

The Sites Reservoir- How it will look. https://glenncounty.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\_id=9&clip\_id=1701&meta\_id=163332

# California Water and Infrastructure Report For November 16, 2023

(With expanded coverage of all the Western States) by Patrick Ruckert

Published weekly since July, 2014 An archive of all these weekly reports can be found at both links below:

http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org

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www.californiadroughtupdate.org/20230803-California-Water-and-Infrastructure-Report.pdf

# A Note to Readers

Following this week's U.S. Drought Monitor's map for California, is an article on California water storage, highlighting the fight to raise Shasta Dam.

The Sites Reservoir, almost fully approved now, has been put on a fast-tracked permitting schedule, bypassing and accelerating any court challenges.

Then more follow-up on "The Silicon Valley zillionaires getting a few more kicks in the teeth from Solano County."

On the Colorado River, the Bureau of Reclamation reports that Lake Mead will be down to 1,040.77 feet in September 2025. That's nearly a foot lower than Lake Mead was on July 27, 2022 — and the lowest the lake has been since it was filled in the 1930s. The lake is presently at 1,064.70 feet — 34% full.

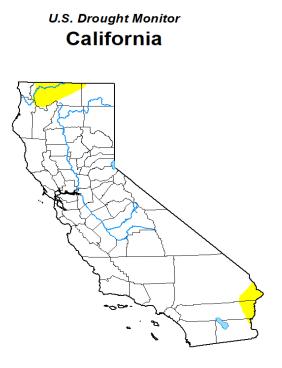
The **Feature** this week concludes with an article by my associate Robert Ingraham: "A Month of Satanic Oligarchical Conspiracies." The zero carbon emissions cult threatens the entire human race, but there is an alternative. Here is an excerpt from the conclusion of the article:

"It must be faced—even if the implications are terrifying—that the most powerful political, financial, religious and cultural institutions in nations throughout the world are now under the control of people who have defined Man as a destructive force in the universe. This is blatantly the case in Europe and North America, but we have reached a point where this sickness is no longer limited to the "advanced" nations. The oligarchs proclaim: "Mankind is destroying the planet through our greed and sinful appetites. It is in our nature." Human upward progress, human creativity, higher rates of what Lyndon LaRouche called Potential Relative Population Density—which can be achieved only through increased human consumption, increased energy usage and new scientific breakthroughs—have been defined as evil by the oligarchical elite. A cultural evil which is to be eradicated.

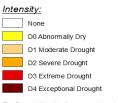
"Despite Pope Francis' pessimism, we must proclaim, "We are human beings made in the image of the Creator. We contain within us the spark of Prometheus. We can build thousands of fossil fuel and nuclear power plants. We can develop fusion energy. We can move rivers, turn the deserts green and provide every human with a protein-rich diet. We can explore and colonize the solar system. We can unlock the secrets of the universe. This is not arrogance. It is what God intended for us."

"We live within the pale of oligarchism. We must break out. We must shatter the oligarchical culture. We must proclaim the as yet unrealized potentials of the future. We bequeath that to our posterity as our gift."

### **U.S. Drought Monitor** California



November 14, 2023 (Released Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023) Valid 7 a.m. EST



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

<u>Author:</u> Brad Rippey U.S. Department of Agriculture



### The West

Aside from modest improvements in the Northwestern drought situation, there were few changes in the depiction. Despite the recent Northwestern precipitation, some interior agricultural areas remained dry, with topsoil moisture rated (on November 12, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture) 55% very short to short in Washington, along with 41% in Oregon.

In addition, more than one-quarter (29%) of Oregon's winter wheat was rated in very poor to poor condition on that date.

Farther south, New Mexico led the region on November 12 with topsoil moisture rated 75% very short to short, despite patchy precipitation during the drought-monitoring period.

