

Bringing makers together from around the world to create solar transportation networks

## **Energy: The Key to Entitlements** for Podcar Networks **Ron Swenson** November 6, 2015



www.inist.org



### **International Institute of Sustainable Transportation**









## • Solar-powered ...





- Solar-powered ...
- Automated ...





- Solar-powered ...
- Automated ...
- Nonstop ...





- Solar-powered ...
- Automated ...
- Nonstop ...
- Elevated ...





- Solar-powered ...
- Automated ...
- Nonstop ...
- Elevated ...
- for transportation beyond oil









• Small, driverless vehicles





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- Exclusive, gradeseparated guideway





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- Off-line stations: non-stop from origin to destination





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- Encourage **Transit oriented** development (TOD)







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- Encourage **Transit oriented** development (TOD) • Safe







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- Utilize existing rights-of-way (ROWs)
- Encourage **Transit oriented** development (TOD)
- Safe
- Solar powered









# Let's consider our origins



### FIRE defined humanity ...



"Evidence for the controlled use of fire by Homo erectus beginning some 400,000 years ago has wide scholarly support, with claims regarding earlier evidence finding increasing scientific support."







Arctic Expert predicts final collapse of sea ice within four years

<u>guardian.co.uk</u> Monday 17 September 2012





Arctic Lake Methane Ignited by Katey Walter Anthony





Arctic Lake Methane Ignited by Katey Walter Anthony



### Australia has a new temperature rating: ACCESS-Global Screen Temperature

Valid 06UTC Mon 14 Jan 2013

95°E 100°E 105°E 110°E 115°E 120°E 125°E 130°E 135°E 140°E 145°E 150°E 155°E 160°E 165°E 170°E 175°E



Forecast for 17:00 AEDT on Monday 14 January 2013

t+162

### Australia has a new temperature rating:





95°E 100°E 105°E 110°E 115°E 120°E 125°E 130°E 135°E 140°E 145°E 150°E 155°E 160°E 165°E 170° © Copyright Commonwealth of Australia 2013, Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Forecast for 17:00 AEDT on Monday 14 January 2013

### Australia has a new temperature rating: catastrophic

### FIRE DANGER RATING TODAY

**JERY HIGH** 

SEVERE





**IODERATE** 







### If climate change doesn't get us...



### If climate change doesn't get us...



January 13, 2014

### ... Peak oil will



### ... Peak oil will



### The oil glut is a Wall Street fiction

# Knowing this, where would you build podcars?



# The export land model reveals a very different turn of events

## The export land model reveals a very different turn of events

### Egypt : Oil 2013 imports increased by 39. %







Data: BP Statistical Review 2014 Graphic: mazamascience.com

# of events







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# of events







## Oil dominates transportation energy in the USA



Source: AEO 2014, Early Release, Tables A1, A2 and A17.

### Sector Energy Consumption by Fuel Type

Transportation 6% 7% 87% Industrial 5% 39% 12% 44% Residential and Commercial 8% 12% 80% Electric Power 26% 19% 17% 38% Oil Natural Gas Coal Renewable Energy Nuclear Power

### But after oil is extracted, process losses are huge



Figure 3: Boundaries of various types of EROI analyses (standard EROI (EROIst), EROI at the point of use (EROIpou) and extended EROI (EROIext)) and energy loss associated with the processing of oil as it is transformed from "oil at the well-head" to consumer ready fuels (figure adapted from Lambert and Lambert, in preparation [3]).

### EROI of Global Energy Resources: Preliminary Status and Trends
# At the end of the daisy chain, liquid fuels don't cut it Fuel-based engines are incredibly inefficient





100kg people & 1,000 kg metal: most of the useful energy is used to move metal...

Less than 1% of the total energy moves people!

# 87% of the fuel energy is wasted Drivetrain Idling Loss

# Even if there were plenty of oil, gas and coal, we would have to leave most of it in the ground

#### **Unburnable fossil fuels**

Known, extractable coal, oil and gas reserves that must not be burnt in order to prevent dangerous climate change of more than 2C

#### **Global reserves**

Per cent that cannot be burned



#### GUARDIAN GRAPHIC



SOURCE: McGLADE & EKINS, NATURE, 2015

### The future is in our hands



### The future is in our hands





## So June 15, 1752 is a date to remember



THE HISTORY AND PRESENT STATE OF ELECTRICITY, WITH ORIGINAL EXPERIMENTS, By JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, LL.D. F.R.S. THE THIRD EDITION, CORRECTED AND ENLARGED. Caufa latet, vis eft notiflima. OVID. VOL.

Printed for C. BATHURST, and T. LOWNDES, in Fleet Street; J. RIVINGTON, and J. JOHNSON, in St. Paul's Church-Yard ; S. CROWDER, G. ROBINSON, and R. BALDWIN, in Paterpofter Row; T. BECKET, and T. CADELL, in the Strand.

MDCCLXXV.



#### October 22, 1879 is also a key date to remember



# October 22, 1879 is also a key date to remember



What Edison said in 1910 is the rest of the story

"Sunshine is spread out thin and so is electricity. Perhaps they are the same, Sunshine is a form of energy, and the winds and the tides are manifestations of energy."

"Do we use them? Oh, no! We burn up wood and coal, as renters burn up the front fence for fuel. We live like squatters, not as if we owned the property.

