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Renewable Taos Newsletter - December 2016

1 message

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Newsletter

Hello, All – Remember to click on images and blue highlighted text for more information.

CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW

The following is Bob Bresnahan's review of the book, "[Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know](#)," by Joseph Romm (Oxford University Press 2016, 302p.) The book answers roughly 100 important questions about climate change, and notably contains a full chapter on the role of clean energy.

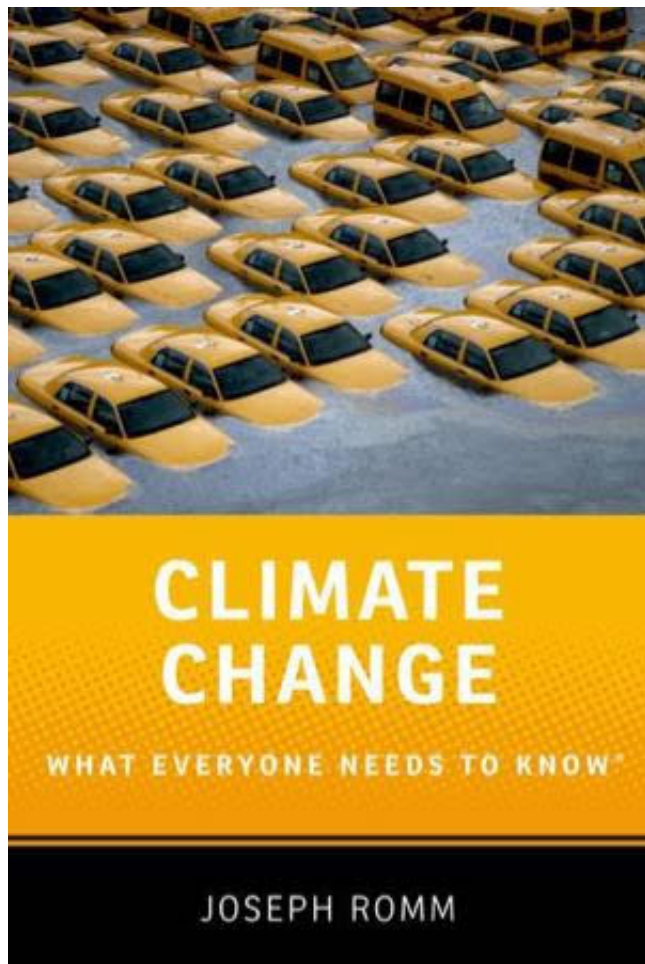
RENEWABLE TAOS NEWSLETTER

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WAKE UP TO OUR SOLAR ENERGY FUTURE!



Book Review by Bob Bresnahan

Joseph Romm is one of our foremost experts on climate, an influential blogger, an author, and the science adviser for [Years of Living Dangerously](#), the Emmy winning series on climate science. His website, [Climate Progress](#), is one of the best sources for information on climate science and politics.

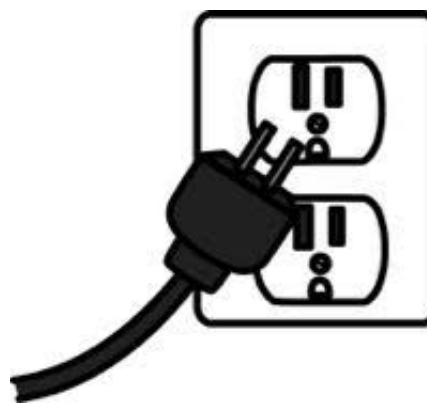
Joe's 2016 book **Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know** is published by Oxford University Press. If you are concerned about what climate change means for you and your loved ones in the near future, this is the book to read. Joe has excelled in communicating climate science effectively for more than a decade, and he's organized this book in a way that clearly explains what we are in for. When my nephew Noah and his wife Katie had their new baby, I recommended the book to them. Juno will live out her life in a world shaped by climate change, and I wanted them to take advantage of the insights and common sense advice offered in this book.

The book is organized into chapters that cover all the main concerns – basic climate science, extreme weather, climate impacts like sea-level rise, how to avoid the worst impacts, climate politics and policy, clean energy and its role, and



JOIN RENEWABLE TAOS IN 2017!

PLUG INTO KIT CARSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



Read KCEC Board of Trustees member Bob Bresnahan's articles. Comment on KCEC's activities and issues.

finally a chapter titled "Climate Change and You." In each chapter the material is organized around the most important questions that need answers. Because Joe is a climate scientist and a physicist, he has maintained his contacts throughout the profession and shares the most current science and its conclusions.

This organization makes the book a handy resource. It is easy to find a concise and timely answer to almost any climate change issue. I read it in several sittings and go back to it now when some question arises where I don't have a ready answer. In that sense it is a handy reference work.

On the other hand Joe Romm has provided a comprehensive overview of where we stand today in regard to **Climate Change**. I hope that he'll update the book in subsequent editions to help keep the overview up to date.

Do you want to know what you can do about climate change? This is the best part of book in my view. It's the question that everyone seems to be asking, and Joe provides good practical advice on topics ranging from what professions for young people to pursue, where to settle, what's best to eat, thoughts on investment, how to limit your carbon footprint, and how to talk to people whose heads are stuck in the sand.

