



# Confronting Collapse: The Crisis of Energy and Money in a Post Peak Oil World: A 25-Point Program for Action

*Michael C. Ruppert*

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**Confronting Collapse: The Crisis of Energy and Money in a Post Peak Oil World: A 25-Point Program for Action** Michael C. Ruppert  
The book that inspired the movie *Collapse*.

The world is running short of energy-especially cheap, easy-to-find oil. Shortages, along with resulting price increases, threaten industrialized civilization, the global economy, and our entire way of life.

In *Confronting Collapse*, author Michael C. Ruppert, a former LAPD narcotics officer turned investigative journalist, details the intricate connections between money and energy, including the ways in which oil shortages and price spikes triggered the economic crash that began in September 2008. Given the 96 percent correlation between economic growth and greenhouse gas emissions and the unlikelihood of economic growth without a spike in energy use, Ruppert argues that we are not, in fact, on the verge of economic recovery, but on the verge of complete collapse.

Ruppert's truth is not merely inconvenient. It is utterly devastating.

But there is still hope. Ruppert outlines a 25-point plan of action, including the creation of a second strategic petroleum reserve for the use of state and local governments, the immediate implementation of a national Feed-in Tariff mandating that electric utilities pay 3 percent above market rates for all surplus electricity generated from renewable sources, a thorough assessment of soil conditions nationwide, and an emergency action plan for soil restoration and sustainable agriculture.

## Confronting Collapse: The Crisis of Energy and Money in a Post Peak Oil World: A 25-Point Program for Action Details

Date : Published January 10th 2010 by Chelsea Green Publishing Company (first published 2009)

ISBN : 9781603582643

Author : Michael C. Ruppert

Format : Paperback 248 pages

Genre : Politics, Nonfiction, Economics, Environment, Peak Oil, Sustainability



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## **From Reader Review Confronting Collapse: The Crisis of Energy and Money in a Post Peak Oil World: A 25-Point Program for Action for online ebook**

### **Tim Segraves says**

Interesting to read a book from 10 years ago about what the near future holds. Ruppert's predictions will mostly come true at some point, we was just wrong on the timeline. Never underestimate civilization's ability to kick the can down the road using debt.

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### **Themistocles says**

To be sure, Ruppert doesn't know how to write very well, or how to suppress his impulses and give a book that is fully documented and explained.

And yet... this is a gripping book, full of shocking ideas and facts. He sometimes fails to explain them thoroughly, and some of what he says are not conclusively proved, but in their core and essence these are powerful notions that I find myself mulling over months after I've read it. It has -dare I say it?- changed the way I see the world, and has given me an ability to see the bigger picture (and I'm scared). Because his 25-point program is also far from perfect (and he knows it), but the problems are there.

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### **Ernie Dawson says**

This is perhaps the most important book I've ever read outside the standard works. Virtually no one (including myself before reading the book) knows what the subtitle of this book means. It basically means we are "past" the peak of oil production and sooner or later "petroleum man" is going to die. As a planet we are not going to be able to continue on as we have in the past. The sub subtitle of the book is "A 25-point program for action. Those who believe that our economy is going to "recover" are living in lala land. I'm no chicken little but that doesn't mean the sky isn't falling. I highly recommend this book. Mormons have the "best" chance of surviving but so many have ignored the Brethren. A few years ago we had two significant publications (pamphlets) which had to do with 1) all is safely gathered in(food storage) and 2) getting out of debt. Nothing more needs to be said.

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### **Ben Belchak says**

I stopped reading this book about halfway through. While the information contained within is very interesting and compelling, the author is arrogant and insulting to his readers. While I am interested in finding out more about peak oil and the economic and societal implications, I can't stand to read another page of Ruppert's egotism and seeming hatred for his readers and/or anyone who doesn't agree 100% with his views.

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## Aaron says

Please read this book. I can't stop thinking about how Michael C. Ruppert, the LAPD investigator-turned-investigative journalist, ends "Confronting Collapse": "Oil can only be used once. What were we thinking?" Excellent question. And what are we thinking now? If our national life is any indication - with its junked cities, sprawling suburban appendages, asinine Pac-Man-like consumption habits and enthrallment with celebrity culture - we certainly haven't been thinking about Ruppert's central - and air-tight - argument: Oil is the bloodstream of the global economy, its production is peaking and if we don't get serious about rescaling our lives and cities and world based on this incontrovertible fact of nature, we are, not to put too fine a point on it, fucked.

