

Sunday, August 23, 2009 (File cac235)

To: Dan Breedon

Fr: Ed Miller

Subj: Food safety, common place living, global warming history, biodiversity, solar hot water heating, smart grid equipment, small hydro design, off grid dc-ac conversion problems, satellite soil moisture sensing & Green jobs.

Ref A: B. Walsh, The real cost of cheap food, America's food crisis and how to fix it, Time magazine Aug 31, 2009; pp30-37

Ref B: W. Berry, Bringing it to the table, Counterpoint2009

Ref C: J. Maclean, Just food, reviewed on Science Friday on KIXE including conversation with the author and Michael Pollin of U.C. Berkeley school of journalism, Aug 24 2009 (Book is not currently available at Barnes and Noble)

Ref D: NSF historians and guests, Global warming history, Research channel. August 20, 2009, 7 PM

Ref E: J. Bonzo, A reading guide to Wendell Berry and the cultivation of life, Brazos Press 2009, Butte Lib 818 Berry

Ref F: W. Berry, The art of the commonplace & agrarian essays, Counterpoint 2002, Butte Lib 630 B.

Ref G: J. Berger, The better to eat you with, Univ. of Chicago press 2008.

Ref H: Bob Ramblow, Solar hot water heating, Mother Earth News book for wise living, New society publishing 2006, Butte Lib 697.78.

Ref I: M. Hazin, Getting smart, Home Power Sep 2009, pp 50-54.

Ref J: K. Larson, off grid converters, Home Power pp 96-103

Ref K: P. O'Neil et-al, Survey of L band ground & airborne soil moisture testing systems relevant to the 2013 soil moisture satellite mission, IEEE Geoscience & remote sensing newsletter June 2009, pp 13-16.

Ref L: A. Llewellyn, Green jobs, a guide to eco-friendly employment, Adams media 2008.

Highlights and commentary:

1. References A, B & C hit hard on the need for appropriate agricultural scale, economics and carbon footprint from a number of viewpoints.
2. Ref D presents in compact /slick form the evidence for global warming effects, causes and mitigation primarily in the eyes of historians of the National Science Foundation.
3. Ref E & F is a wide ranging series of essays and books by a professor at the University of Kentucky dealing primarily with agrarian reform approaches. The material is a slow read but is a

useful resource for framing debate. Topics might include transitions to various forms of communal living and/or joint resource development.

4. Ref G examines issues in animal diversity, predation and land development practices that are likely to drive many Butte County development decisions.
5. Reference H, I and J examine nitty gritty issues in small scale renewable energy associated with minimal energy usage and off-grid operations. E.g. many computer, high efficiency ballasts and oxygen concentrators do not like to see squarish waveforms.
6. Ref K examines the major effort by the federal government to map water resources via satellite. Hopefully Butte County can participate in the optimization of the design for our unique geography and reap the benefits of knowledge generated by newer classes of instrumentation.
7. Ref J is good reference for people looking for relatively high paying jobs in green industries as well as providing the BOS guidance on greasing the skids for growth industries.