So, that makes the book an easy recommendation for people like Noah and my son Kris who are finishing the residencies as young Doctors. From the standpoint of someone like myself, a person who has read many books on the topics of climate and the environment, I value this book for its clear answers to all the scientific questions. How far advanced are we? What is a realistic range of outcomes assuming we're able to rein in carbon emissions? What are scientists working in fields assessing the impact of warming on the Antarctic and Greenland ice shelves telling us? How disruptive might some of the likely changes be?

Whatever your level of understanding of climate and the changes we are making to our world, I recommend that you make **Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know** your next purchase. You won't regret spending time with this important book.

- Bob Bresnahan, Renewable Taos and Kit Carson Electric Cooperative.

MORE SOLAR ELECTRICITY COMING TO TAOS & VICINITY IN 2017

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) is rolling out a plan for transitioning to cleaner energy for its service area.

EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT OUR CLIMATE CRISIS



LEARN ABOUT HOW AND WHY OUR
PLANET IS CHANGING.

VISIT THE U.S. GLOBAL CHANGE
RESEARCH PROGRAM

LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE WITH SOLAR POWER



TALK TO OUR TAOS AREA
SOLAR SYSTEMS
EXPERTS

THE NEW MEXICO SOLAR
ENERGY ASSOCIATION

NMSEA

KCEC proposes solar arrays rated at about 1 megawatt (MW) at many sites throughout its electricity distribution system. These small arrays are relative easy to install in the existing system without making major upgrades or conflicting with PNM and Tri-State Generation and Transmission requirements.

KCEC hopes to have its contractors building a few new solar arrays beginning in mid-2017.



THE KIT CARSON ELECTRIC SOLAR DEPLOYMENT PLAN IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT BY ALL OUR CITIZENS

In late 2016, KCEC began holding a series of meetings to discuss the plan with governments, businesses, NGOs and citizens throughout its service area. KCEC and Renewable Taos will continue these meetings into the first few months of 2017. We hope to ensure that all citizens are aware of the Solar Plan, and learn what it means for a clean energy economy for our region.

Renewable Taos is working with our Taos County Commission to host a Work-Study Session on renewable energy planning in early 2017. We will target local government officials from throughout the Enchanted Circle, and the meeting will be open to the general public. Watch for press releases and other media announcements about this event. We will also keep our members updated through our email lists.

GUZMAN ENERGY TO PROVIDE POWER FOR JICARILLA APACHE NATION, NM

Guzman Energy recently announced a power purchase agreement with the Jicarilla Apache Nation in north central New Mexico. Terms of the agreement call for Guzman to provide power for the nation of approximately 3,500 members for the next seven years.



NMSEA PROMOTES CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY IN NEW MEXICO THROUGH EDUCATION, EMPOWERMENT, COLLABORATION AND ADVOCACY

USA AND TAOS AREA HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICITY USE



HOUSEHOLDS IN THE KIT CARSON ELECTRIC CO-OP SERVICE AREA USE LESS THAN 500 KILOWATT-HOURS (KWH) OF ELECTRICITY PER MONTH. THE AVERAGE USA HOUSEHOLD USES MORE THAN 900



Guzman is seeking to reduce power costs while providing greater access to renewable energy for the Jicarilla Apache Nation.



Guzman Energy is the wholesale electricity provider for Kit Carson Electric Cooperative in Taos and the City of Aztec, NM. The company intends to continue expanding its presence in our region.

KWH PER MONTH.

GUZMAN RENEWABLE ENERGY PARTNERS IS BUILDING A PRESENCE IN NORTHERN NEW MEXICO.



GUZMAN NOW HAS CONTRACTS TO SUPPLY ELECTRICITY FOR KIT CARSON ELECTRIC CO-OP, THE CITY OF AZTEC, AND THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM AIMS FOR MORE SOLAR POWER

The Albuquerque, NM City Council recently voted to get 25 percent of the city's electricity from solar power by 2025. The decision reflects the money-saving advantages of renewables over other forms of energy.



The September 30, 2016 Resolution R-16-36 by the City Council calls for a plan of spending \$51 million on 57 solar electricity systems to power



demands for buildings, lighting, rapid transit, and other energy uses.

Albuquerque, like Taos and other cities and communities in New Mexico, must chart its own path towards a clean energy future. The State of New Mexico continues to lag far behind its potential to take advantage of its vast solar and wind energy resources.

OUR MISSION

Renewable Taos is dedicated to promoting and facilitating a full transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Taos County and our surrounding region.

We advocate for local generation of renewable energy with an emphasis on local ownership. We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects. We recognize that energy efficiency is integral to the transition to renewable energy. We also work with other organizations to change the political climate in the state and country to facilitate the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

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Edited by: William M. Brown, December 2016

Renewable Taos continues sending its Regional Market Letter statewide in New Mexico.

BENEFITS OF A REGIONAL ENERGY MARKET

A regional energy market would better use resources, especially renewables, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and costs.



The California ISO seeks the lowest cost energy to serve demand. It gives preference to renewable resources across our American West. It prompts grid planners to build a cleaner, more resilient energy generation and delivery network that will create tangible economic benefits.

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR (CAISO), 2016



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