In a compact, 226 pages, Ruppert, who accurately predicted the current economic debacle, marches the reader through everything from the Laws of Thermodynamics to the oh-so prescient predictions of M. King Hubbert, the geologist and former oil company scientist who accurately predicted that oil production would peak in America by the early 1970s. Hubbert is very important: He made his prediction, based on careful analysis and number crunching, in 1949. At the time, he was laughed at. He was also absolutely right. Since 1970, America's oil production has been in decline and, ever since, we've steadily become a net oil importer. Currently, we import 70 percent of the oil we need to run things on a daily basis.

There are sparks of egotism in Ruppert's prose. He reminds you that he predicted the current economic debacle, and he makes sure to remind you that his book, "Crossing the Rubicon," about the attacks of 9/11, is standard reading for the folks at Harvard Business School and on the shelves of many other university libraries. But, so fucking what? I don't mind a burst of egotism here and there, as long as it's backed up by evidence and reason and a radical sense that people need to wake up and stop taking things for granted. And, Jesus, does Ruppert do all of that and more.

To read "Collapse" and then to listen to our president talk about "clean coal" technology is to become depressed about our so-called national leadership. I voted for Barack Obama. But his energy policy - if you can call it that - is, with the exception of his talk about solar energy, delusional. Ruppert takes on every alternative source of energy - energy, which enables and powers everything we do in our lives -and debunks all the propaganda spewed by the talking heads on TV and the business flaks about how we're going to run our transportation system on french-fry oil and tar-sand products.

Ruppert says solar power and perhaps tidal energy may help, on regional levels, provide energy people need in their daily lives. But he stresses that there is no large-scale replacement for oil, which powers 90 percent of our transportation and underlies modern agricultural practices, i.e., the oil-based farming that delivers food to our table.

Because there is no substitute (and Ruppert takes on Peak Natural Gas, too) for oil, Rupper calls for a 25-point action plan to rescale our lives and neighborhoods and cities around local farming and public transportation (more people moved per energy unit) and local, finer-grained economies. Ruppert also explains - in a way I've never read before - how energy is the foundation for money. Without energy (without oil), money is meaningless. You can't fill a gas tank with money. You can't fill an airplane with technology. You need fuel, fuel from refined oil. And technology isn't going to solve the problem of an oil shortage. Technology isn't energy. It takes energy to produce technology. So every Alternative 2.0 energy scheme you attempt (biofuels, which Ruppert tears apart as a foolish path toward food shortages, included) will take fossil fuels (i.e., oil, natural gas) to produce, thus exacerbating the Peak Oil problem. If you know you're sliding off a cliff, why would you accelerate the slide? Why wouldn't you move in a different direction? Ruppert's prose is straightforward. The writing is like that of a mid-size newspaper columnist who hasn't given up on people or the idea that explaining big things matter. The book is a breeze to read. The ideas and the arguments aren't a breeze to process, though. Mass die-offs. Societal collapses. Financial ruin. Global

fuck-ups with reverberations for the average American household. Ruppert covers it all. The central argument - that the Cheap Oil Age is over - is irrefutable. Ruppert includes websites to learn more information about how to deal with our energy predicament, he connects the dots and reminds you that even the cheerleaders, including former Fed chairman Alan Greenspan, have said that our murderous war in Iraq, built on so many damn lies, was conducted for the sole purpose of securing future oil supplies.

And do you remember Satan, you know, former Vice President Dick Cheney? And remember how he led that energy panel, the one whose meetings and minutes have twice been challenged to the Supreme Court to have them revealed but that continue to be kept secret from the American people who paid for those meetings and minutes and who have the right to know what was said and what was planned? Ruppert manages to leave little doubt that that Cheney-led panel was about Peak Oil and about how America needed to secure more oil supplies - including by way of war.

I'm still processing Ruppert's book. I plan to go back over it and commit more of it to memory and to try to apply it to my own life. We live in a relatively small house in an old urban neighborhood in Tacoma, so we're not part of oil-supported, Sprawlburg America. But, after reading Ruppert's book, I thoroughly feel like buying a place with a little more land on which to grow food, moving my money and investments into a local community bank, starting an online publication to bring attention to our energy predicament and maybe even looking into precious metals as an investment. As Ruppert points out, the Fed prints money when it needs it. Money is based on nothing. Yet banks loan it, people save it (or spend it) and everyone takes it for granted. When the energy underpinnings fall out, what will you have in your wallet?