# Water Storage Becomes a Fight in California

### Where's our water? A look at California's storage problem

by William Silverstein, Eyewitness News

Wed, November 15th 2023, 5:45 PM PST <u>https://bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/wheres-our-water-a-look-at-californias-storage-problem</u>

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. --- (KBAK/FOX58) In 2014, California voters passed a <u>proposition</u> using \$7.5 billion dollars in state funds to expand water storage capacity. Nearly 10 years later, people say not much has come from the vote. The main focus on their minds is the failure to expand <u>Shasta Dam</u>.

Kern County Congressman David Valadao (R-CA) has authored <u>legislation</u> that makes it easier for Shasta to receive federal funding.

"The goal is to make as much capacity as we possibly can and in those very, very wet years [and] capture as much water as we possibly can," Valadao said. "Then, help sustain our communities, our farms and our state through those dry periods."

So what's the problem with raising the dam? Jon Rosenfield, Science Director at San Francisco Baykeeper, says a whole lot.

"Raising that dam is going to have negative impacts," Rosenfield said.

First, Rosenfield suggests that California has too many water deliveries to hold significant reserves that an expanded Shasta Dam would collect. (So, this guy thinks that too much storage is a problem? Of course, elsewhere he is a proponent of removing all dams on all the rivers. PR)

"When there is water to use, it will get used," Rosenfield said. "There are more water rights, rights to divert water than there is water. You are not going to have it in reserve."

Valadao firmly believes that more water storage leads to less problems.

"The idea that we are going to use 100% of the capacity every year is someone who has not lived in California very long," Valadao said. "All I am trying to do is make sure the most affordable water storage project in the State of California is eligible to compete for those [federal] dollars."

Northern California Congressman Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) agrees with Valadao. He said he sees similar issues in his district with Lake Oroville.

# The Sites Reservoir -- Now on its Way to be Built

Sites Reservoir Project Offstream Water Storage North of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta



The Sites Reservoir- How it will look. https://glenncounty.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\_id=9&clip\_id=1701&meta\_id=163332

### Sites Reservoir Project Certified for 'Cutting Red Tape'

November 13, 2023 <u>Agri-Business</u>, <u>Water</u>

https://agnetwest.com/sites-reservoir-project-certified-for-cutting-red-tape/

The Sites Reservoir Project has been certified by Governor Gavin Newsom as being an eligible project under Senate Bill 149. Signed by Governor Newsom earlier in the year, the legislation seeks to avoid costly and time-consuming litigation delays related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If ultimately approved, the project would establish an additional 1.5 million acre-feet of water storage capacity. Qualifying the Sites Reservoir Project under SB 149 means that CEQA challenges will need to be decided within 270 days, if feasible.

"We're cutting red tape to build more faster," Newsom <u>said in a press release</u>. "These are projects that will address our state's biggest challenges faster, and the Sites Reservoir is fully representative of that goal."

The Sites Reservoir Project has thus far received \$46.75 million in early funding from the state. Sites is eligible for a total of \$875.4 million of Proposition 1 funding. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Sites Project Authority <u>recently finalized</u> the Environmental Impact Review and Environmental Impact Statement for the project. The report includes updates to the earlier impact statements along with responses to comments received during the review period. Officials have noted that the final environmental document will be considered for certification at the November 17 Board Meeting.

### AG ALERT: Sites Reservoir on fast track for final legal green light

<u>Ag Alert</u> <u>News and Features</u> November 15, 2023<u>0</u> 98 *By Caleb Hampton, Ag Alert* 

#### https://mavensnotebook.com/2023/11/15/ag-alert-sites-reservoir-on-fast-track-for-final-legal-greenlight/

After decades of discussions and delays, a major new reservoir in Northern California is close to becoming reality.

Last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom certified the Sites Reservoir project to be fast-tracked for construction, exercising for the first time his power under a new state law to streamline the process to break ground on infrastructure projects.

The reservoir, estimated to cost \$4.5 billion and hold 1.5 million acre-feet of water, would be the first major reservoir built in California in almost half a century.

It would be located about 80 miles northwest of Sacramento on ranchlands in Colusa and Glenn counties.

