the policies and politics of renewables in Scotland Wales Denmark Spain and other European nations are also discussed Issues considered in the book include the nature and efficacy of renewable subsidies the employment of federal and state tax codes to encourage renewables the lobbies and interest groups that campaign for government support of renewables and the fierce battles over the siting of renewable facilities Unlike other works on this subject the book probes in depth the nature of the opposition to wind and solar both in the matter of siting and in their worthiness as recipients of substantial government assistance **Profits and Sustainability** Geoffrey Jones, 2018-01-26 Are profits and sustainability compatible This book brings unique perspectives to this key debate by exploring the history of green entrepreneurship since the nineteenth century and its spread globally in industries including renewable energy organic food natural beauty ecotourism recycling architecture and finance The book uses the lens of the extraordinary and often eccentric men and women who defied convention and imagined that business could help save the planet rather than consume it The social and religious beliefs that drove many of these individuals are explored as the book looks at how they overcame huge obstacles to execute their strategies The green entrepreneurs seen here are shown to have created new markets and industries and driven innovations in sustainable practices even at times when most consumers and governments marginalized the entire subject The struggles of early pioneers appear to have been rewarded by the growth of environmental awareness among consumers business leaders and others in recent years but the Earth s environmental health continues to deteriorate If profits and sustainability have proved challenging to reconcile the book argues that one reason was how they were both defined **Powering the Dream** Alexis Madrigal, 2011-03-29 Few today realize that electric cabs

dominated Manhattan's streets in the 1890s that Boise Idaho had a geothermal heating system in 1910 or that the first megawatt turbine in the world was built in 1941 by the son of publishing magnate G P Putnam a feat that would not be duplicated for another forty years Likewise while many remember the oil embargo of the 1970s few are aware that it led to a corresponding explosion in green technology research that was only derailed when energy prices later dropped In other words We've been here before Although we may have failed America has had the chance to put our world on a more sustainable path Americans have in fact been inventing green for more than a century Half compendium of lost opportunities half hopeful look toward the future Powering the Dream tells the stories of the brilliant often irascible inventors who foresaw our current problems tried to invent cheap and energy renewable solutions and drew the blueprint for a green future

**Exploring Entrepreneurship** Richard Blundel, Nigel Lockett, Catherine Wang, 2017-10-28 A detailed and critical analysis of the multiple types of entrepreneurship helping students to understand the practical skills and theoretical concepts needed to create their very own entrepreneurial venture Split into two parts the book provides an even balance between theory and practice Part 1 covers the practical activities involved in new entrepreneurial ventures and Part 2 uses the latest research to explore entrepreneurship from different perspectives The second edition features a new author Catherine Wang who brings specialist knowledge in entrepreneurial learning ethnic minority entrepreneurship and international entrepreneurship There are new chapters on the Varieties of Entrepreneurship including social entrepreneurship not for profit and Intrapreneurship employees within organizations and Entrepreneurial Learning which explores how entrepreneurs hone and develop their thinking There is also a collection of new international case studies including Dyson Facebook Made com and examples of entrepreneurship in China and Ghana The book is complemented by a companion website featuring online resources for instructors and students including PowerPoint Slides additional mini case studies multiple choice questions video links and revision tips Suitable reading for students taking modules in Entrepreneurship or New venture creation at upper undergraduate and postgraduate levels

**Pragmatic Sustainability** Steven A. Moore, 2016-07-04 This second edition of Pragmatic Sustainability proposes a pragmatic discursive and pluralistic approach to thinking about sustainability Rather than suggesting a single solution to the problem of how to live sustainably this collection discusses broader approaches to social and environmental change Eight continuing authors and seven new ones adjust their dispositions toward rapidly changing and still unsustainable conditions forging agreements and disagreements on five overlapping themes the Grounds for Sustainability the critique of Technological Culture the need to conceive of Sustainability in Place in Cities finally asking how should we reimagine the fraught relationship between Civil Society Industry and Regulation Editor Steven A Moore asks how a set of ideas now more than a century old remains relevant A partial answer can be found in reconstructing the very modern ideas confronted by those who came to call themselves Pragmatists at the beginning of the twentieth century evolution ecology and design Moore argues that we have yet to develop dispositions in theory and practice that critically

