

Solar and Alternative Energy- The Engineering Issues

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The subject of "alternative" or "renewable" energy is one which typically evokes emotive and political responses, and these responses often have higher visibility than the engineering issues.

The case is made that following the second law of thermodynamics, no energy is renewable. An energy "budget" for our globe is presented, in terms of energy income, expenditure, and what is "in the bank"

The presentation then provides a science / engineering overview of possible alternative energy sources, presenting information which can help determine their viability in different situations.

While the presentation is primarily about sources of energy, information on the other two important aspects, storage, and efficiency of use, is presented.