The first plans for Sites Reservoir were drawn up more than 40 years ago.

On Nov. 2, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation released its environmental impact report and statement for Sites Reservoir, finalizing plans for the project and opening it to legal challenges that would now be subject to California's new time limits on litigation.

"We are proud to support projects that will provide operational flexibility and more reliable water delivery to benefit farms, communities and the environment," Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton said in a statement.

The off-stream storage facility, set to become the eighth-largest reservoir in the state, would not sit on a waterway but would have water piped into it from the Sacramento River.

The reservoir would increase Northern California's water storage capacity by up to 15% and boost water supplies for 24 million people, mostly in Southern California, and a half-million acres of farmland in the Central Valley. It would also store water that could be used for environmental purposes.

Construction of the reservoir is expected to begin within the next two years and be completed around 2030 or 2031.

### The Silicon Valley Zillionaires Get a Few More Kicks in the Teeth from Solano County

This Silicon Valley Company Says It's Bringing Back "The California Dream." Others Think It's a Sketchy Land Grab

California Forever's backers say they're trying to build a new, walkable city of the future in a remote region northeast of San Francisco, but they've faced resistance from residents, politicians, and local agencies who believe the project might actually have more nefarious motives.

By Kenadee Mangus

Published on 11/15/2023 at 5:21 PM

 $\underline{https://nowthisnews.com/news/this-silicon-valley-company-says-its-bringing-back-the-california-dream-others-think-its-a}$ 

Since 2018, Flannery Associates LLC, a subsidiary of a mysterious entity known as California Forever, has been <u>engaged in a secretive and prolonged campaign</u> to buy more than 50,000 acres of land, totaling \$800 million, in Solano County, CA.

In May, the company filed a <u>\$510 million lawsuit</u> against local landowners for antitrust violations. A Flannery spokesperson said that a group of hold-out locals conspired to fix prices well above "fair market value." That suit has since been dropped.

Earlier this month, <u>Solano County's water agency elected to straight up stop</u> engaging in conversations with California Forever, after the company asked them to study ways to bring water to the proposed town. Residents filled the board meeting about the water, where they made their opposition clear. "I mostly am going to listen to our citizens and our citizens right now don't want anything to do with them," said Fairfield Mayor Catherine Moy last week.

Tech reporter Adam Rogers<u>e viscerated the plans</u> on California Forever's website in a piece for Insider back in September, calling them "really terrible." The company's CEO Jan Sramek said more comprehensive plans are coming early next year, after they receive community feedback.

Even if California Forever's grand vision for a new community is entirely on the level, <u>architect Dan</u> <u>Parolek</u> told Insider that it's much more likely to devolve into your garden-variety suburb than it is to become a shining city of the future. "There's just such a momentum and it's so much easier to deliver [a suburb]," he said. "Trying to get a builder or developer to build something more urban in a historically suburban or rural environment is really, really hard."

### What would a new Solano County city mean for Vallejo?

#### California Forever promises high-paying jobs; officials question company's approach

*By* <u>Daniel Egitto</u> | <u>degitto@timesheraldonline.com</u> PUBLISHED: November 11, 2023 at 10:33 a.m. | UPDATED: November 11, 2023 at 1:22 p.m. <u>https://www.timesheraldonline.com/2023/11/11/what-would-a-new-solano-county-city-mean-for-vallejo/</u>

# The Colorado River

### Lake Mead dropping to new low in 2025, projections show

#### by: Greg Haas

Posted: Nov 15, 2023 / 06:30 PM PST

Updated: Nov 15, 2023 / 06:36 PM PST

https://www.8newsnow.com/news/local-news/lake-mead-dropping-to-new-low-in-2025-projections-show/

LAS VEGAS (KLAS) — A month ago, predictions for Lake Mead's future were reassuring. Now, the federal government is forecasting the lake will drop to a new low in less than two years.