integrate these ideas into sustainable development In sum this new edition provides a fresh and hopeful look at the wicked problems deliberated by almost anyone engaged in adapting to the always changing conditions of the built world The Virtual Workplace Joseph A. Seiner, 2021-06-17 The recent pandemic has clarified the overwhelming connection between the workplace and technology With thousands of employees suddenly forced to work at home a large segment of the workforce quickly received crash courses in videoconferencing and other technologies and society as a whole took a step back to redefine what employment actually means The virtual workplace is the blending of brick and mortar physical places of business with the advanced technologies that now make it possible for workers to perform their duties outside of the office Trying to regulate in this area requires the application of decades old employment laws to a context never even contemplated by the legislatures that wrote those rules This book explores the emerging issues of virtual work defining employment litigating claims aggregating cases unionizing workers and preventing harassment and provides clarity to these areas synthesizing the current case law statutory rules and academic literature to provide guidance to workers and companies operating in the technology sector **Technological Innovation and Economic Performance** Benn Steil, David G. Victor, Richard R. Nelson, 2002-02-03 Commissioned and brought together for the research project by the world renowned Council on Foreign Relations the authors have produced an important compendia in applied economics The Great Texas Wind Rush Kate Galbraith, Asher Price, 2013-07-01 From two environmental journalists the improbable story of how the oil and gas state became the nation's wind power leader The Texas Observer In the late 1990s West Texas was full of rundown towns and pumpjacks aging reminders of the oil rush of an earlier era Today the towns are thriving as 300 foot tall wind turbines tower above those pumpjacks Wind energy has become Texas's latest boom How did this dramatic transformation happen in a state that fights federal environmental policies at every turn In The Great Texas Wind Rush environmental reporters Kate Galbraith and Asher Price tell the compelling story of a group of unlikely dreamers and innovators politicians and profiteers The tale spans a generation and more and it begins with the early wind pioneers precocious idealists who saw opportunity after the 1970s oil crisis Operating in an economy accustomed to exploiting natural resources and always looking for the next big thing their ideas eventually led to surprising partnerships between entrepreneurs and environmentalists as everyone from Enron executives to T Boone Pickens as well as Ann Richards George W Bush and Rick Perry ended up backing the new technology In this down to earth account the authors explain the policies and science that propelled the windcatters to reap the great harvest of Texas wind They also explore what the future holds for this relentless resource that is changing the face of Texas energy Enjoyable to read I learned something on every page Michael Webber Associate Director Center for International Energy and Environmental Policy University of Texas at Austin A thoughtful valuable story for anyone who cares about renewable energy or climate change The Associated Press *Top Ten Global Justice Law Review Articles 2008* Amos Guiora, 2009 *Top Ten Global Justice Law Review Articles 2008* is a thorough and accessible

review of the most salient the most controversial and the most illuminating essays on security law in the previous calendar year In this edition Professor Amos Guiora presents the ten most vital and pertinent law review articles from 2008 written by both scholars who have already gained international prominence as experts in global justice as well as emerging voices in the realm of international criminal law and human rights These articles deal with issues of terrorism security law environmental law and the preservation of civil liberties in the post 9 11 world The chosen selections derive not just from the high quality and expertise of the articles authors but equally from the wide diversity of legal issues addressed by those authors Guiora combines the expertise of scholars from both eminent law schools and government agencies to provide a valuable resource for scholars and experts researching this important subject area This annual review provides researchers with more than just an authoritative discussion on the most prominent global justice debates of the day it also educates researchers on new issues that have received far too little attention in the press and in academia These expert scholars and leaders tackle and give voice to issues that range from the psychology of terrorism to the role of oil in the Sudanese genocide to the oppression of women in new Arab democracies to transnational environmental cooperation and beyond Together the vast knowledge and independent viewpoints represented by these ten authors make this volume a valuable resource for individuals new to the realm of global justice and for advanced researchers with a sophisticated understanding of the field Top Ten Global Justice Law Review Articles 2008 serves as a one stop guidebook on how both the U S and the world generally are currently grappling with fundamental principles of social and political life

Energy in American History Jeffrey B. Webb, Christopher R. Fee, 2024 Contextualizes and analyzes the key energy transitions in U S history and the central importance of energy production and consumption on the American environment and in American culture and politics

