

“Fossil Fuel Depletion, Global Warming & the Solar Energy Solution”  
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The world has been consuming fossil fuels at an accelerating rate since the beginning of the industrial age, and there is growing evidence that the production of all fossil fuels may peak within the lifetime of the children being born today. The relatively rapid consumption of fossil fuels is leading to a concurrent increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. These changes in the atmosphere are in turn creating widespread changes in the global climate. This talk will provide an overview on the depletion of fossil fuels in various parts of the world and will review some of the significant changes that are occurring in the earth's climate. One major concern is that the increase in the melting of the world's glaciers and ice sheets is causing an increase in sea levels that could lead to major dislocations of people and infrastructure within the next century. The only energy source that has the potential to replace fossil fuels and not adversely affect the environment is solar energy, and photovoltaic energy conversion appears to hold the most promise for securing low-cost, high-quality energy for the future.