Again, please read this book.

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NOTE: I stand by my five-star rating, although I will say that this version of the book - apparently rushed out because Ruppert has gained attention as the subject of a new documentary film, "Collapse," - contains one too many copy errors for my taste. Nevertheless, the book, in whatever edition, is extremely relevant and very readable.

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### **Liz says**

I can't give this anything but 5 stars. He talks about a world that is dealing with the increasing costs of fossil fuels to power our technology. To "get" this book, you have to accept the premise that fossil fuels are a limited resource as are all resources. Then you have to accept the fact that new methods of extracting energy such as tar sands or shale or drilling in the Arctic (signs that we have already passed peak oil production) are not cost effective because they are more energy consuming to get the energy and despoils fresh water to get it- another limited natural resource necessary for life. It goes on from there documenting issues like transportation, population, infrastructure, and alternative energy sources. A must read for those who care about the kind of world our children and grandchildren will inherit. The book ends with 25 steps to take to transition into a culture less dependent on oil.

He uses the analogy of being on the Titanic for running into the end of the iceberg of cheap energy- there are 3 types of people today the same as on the Titanic- those who run around shaking their heads saying what do we do, what do we do? Another group who says "Iceberg? so what. This ship is unsinkable and go back to the bar. And the final group that says, Iceberg- not good. I may know how to build a life raft....do you want to learn? The book challenges people to decide which group they want to join.

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## **John says**

This is an interesting, and compelling case that we've reached the point where oil production will inevitably decline, having reached peak production several years ago. The ramifications of this argument are frightening. It stands to reason that there is a finite quantity of oil on planet earth, and Ruppert warns his readers to prepare for a bleak future.

Oil will become increasingly expensive and in short supply--such that the lifestyle we Americans have grown accustomed to will become a relic. Life will become more difficult for all, and many will die due to starvation as the lack of oil will have a deep impact across all aspects of our life including food production and transportation.

The idea of peak oil is a troublesome one and has no easy answers, as Ruppert testifies. As a Christian I hold a much different world view than the author, and it is clear that his worldview leaves no room for providence in the lives of men. While I believe that God could judge us through the lack of carbon-based fuels, I do not believe he would abandon us to the sort of apocalypse that Ruppert says is coming if we don't start planning immediately.

God is faithful. There is great hope in that. Yet that does not mean that we will be immune to something similar to the plagues of the Middle Ages. Those happened, and why should we believe something of similar magnitude will not happen to our generation?

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## **Amy says**

This is sobering stuff. It's no coincidence I read "Parisian Chic" in tandem with it; sometimes you need a break from the realities of our oil-dependent society and its imminent collapse. So, when the end comes, everyone can come over to our place for an effortlessly elegant dinner party and a discussion of the best places to buy cashmere in Paris.

Seriously, I could call Michael Ruppert a visionary, but he is only stating facts about our oil consumption (unsustainable), food production (unsustainable, too) and system of worthless currency (guess what?). Ruppert says we've passed the tipping point for getting out of this mess without something ominously called a "die-off," but he outlines a comprehensive and thoughtful 25-point plan that could mitigate the damage.

Ruppert made a movie of this book which is streamable through Netflix. The movie has a slight advantage over the book because Ruppert gives advice about how to prepare yourself for the new world order, which he does not address in the book. However, the book fleshes out many of the concepts only briefly covered in the movie.

Ruppert's personal story ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael\\_Ruppert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Ruppert)) is worth a read, too.

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## **Allen McDonnell says**

### **Pessimistic and unscientific**

I had read many books about the energy crisis and have learned to first and foremost review what they have to say about Nuclear Energy. The majority of them fall into the trap of repeating anti-nuclear advocate rhetoric rather than actually looking at the science and engineering available for the topic. Unfortunately this book falls into that same trap glibly repeating the misstatements or outright fabrications of those politically opposed to nuclear energy.