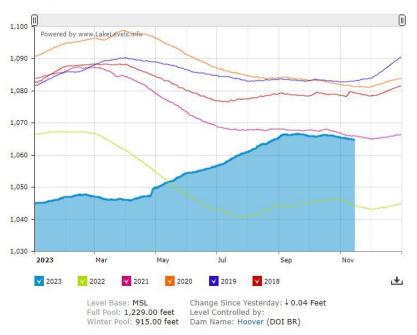
A "most probable" report released Wednesday by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation predicts the lake will be down to 1,040.77 feet in September 2025. That's nearly a foot lower than Lake Mead was on July

27, 2022 — and the lowest the lake has been since it was filled in the 1930s.

It's a difference of about 20 feet. Last month, Lake Mead was expected to get to 1,060.23 feet in September 2025. Now that number is 1,040.77 feet.

Time for doom and gloom? Maybe not.

It appears that Reclamation plans to hold that water in Lake Powell instead. Despite some suggestions that the government should pull the plug on Glen Canyon Dam and just keep the water in Lake Mead, it looks like the opposite is happening.



Today, Lake Mead is at 1,064.70 feet — 34% full.

The wet winter allowed Reclamation to rebuild levels at Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the U.S., and also at Lake Powell, the second-largest. Lake Powell is currently 37% full.

### Feature: Really, What is All the Fuss About?

First an hysterical report from the White House that the sky is falling. That is followed by how the green energy industry is financially collapsing even faster than the CO2 level is rising, plus warnings that it can never provide the power for a zero-carbon future.

These two articles lead into the guts of the matter, with my colleague Robert Ingraham's block buster article: "A Month of Satanic Oligarchical Conspiracies."

A provocative title? Yes, but unless you provoke, you do not get people to think.

### 'Every bit matters': Six key takeaways from the latest U.S. climate report

Hayley Smith, Ian James Tue, November 14, 2023 at 2:00 AM PST·13 min read https://news.yahoo.com/every-bit-matters-six-key-100052698.html The dire effects of human-caused climate change are worsening and they threaten to bring more extreme heat waves, droughts, floods and wildfires unless urgent actions are taken, scientists warned in a major national report.

The <u>Fifth National Climate Change Assessment</u>, released Tuesday by the White House, reveals the high stakes for Americans as the nation confronts global warming. Efforts to adapt to climate change and curb the burning of fossil fuels have expanded since the last assessment was issued in 2018, the report says, but "without deeper cuts in global net greenhouse gas emissions and accelerated adaptation efforts, severe climate risks to the United States will continue to grow."

In California and the Southwest, increasing temperatures have intensified drought and will lead to a more arid future, while extreme heat will harm crop production and bring widespread economic impacts. However, report authors also wrote that action to prevent additional heating of the planet will bring major benefits by lessening the severity of the changes.

"This report says every 10th of a degree of warming matters. Every bit matters," said Katharine Hayhoe, chief scientist for the Nature Conservancy and one of the authors. "It clearly shows that per 10th of a degree of avoided warming, we save, we prevent risk, we prevent suffering. And that's pretty powerful."

The report addresses the environmental, economic and human-health impacts of a changing planet, and contains contributions from more than 700 experts and scientists. Here are six takeaways:

# Expert warns green energy projects 'are not worth it' as prices spiral 'out of control'

#### Green energy stock prices 'crushed,' companies cancel projects

By Kristen Altus FOXBusiness

#### https://www.foxbusiness.com/energy/expert-warns-green-energy-projects-not-worth-pricesspiral-control

One market expert has added on to many Republican lawmakers' concerns over the transition to a green energy agenda.

"We just had Ørsted come out today and say they're canceling their Norway project just after they canceled their two U.S. projects because costs are spiraling out of control. So these projects are just not worth it," Hilltower Resource Advisors founder and CEO Tracy Shuchart said on "<u>Making Money with</u> <u>Charles Payne</u>" Monday.

