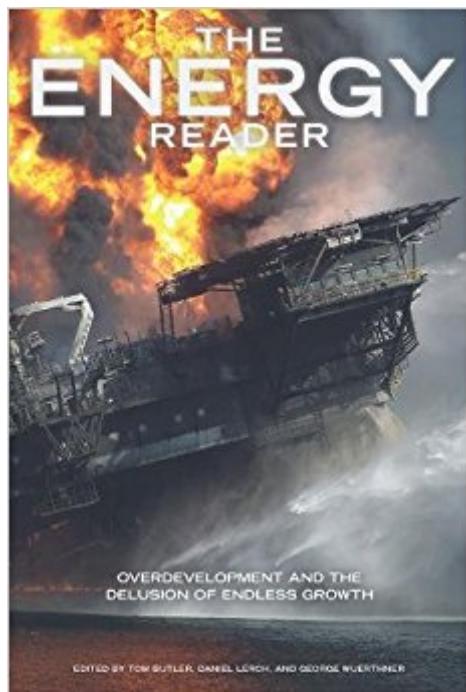


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# The Energy Reader



## Synopsis

The Energy Reader takes an unflinching look at the environmental devastation created by our thirst for energy—including supposedly “clean” renewable sources. From oil spills, nuclear accidents, and mountaintop-removal coal mining to oversized wind farms and desert-destroying solar power plants, virtually every region of the globe is now experiencing the consequences of out-of-control energy development. Essentially no place is sacred, no landscape safe from the relentless search for energy resources to continue powering a culture based on perpetual growth. Precious wildlands, fragile ecosystems, even our own communities and children’s health are at risk. Featuring essays by more than thirty of the most brilliant minds in the fields of energy, society, and ecology, The Energy Reader lifts the veil on the harsh realities of our pursuit of energy at any price, revealing the true costs, benefits, and limitations of all our energy options. Contributors include Wes Jackson, Bill McKibben, Sandra B. Lubarsky, Richard Heinberg, Philip Cafaro, Wendell Berry, Juan Pablo Orrego. Collectively, they offer a wake-up call about the future of energy and what each of us can do to change course. Ultimately, the book offers not only a deep critique of the current system that is toxic to nature and people, but also a hopeful vision for a future energy economy—in which resilience, health, beauty, biodiversity, and durability, not incessant growth, are the organizing principles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tom Butler is an activist and writer whose books include Plundering Appalachia and Wildlands

Philanthropy. George Wuerthner is a photographer and author who has published more than 30 books on America's wild places. As Publications Director of Post Carbon Institute, Daniel Lerch is the lead editor and manager of the Institute's major print publications. Richard Heinberg is a leading thinker on peak oil and the author of many books, including *The Party's Over*, *Powerdown*, and *The End of Growth*.

The authors of this book are quite extreme in their theories on climate and the environment. If you're a green extremist, you'll like it. For those of us who look for a middle ground approach, watch out.

Received timely and brand new, as advertised! Great book for the class I'm taking, although the book seems to have a definite spin to its essays and writings. However... a good spin may be needed to counteract the crazy anti-environment, pro-big-business spin coming out of the current autocracy in Washington DC.

There can be no more important issue than the rapid overheating of our planet with its inevitable droughts, loss of arable land, acidification of the oceans, and massive reduction of land suitable for human agriculture. This book is an important contribution to solving this urgent challenge to human survival, which includes the need to restructure our economic model away from growth and into localized sustainability.

Excellent!

Lots of areas covered - very thorough from that standpoint. Some of the articles are a little preachy, but on the whole it was an informative read.

5 stars because it gives you the important issues through succinct essays that paint the real picture of our energy dilemma.

Very nice read!

Collections of short essays can be good or bad, this one is very good. Lots of good writers and good topics and well organized. A book worth having and referring to often. Not all of the essays are great but most are worth reading. Tom Butler has four other books that he has edited, including one very

good one, Overdevelopment, Overpopulation, Overshoot, and one he has authored. Sometimes short essays fail to provide much information but these are compact and powerful. Lots of meat and useful information for anyone interested in energy and the environment. Butler, Lerch and Wuerthner all have substantial credentials in the environmental movement with the Foundation for Deep Ecology, The Post Carbon Institute and the Northeast Wilderness Trust. We need more great people like them. Other good books and information on energy can be found here: [mwir-energy.blogspot.com](http://mwir-energy.blogspot.com) Midwest Independent Research

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