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Driving the Green ERA

(A personal opinion item not necessarily reflecting the views of the membership)

The development of what we call Sustainables, Alternatives, Renewables are simply stages of change in what should be described as the evolution of energy and power, not a revolution. It's an evolutionary process.

The whole concept of clean, green sustainable, environmentally friendly power formulas should be viewed from the perspective of what is driving the renewable "evolution".

The Drivers – What, Why, How

1. Horror Stories – "You are all going to die" screams Dominic Yin, Chairman of HAESCO and Co-chair of the "IPPF China Committee" with dire

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warnings that what happened to the dinosaurs 65 million years ago could happen to ustomorrow!

2. Fuels – With many billions going to the Gulf annually and last year's price spikes, alternatives "looked" cheaper.

3. Environment – From global warming to choking smog and rising sea levels (see horror stories above!)

4. Health – Choking smog, rising respiratory illnesses (more horror stories again).

5. Energy Security – Dependence on imported oil, gas or coal can be a national concern, Iceland is 100% driven by Geo Thermal, Spain's "IEC" from wind just hit 40%.

Will our species, spread around the planet in 196 nations and speaking over 8,000 languages survive? Are we doomed like the Dodo bird? I don't think so!

There will be a major turn-around, a sort of upheaval in the entire energy picture as the current revolution rolls up to a civilized finish. How will it be accomplished?

It's the I.T. factor, stupid!

In 1942, a massive American effort to build an

atomic bomb before Hitler got his was launched. America, with the help of refugee scientists from Europe, finally built the bomb ahead of the competition. It was with very primitive I.T. but it worked.

After "Sputnik" shocked America in 1957, the U.S. launched the space program supported by I.T.

The development of what we call Sustainables, Alternatives, Renewables are simply stages of change.

We couldn't have landed on the moon without the computing power of early massive mainframes.

Advances for hydrogen, really clean coal and allied renewables will be rolling in. This will push the running price of oil down and down. A former senior executive of Shell Gas and Power confided to us that by 2020 oil will stay below US\$30.00 a barrel due to break-throughs on coal. The moon landings were not faked in a movie studio. It will happen because it can happen and it must happen.