This book was written and released during the transition from the Bush to the Obama eras of national leadership in the USA and most of the gloomiest predictions in it have been delayed by the oil fracking revolution. Whether this delay is short or long term it is indeed only a delay. Finite resources sooner or later are depleted away and infinite growth is only possible with infinite resources, something which does not exist. Thus some of the gloomy predictions in this book may still take place, we just have no way of predicting when. Prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

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### **Nadir says**

While I'm only rating this \*book\* three stars, the -issues- it raises are EASILY five-star (or higher) in importance. Everyone should familiarize themselves with the Collapse documentary and the concepts of Peak Oil/Peak Energy and how they interface with our monetary system.

In an interview on the "Collapse" DVD Ruppert says there is more "hope" or more in the way of solutions offered in this book (i.e. as compared to the film which leaves you feeling somewhat hopeless). I found the book interesting to read but the section on "solutions" read like "If I were King for a day" fantasy - stating how existing governments should change and how new laws should be passed that would radically alter the political and economic landscape.

While one could make the argument that he's right or wrong in these suggestions, the simple truth is that they are too radical and far reaching at this point in time and would handily be sent down to defeat by short-sighted money grubbing corporations and politicians. In that sense, they aren't solutions at all. The solutions we need to explore are the ones we can actually impose \*in\*spite\*of\*those\*cretins. To me these are personal and local in nature because they require the least input from others - they typically only require \*us\* to act, not politicians, and not corporations.

If you have \*any\* interest in this subject, I suggest watching the video-series on ChrisMartenson.com - they tell the story in an easy-to-follow format, but with sufficient depth that you truly "get it" when you're done. At that point, you'll be armed with the knowledge of WHAT is coming (though not WHEN) and you'll have the opportunity to decide what you're going to do about it.

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### **James says**

This book is a mixed bag,  
Much of what he says is true, I already knew about it, and others said it better.

Peak oil, soil erosion, the real cost of ethanol, hydrogen and other alt energy sources.

the general tone of the book is sarcastic rant,

which I could live without.

Also he says the occasional stupid thing,  
Like who owns the FED?  
Why a collection of jews and the Bush family, of course!

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### **Bakari says**

One of the best reasons for moving toward a resource-based economy is that it will enable the entire world to maximize and better use vital energy resources, which have been largely been misused irresponsibly worldwide by greedy corporations and lack of real planning.

If you're seeking downright clarity and insight on the peak oil crisis that so many politicians and the corporate media keep trying to deny or mislead us about, do yourself a favor and read Michael C. Ruppert's *Confronting Collapse: the Crisis of Energy and Money in a Post Peak Oil World*.

Ruppert is a muckraker—not a name dropper, but a independent and honest journalist who wants us to wake up to the perils of the peak oil crisis. He argues and proves—though he shouldn't have to—that non-renewable energy resources are depleting because of natural scarcity, and more importantly because of the choices we, especially energy-producing corporations, have made and are making in how we use these resources.

Most people are not educated about the energy crisis. While we feel the oil shortages and demands at the gas pump, far too many of us are ignorant of how dependent we have become on natural energy sources.

Ruppert informs his readers that not only does 7 gallons of oil go into the production of each and every tire on the road, but that oil is used for all plastic items we purchase, pharmaceuticals, the food we buy in the stores and eat in restaurants, and even the gas tanks to power our backyard barbecue. Ruppert makes it clear that "energy, not money, is the root of all economic activity." Just because we're willing to pay more at the gas pump doesn't mean we can head off the peak oil crisis. We can't buy what's no longer there. At some point it does dry up. But it is scarcity and market demands that contribute to the negative effects on the world economy. We're just too ignorant and busy to fully appreciate the impact of the crisis.

The United States uses and consumes 25% of the world's energy resources, though it only makes up 5% of the world population. When you are reminded that "60% of the known oil resources of the planet is in the Middle East," and how long the U.S. been dependent on the oil from that part of the world, then it's not hard to figure why there is so much conflict between the U.S. and the oil producing world.

It's troubling to read *Confronting Collapse* because Ruppert can't pretend, like the politicians and corporate media do, that there are viable solutions to the problem. You may be surprised and dismayed by how Ruppert explains that the long cherished energy resources we thought would be an answer to the oil depletion are not as viable as we think. Solar, wind, and tidal energy, "clean coal" (which there is no such thing) natural gas, ethanol, and hydrogen-powered vehicles not only depend on oil and other energy

resources to get produced, they don't, not even collectively, make a dint in the energy demands of the entire planet.