"There must surely come a time when heat and power will be stored in unlimited quantities in every community, all gathered by natural forces. Electricity ought to be as cheap as oxygen...." [1910]





#### SOLAR<sup>10</sup> 23,000

WORLD ENERGY USE 16 TW-YR PER YEAR

> TIDES<sup>1</sup> 0,3 PER YEAR



# The Global Solar Energy Balance is in our favor

Solar Energy Input

Reflected to Space Immediately

Absorbed and Then Reflected as He

Used to Evaporate Water (Weather)

Captured by Plant Photosynthesis

Total Energy Used by Human Societ

Total Energy Used by US Society

Total Human Food Energy

(TeraWatts)	178,000
	53,000
eat	82,000
	40,000
	100
ety	15
	2.5
	0.6

## We can't solve problems by using

#### the same kind of thinking we used

#### when we created them.



### – Albert Einstein

### transportation We can't solve ^problems by using

### fuels the same kind of <sup>^</sup>thinking we used

### when we created them.



#### Pete Christensen – Albert ^Einstein

## Tonatiuh, el Coche Solar de Carreras, started in 1992





## **Tonatiuh inspired the Solar Skyways Challenge**



## The ATN guideway has 17X more solar capacity than solar race cars





#### 2 seconds apart @ 90 km/hr = 50 m





#### **One lane of bio-cars**

#### How wide would the biofuel plantation be?

#### One lane of cars

60 miles per hour

30 miles per gallon 1200 litres of biofuel per hectare per year 80 metres car-spacing

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#### = 8 kilometres wide

#### One lane of podcars



#### One lane of podcars

60 miles per hour

**Solar Powered** 

80 metres car-spacing

#### One lane of podcars



#### One lane of podcars

60 miles per hour

**Solar Powered** 

80 metres car-spacing



#### metres wide

# Typical trip patterns closely match the pattern of sunshine, with evening extension



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# Is solar possible? Let's start with the tough case: 2/3 of the way to the north pole



Month

# With a megawatt a mile, solar can deliver 20,000 trips per day, even in Sweden

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Source: LLNL 2010. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0384(2009), August 2010. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Distributed electricity represents only retail electricity sales and does not include self-generation. EIA reports flows for non-thermal resources (i.e., hydro, wind and solar) in BTU-equivalent values by assuming a typical fossil fuel plant "heat rate." The efficiency of electricity production is calculated as the total retail electricity delivered divided by the primary energy input into electricity generation. End use efficiency is estimated as 80% for the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, and as 25% for the transportation sector. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-410527



#### Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



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#### Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory









1 tw x 5 hours/day = 6.25 Quad/year = net useful energy for transportation. With efficiency gain of 5X, there will be surplus energy for the grid.



## With suspended vehicles, inclusion of solar is easy, as illustrated by this recent project





### What about the visual impact of the solar array?



#### Where necessary, the solar array can be *narrower*



### Where necessary, the solar array can be *minimal*



### Where necessary, the solar array can be *minimal*



### We also helped Santa Cruz envision ATN


#### We are making progress in Santa Cruz









#### JPods patented solar podcars in 2004

1) managing emergency conditions in accordance with said protocol to safely complete said trip. 9. The method claimed in 8 said trip further comprising: a) accumulating time based availability of said devices by said negotiators; b) scheduling and executing said trips to position vehicles in response to historical demand for trins 10. The method claimed in 1 said first power means further comprising: a) providing a second power means which enables transferring said power sources from an electric power grid to said vehicles and said transportation system; b) providing a third power means comprising solar and wind power generators integrated into the physical structure of said transportation system augmenting first power means.

11. A method of managing a transportation system for moving people, freight, and any combination whereof using

#### In 2006 a practical solar mobility solution was discovered











#### We created a solar visualization in 2007



#### Swenson Solar built an ATN-equivalent guideway that is aesthetically pleasing





#### We are seeing more and more solar visualizations



# Nerds 'n Squares

Animation studio



#### We are seeing more and more solar visualizations



Figure 6 Terminal B ATN Station Conceptual Illustration 3D Rendering - Station View 1

San José ATN Feasibility Study

July 26, 2012







#### We are seeing more and more solar visualizations





#### Universities



#### Universities



# Cities

#### Universities





#### Industry



#### Universities





#### Industry



#### Universities





#### Industry



#### The basic concept was demonstrated at Intersolar in San Francisco in 2014







#### In May 2015, the Spartan Superway team returned to Maker Faire with a full scale prototype





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#### Solar Skyways can happen with international collaboration





## Universities are working together – around the country and around the world



	UPPSALA UNIVERSITET	Sweden
	LINKÖPING UNIVERSITY	Sweden
	KUNGL KONST KONST KONST KONST KONST KONST KONST KONST KUNGL TEKNISKA HÖGSKOLAN	Sweden
	UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA Guadalajara	Mexico
	NAME AND A WARSTON A	Poland
SCO	Delft University of Technology	Netherlands
	LYON	France
lina	EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT	France

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#### Join us and...





#### We invite you to join us. Thank you for your attention!





SJSU SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

Automated Transportation Network Association www.inist.org

www.podcarcity.org

www.superway.us

www.gofundme.com

www.atna.us