

The Hydrogen Economy  
Jeremy Rifkin

These are notes, not a review

The author makes a series of points leading up to the hydrogen bit.

- 1) Between realities.
- 2) Running out of fossil fuels
- 3) Energy and the fall of civilizations -- a bit far-fetched, farm output => slave labor => productivity. Rome, others. Fuel shortage key to beating Germany, Japan
- 4) Fossil fuel era.
  - Gas is fungible with oil
  - Several scenarios for peak, most probable about 2010
  - Sharp rise in price
- 5) Islamist wild card. Oil and Islam argument -- growing minorities, no other work, etc.
- 6) Global meltdown
- 7) Vulnerabilities along the seams. Terror.
- 8) The Dawn of the Hydrogen Economy.
- 9) Reglobalization from the Bottom Up.
  - Decentralized production
  - Generation from electricity - electrolysis
  - Fuel cell cars -- generate for grid at night??? Why not just stick with electricity as the universal exchange. H2 only because it is portable. Generating electricity from H2 is backwards.
  - No mention of nuclear

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