At this point, if you're still wondering what is the point of the Confronting Collapse, here it is in a nutshell: "The term 'sustainable growth,' is the quintessential oxymoron. Those expecting to get repaid can only do so if there is a continuous stream of new borrowing (i.e. growth) at the bottom. Those at the bottom can only make payments if they grow, and they will only make money if people buy their products or services—frequently by borrowing...and infinitum. Until there is no more energy."

The economic paradigm has to change because the one that exist today encourages and sustains greed, waste, division, selfishness, and even violent structural corruption. In the present economic order, the monetary system is the root of all evil in the world. It's responsible for causing people to commit murder for money, steal, rob, and lie to make a buck, or millions of dollars.

Towards the end of his book, Ruppert boldly claims, "As short as this book may be—as flawed as some will find it—I know that it is far superior to any plan that has been articulated anywhere, or anything that Barack Obama has moved on since his inauguration." He's absolutely right, and this critique doesn't even just apply to Obama, but to most politicians who simply don't have a clue or just not honest enough to confront the energy crisis in ways that it needs to be approached.

Ruppert is not a politician. He's not getting rich off of his pronouncements and projections about depletion of energy resources, so you owe it yourself to consider his analysis just as much or even more than listening to corporate media that has too much investment in energy resources to seriously report about the crisis we're facing.

For those of you who watched Joseph Peter's *Zeitgeist Movement: Moving Forward*, you might remember that Ruppert was one extensively interviewed by Peters. *Confronting Crisis* is a powerful companion to the *Moving Forward* video.

By Bakari—TZM member

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### **Crabby McGrouchpants says**

Too many processes, running down, simultaneously; if you've read William Gibson's description of "The Jackpot" in his *The Peripheral*, you'll stop thanking Romero rip-offs for showing us "the world we live in" and start to fret, quite in earnest, about whom the *real* truth-tellers of our modern-era are, and whether they're being heeded. Ruppert's take on things is too borne out, too collaborated-on, and too steeped in years' experience to be the lone rantings of some guy in a basement (as the film version, unfortunately, might have led some lazy-hipster reviewers to all-too-easily dismiss as). If he's not the only person you've heard of (James Kunstler comes to mind, and is cited in the text) as pointing his finger in this direction, this book'll go over like a load of bricks; whether it stays with you or gets shrugged off is your choice. Highly, highly recommended — particularly if you *intend* to just squeeze it in between your other readings.

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### **Justin says**

I first learned of Mike Ruppert through a chilling trailer for his then upcoming movie, Collapse. Ruppert has a long history as an investigative journalist that began when he broke away from the mainstream after his excellence in the LA police led him to be actively recruited by the CIA for running cocaine through South-Central LA. Ruppert realized this wasn't the world he'd pledged to serve and tried to break the story only to find that the systems he was working to support were quite different from how we perceive them in the mainstream. I went to the Vancouver International Film Centre with a few friends for a screening of Collapse only to have my tentative notions of civilizational instability confirmed in a tour de force of face melting facts. I quickly got a hold of Ruppert's latest book, A Presidential Energy Policy, which had been re-printed as, Confronting Collapse to draw more attention to the work which had been largely ignored. Explaining bad news is not a route to popular success, as witnessed by the rapid end to careers of any American politician over the last 20 years that tried to curb deficits by cutting spending or raising taxes.

Confronting Collapse is a far better introduction to the topic of Collapse for the lay person than the corresponding movie is. And I say that because it is possibly too easy to write off Ruppert as a crank and a lunatic on-screen when he's talking about governments breaking down and a global population that might face a huge die-off. This is so far outside the mainstream narrative that most people who aren't receptive to it will completely block it out. It is much harder to ignore the case Ruppert makes for industrial civilization's collapse when it is nicely footnoted and indexed. Ruppert's writing style is absolutely clear and accessible to someone that isn't a technically adept reader but might come across as "arrogant" for someone unwilling to look at the evidence. Modern economists counter the claims of the Peak Oil/Collapse theorists by saying that market corrections will solve the problem, Ruppert clearly explains that the only market corrections available will be in the form of tremendous suffering and loss of human life.

In the book, Dr. Colin Campbell sets the stage by discussing the short time humanity has had access to energy dense petroleum reserves (only about 150 years). Ruppert uses the first chapter to make the case on why the US Federal government might keep the severity of the energy supply situation confidential and why we might question the status quo on this issue, "if we were lied to about mortgages, 401(k)s, stock portfolios, hedge funds, derivatives, insider trading... the invasion of Iraq and torture... why do so many accept on faith everything we have been sold about energy?"