The Texas Landscape Project David A. Todd, Jonathan Ogren, 2016-06-14 The Texas Landscape Project explores conservation and ecology in Texas by presenting a highly visual and deeply researched view of the widespread changes that have affected the state as its population and economy have boomed and as Texans have worked ever harder to safeguard its bountiful but limited natural resources Covering the entire state from Pineywoods bottomlands and Panhandle playas to Hill Country springs and Big Bend canyons the project examines a host of familiar and not so familiar environmental issues A companion volume to The Texas Legacy Project this book tracks specific environmental changes that have occurred in Texas using more than 300 color maps expertly crafted by cartographer Jonathan Ogren and over 100 photographs that coalesce to fashion a broad portrait of the modern Texas landscape The rich data compiled by author David Todd are presented in clearly written yet marvelously detailed text that gives historical context and contemporary statistics for environmental trends connected to the land water air energy and built world of the second largest and second most populated state in the nation An engaging read for any environmentalist or conscientious citizen The Texas Landscape Project provides a true sense of the grand scope of the Lone Star State and the high stakes of protecting it To learn more about The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment

sponsors of this book's series please click here      *Our Biggest Experiment* Alice Bell, 2021-09-21 Traversing science politics and technology *Our Biggest Experiment* shines a spotlight on the little known scientists who sounded the alarm to reveal the history behind the defining story of our age the climate crisis Our understanding of the Earth's fluctuating environment is an extraordinary story of human perception and scientific endeavor It also began much earlier than we might think In *Our Biggest Experiment* Alice Bell takes us back to climate change science's earliest steps in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries through the point when concern started to rise in the 1950s and right up to today where the debate is over and the world is finally starting to face up to the reality that things are going to get a lot hotter a lot drier in some places and a lot wetter in others with catastrophic consequences for most of Earth's biomes *Our Biggest Experiment* recounts how the world became addicted to fossil fuels how we discovered that electricity could be a savior and how renewable energy is far from a twentieth century discovery Bell cuts through complicated jargon and jumbles of numbers to show how we're getting to grips with what is now the defining issue of our time The message she relays is ultimately hopeful harnessing the ingenuity and intelligence that has driven the history of climate change research can result in a more sustainable and bearable future for humanity      **Harvest the Wind** Philip Warburg, 2012-04-17 Winds sweeping through the Great Plains once robbed the Farm Belt of its future stripping away overworked topsoil and creating the dreaded Dust Bowl of the 1930s Today those winds are bringing new hope to the declining rural communities of the central United States Nowhere is wind's promise more palpable than in Cloud County Kansas where the soaring turbines of the Meridian Way Wind Farm are boosting incomes and bringing green jobs to a community that has for decades watched its children drift away In *Harvest the Wind* Philip Warburg brings readers face to face with the people behind the green economy powered resurgence in Cloud County and communities like it across the United States This corner of Kansas is the first stop on an odyssey that introduces readers to farmers factory workers biologists and high tech entrepreneurs all players in a transformative industry that is taking hold across America and around the globe In this illuminating book Warburg reveals both the remarkable growth of a breakthrough technology and the formidable challenges it faces He visits epicenters of anti wind opposition as well as communities that have embraced wind farms as neighbors He guides readers through an Iowa turbine assembly plant that is struggling to compete in a global marketplace dominated by European and Chinese manufacturers And he looks at the thousands of miles that wind generated power will need to travel to reach American consumers *Harvest the Wind* is an earthly antidote to loftier treatises on global warming and green energy By showing us how practical solutions are being implemented at the local level Warburg offers an inspirational look at how we can all pursue a saner and more sustainable energy future while at the same time investing in the nation's infrastructure and jumpstarting its economy      *Energy Victory* Robert Zubrin, 2010-09-09 In this compelling argument for a new direction in U.S. energy policy a world renowned engineer and the bestselling author of *The Case for Mars* lays out a bold plan for breaking the economic stranglehold that the OPEC oil cartel has on the world With a