Ruppert is clear that he views the entire American political and economic system as broken and corrupt and subservient to corporate/financial interests. This is something that neither Barack Obama or John McCain were willing to confront in their naive energy policies and political solutions. Thus the reason no real leadership exists and America/The World might be headed off a very steep and disturbing cliff in the near future. This assumption might lose some readers right away but if you read further, you can see why Ruppert has reached these conclusions.

The case for collapse is made by Ruppert in his connection between the financial system and oil supplies/energy flows. Growth of this economic system is impossible because recent oil reserve discoveries (they are all in hard to reach places like 6 miles under the ocean) do little more than confirm the fact that extraction rates of oil supplies will continue to rapidly decline, leading to a quick and painful dissolution of the mechanisms of modern society. If our infrastructure was able to handle such a decentralization, America would be in better shape, but Ruppert destroys that myth by dissecting and reporting facts regarding global oil and gas infrastructure (\$22 trillion in investment needed by 2030 to support the global energy-supply infrastructure), the electric distribution grid (coal supplies need oil for extraction), roads and bridges (a \$1.6 trillion investment needed to avoid bridges collapsing), an over-reliance of commuting (asphalt prices and their tie to oil, impact of driving on economic growth in America) and the alternative energy infrastructure (which does not and will not exist).

For Ruppert, Iraq is confirmation that the US government knows what is about to happen to global energy supplies, if we are fighting over the scraps of the remaining global oil fields that isn't good news. Since Obama hasn't even begun to withdraw from Iraq or Afghanistan supports this notion. By the time Mike Ruppert ties together the dependence of our food system on cheap petroleum (10 calories of petroleum for every calorie of food, not counting for transport), the case he's making for a major reshuffling of society is clear... but you are only halfway through the book.

He continues by detailing how we should evaluate alternative energy solutions, that we should focus on how much energy we get out based on how much energy we put in and then completes this point by discussing why none of the available alternatives (solar, wind, tidal, etc...; all ranging from 3 barrels of oil energy equivalent for every one barrel of oil equivalent that we put in or 3:1 net energy) can match the net energy of oil (200:1 in 1900 and now 50:1 in 2009). But there is an alternative that works: localization. When everything requires tremendous energy inputs to bring it to you from far away, the most straightforward response is to make something and use it locally. This is where electricity sources like solar PV panels and mini-wind turbines can help.

Ruppert closes out the book with a realistic assessment of money and how it will respond to oil depletion, our system of fiat currency and fractional reserve banking has only existed since the late 1960s because of rapid oil extraction. This is where Ruppert's book shines as he lays out a 25 point plan for creating stability in the face of oil extraction rate depletion. His solutions would build local resilience and quickly reduce oil consumption if implemented on a Federal or even local level. Sadly, none of these solutions are being considered at a national level in the US because the paradigm is still so focused on solutions for growth that it ignores solutions for managed contraction. Only one of these 25 approaches is being considered by California, and that's the legalization of marijuana which could lead to practical hemp production offsetting the need for many petroleum intensive fabrics and materials.

If Ruppert makes one mistake, it is that he appears to assume the rest of the world will follow the United States down the drain, while collapse for the US appears inevitable, the social fabric in other nations may be able to withstand the challenges of the oil age much better.

So in summary, Ruppert's claim is that the monetary system, supported by ever expanding supplies in oil will collapse bringing down the system of globalization and the failing infrastructure and weak communities of the US will lead to a long period of civil unrest.

Regardless of your preconceived notions, Ruppert's book is filled with clear concise charts, graphs, news articles and summaries which outline the magnitude of our current global predicament. I'm not completely sold on the concept of collapse, I think societies tend to seek out equilibrium in the face of dire circumstances. However, complex civilizations have fallen apart when energy sources were no longer accessible (see Ancient Rome and peak wood supplies). What is inevitable is that business as usual cannot and will not continue in the face of physical constraints imposed by reality. It is truly disappointing to see the citizens of North America, and specifically the leadership of its nations, completely unwilling to acknowledge the magnitude of these problems.

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## No says

Another book you need to sift through the BS with, and look up and research statistics on your own because a ton of important things are not sourced. I also think the author has tunnel vision since this is most of his

life's work and is mainly on the subject of peak oil. He also seems to have to much hope in people and the government, which isn't a bad thing because I guess someone should, but I'm not one of them. Those being the negatives, the positive is that I learned a lot of things from the book that I wasn't aware of before. He is also right on with the monetary system, saying its the major source of a ton of problems within the world and the American Empire, although he mentions names but doesn't point out the fact that they are all Jews, either another man to afraid to admit it or still blind, who knows. Also mentioned is the huge importance of self-sufficient living.

#### Notes & Quotes:

"Today the United States imports around 70% of the oil it needs to function on a daily basis." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.04)

"It is now legal for a privately owned Arizona power company to sell off natural gas to another power company in, say, Colorado or California just as a killer heat wave strikes the Southwest. Under a profit mandate this scenario is almost certain to occur, and people will die as a result." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.48-49)

"...why has the United States embarked on one of the most massive road building campaigns in history? This includes the construction of massive NAFTA Superhighways so that tomatoes can be trucked from Mexico to Canada and Canadian wood products can be driven to Mexico." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.55)

"As of July 2008 America's top five oil suppliers are (in order): Canada, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Iraq." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.69)

"...for sustainability, global population will have to be reduced from the current 6.32 billion people to 2 billion - a reduction of 68% or over two-thirds. The end of this decade could see spiraling food prices without relief. And the coming decade could see massive starvation on a global level such as never experienced before by the human race." - Dale Allen Pfeiffer (Eating Fossil Fuels, Pg.95)

#### Spray-on "Solar Film" (?)

"One of his (Julian Darley, London energy analyst) major focuses is to assist communities in relocalizing to move towards self-sufficiency in preparation for the energy-induced collapse that is already underway." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.122)

"Coal-fired power plants are the number-one user of fresh water in the country. They require 21 gallons of fresh water for each Kilowatt hour (kWh) of energy produced." - Unknown (University of Texas at Austin, professor, Pg.125)

Documentary Video: The Power of Community - How Cuba Survived Peak Oil [2005]  
(<http://www.communitysolution.org>)

[www.willitseconomiclocalization.org](http://www.willitseconomiclocalization.org)

"When this planet was created, it was given certain laws to govern it, which are definitely "bigger" than mankind. Any way you define it, that is God, because these laws are more powerful than we are as humans. Scientific laws do not change because of mankind's influence - or demands. Gravity will always be gravity

and the Laws of Thermodynamics will not reverse because we might wish it so." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.146)

"A Feed-in Tariff or (FiT) is a national law that provides that those who install any kind of renewable electrical generating system (solar or wind) which produces more electricity than is consumed on site may sell the surplus back to the grid at above-market rates." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.161)

Proactive Preemptive Operating Group (P2OG) preemptively attacks suspect groups ([LINK?](#))

"A return to \$1 gasoline would be tantamount to giving a heroin addict a massive dose while trying to clean him up. It would only reaffirm and more deeply entrench the addiction." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.177)

"The rationing system then was that civilian cars with even or odd license plate numbers could purchase limited amounts of gasoline only on even or odd days." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.179) (in Los Angeles when the 73 "Arab Embargo" hit.)

"I pray also that we do not see a second Civil War." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.189)

"Let us decide now not to go the way of Ancient Rome, which had legions scattered over the known world as Rome itself was sacked. The chances of America being invaded militarily are slim to none. There is no need. We are being economically looted and ransacked from within, by our own monetary system." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.211)

"(both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were written on hemp paper)"

"In 1972 when Richard Nixon declared "War on Drugs," the annual federal budget allocation was around \$50 million. Today the annual budget exceeds \$20 billion and yet there are more drugs on the street, they are better quality and they are less expensive than they were in 1972." - Joseph Macnamara (Chief of the San Jose Police Department, 1999 symposium on CIA involvement in the drug trade, Pg.213)

"There were only about two billion of us here before oil. There are almost seven billion of us today. Failing to address this single, overriding issue may result in the extinction of the entire species because, if we do not address this as a whole, it will be addressed for us by chaos, war, famine, disease, societal breakdown, collapse and very possibly nuclear war." - Michael C. Ruppert (Confronting Collapse, Pg.214)

"The love of money is the root of all evil." - Timothy 6:10

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