new Preface and Postscript by the author      **Encyclopedia of Renewable Energy, Sustainability and the Environment**  
,2024-08-09 Encyclopedia of Renewable Energy Sustainability and the Environment Four Volume Set comprehensively covers all renewable energy resources including wind solar hydro biomass geothermal energy and nuclear power to name a few In addition to covering the breadth of renewable energy resources at a fundamental level this encyclopedia delves into the utilization and ideal applications of each resource and assesses them from environmental economic and policy standpoints This book will serve as an ideal introduction to any renewable energy source for students while also allowing them to learn about a topic in more depth and explore related topics all in a single resource Instructors researchers and industry professionals will also benefit from this comprehensive reference Covers all renewable energy technologies in one comprehensive resource Details renewable energies processes from production to utilization in a single encyclopedia Organizes topics into concise consistently formatted chapters perfect for readers who are new to the field Assesses economic challenges faced to implement each type of renewable energy Addresses the challenges of replacing fossil fuels with renewables and covers the environmental impacts of each renewable energy      The Big Fix Hal Harvey,Justin Gillis,2023-06-06 A smart honest and down to earth Elizabeth Kolbert citizen s guide to the seven urgent changes that will really make a difference for our climate If you think the only thing you can do to combat climate change is to install a smart thermostat or cook plant based meat you re thinking too small In The Big Fix energy policy advisor Hal Harvey and longtime New York Times reporter Justin Gillis offer a new hopeful way to engage with one of the greatest problems of our age Writing in a lively accessible style the pair illuminate how the really big decisions that affect our climate get made whether by the most obscure public utilities commissions or in the lofty halls of state capitols and reveal how each of us can influence these decisions to deliver change The pair focus on the seven areas of our political economy where ambitious but practical changes will have the greatest effect from what kind of power plants to build to how much insulation new houses require to how efficient cars must be before they re allowed on the road Equal parts pragmatic and inspiring and full of illustrative stories and compelling evidence Al Gore The Big Fix provides an action plan for anyone serious about holding our governments accountable and saving our threatened planet      **Superpower** Russell Gold,2020-11-10 Meet Michael Skelly the man boldly harnessing wind energy that could power America s future and break its fossil fuel dependence in this essential compelling look into the future of the nation s power grid Bryan Burrough author of The Big Rich The United States is in the midst of an energy transition We have fallen out of love with dirty fossil fuels and want to embrace renewable energy sources like wind and solar A transition from a North American power grid that is powered mostly by fossil fuels to one that is predominantly clean is feasible but it would require a massive building spree wind turbines solar panels wires and billions of dollars would be needed Enter Michael Skelly an infrastructure builder who began working on wind energy in 2000 when many considered the industry a joke Eight years later Skelly helped build the second largest wind power company in the United States and



sold it for 2 billion Wind energy was no longer funny it was well on its way to powering more than 6% of electricity in the United States Award winning journalist Russel Gold tells Skelly's story which in many ways is the story of our nation's evolving relationship with renewable energy Gold illustrates how Skelly's company Clean Line Energy conceived the idea for a new power grid that would allow sunlight where abundant to light up homes in the cloudy states thousands of miles away and take wind from the Great Plains to keep air conditioners running in Atlanta Thrilling provocative and important Superpower is a fascinating look at America's future

**Winds of Change** Ion Bogdan Vasi, 2011-01-12 In recent decades the global wind energy industry has undergone explosive growth and there is still vast potential for wind to supply more of the world's energy Though not only is wind power far from reaching its potential its rise has been uneven and irregular What factors influence the development of the wind energy industry and why has it developed successfully in some places but not in others In *Winds of Change* Ion Bogdan Vasi argues that the development of wind energy is dependent not only on improvements in technology and economic forces but also in large part on the efforts of the environmental movement Vasi defines and analyses three pathways through which the environmental movement has contributed to industry growth it has influenced the adoption and implementation of renewable energy policies created consumer demand for clean energy and changed the institutional logics of the energy sector Vasi uses quantitative analysis to present the big picture of global wind power development and qualitative research to understand why certain countries are world leaders in wind energy while others are relatively underdeveloped Through interviews with renewable energy professionals and campaigners he shows that environmental groups and activists participated actively in energy policymaking pressured various organizations to purchase wind power and formed new companies that specialized in wind farm development He also demonstrates that environmentalists contributed to wind turbine manufacturing by becoming entrepreneurs innovators and advocates *Winds of Change* sheds much new light on how wind energy is adopted and why and demonstrates how activists and social movements can contribute to the creation of new industries

Weather Matters Bernard Mergen, 2008 A kaleidoscopic book that illuminates our obsession with weather as both physical reality and evocative metaphor focusing on the ways in which it is perceived feared embraced managed and even marketed

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