Shuchart referenced the <u>Denmark-based offshore wind company</u> which announced Tuesday that its chief operations and finance officers were stepping down after significant losses, Reuters reported.

Ørsted specifically noted rising inflation, interest rates and supply chain delays as main causes for the switch up, while other green energy producers and stocks have found themselves in the red overall this year.

'Barron's Roundtable' panelists discuss what's behind the selloff and what investing opportunities still exist.

The plummeting stocks and bust of renewable energy projects come as The North American Electric Reliability Corp. (NERC) reported in its annual Winter Reliability Assessment that, for the first time in

its 55-year history, energy policy is <u>one of the top threats</u> to the U.S. power grid due to the Biden administration's green agenda.

Additionally, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) said the key factors contributing to the risk are increasing demand for electricity to power things <u>like electric vehicles</u>, decreasing generation due to the premature closures of coal and gas-fired power plants, and permitting delays that prevent new infrastructure from being built and connected to the grid.

# A Month of Satanic Oligarchical Conspiracies

By <u>Robert Ingraham</u> November 15, 2023

https://www.larouchepac.com/a month of satanic oligarchical conspiracies



Belshazzar's feast by Rembrandt

"And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him."—*Book of Revelation* 

It must be faced—even if the implications are terrifying—that the most powerful political, financial, religious and cultural institutions in nations throughout the world are now under the control of people who have defined Man as a destructive force in the universe. . . we must proclaim, We are human beings made in the image of the Creator. We contain within us the spark of Prometheus. We can build thousands of fossil fuel and nuclear power plants. We can develop fusion energy. We can move rivers, turn the deserts green and provide every human with a protein-rich diet. We can explore and colonize the solar system. We can unlock the secrets of the universe. This is not arrogance. It is what God intended for us.

As this article is being written, two simultaneous events are taking place in San Francisco. The first is the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference. Organized around the theme, "Creating a Resilient and Sustainable Future for All," attendees at this week-long gathering will include U.S. President Joe Biden, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Presidents and Prime Ministers from Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Korea, Chile, the Philippines, Indonesia, Peru, and a very large number of Silicon Valley and other corporate executives.

The second conference, also in San Francisco is the Nov. 13-15 World Economic Forum's "AI Governance Summit" which will bring together more than 200 individuals, under WEF direction, in what they proclaim as a "resurgence of empiricism" promised by the emergence of AI technology. This is one of several feeder events leading into next January's WEF summit at Davos, Switzerland.

Later this month, from Nov. 30 through Dec. 12, the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28) will be held in Dubai. Some are already hailing COP28 as the most important Climate Change Conference since COP21 in 2015 when the "Paris Climate Accords" were adopted.

All three of these events are intended to impose an irreversible tyranny of green fascism on every nation in the world. Government leaders, billionaire corporate CEOs, religious leaders, the most powerful financial institutions and the mainstream media all now speak in unison, with one voice: "Human progress must be halted." Human consumption must be reduced, energy usage must be reduced; development projects must be halted; population levels must be slashed—all to "save the planet" from mankind's destructive interventions.

At the APEC summit, the theme of this year's event is "Resilience in a World of Crisis," and panel discussions will include a series of what are called "Sustainability Dialogues"—designed to enforce the demand that all discussion of economic policy must fall within the straitjacket of reducing carbon emissions and protecting Mother Nature. All must follow this prescription. No dissenting voices are allowed.

As for the upcoming COP28 conference, a lead-in meeting was held in October with more than 100 delegates and 70 government ministers to ensure the success of the conference. The general director of the COP, Majid al-Suwaidi, insisted that COP28 will make major strides toward implementing an accelerated time-line to limiting temperature rises to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and that intensive discussions are now taking place with China, the United States and other nations to achieve this goal.

#### **Ultramontane Evil**

What must be understood by all is that the levers of power now lie in the hands of a literally Satanic global oligarchy. They openly name mankind's millennia-long striving for scientific and industrial progress as the enemy. That is no exaggeration. For more than 40 years they have—largely successfully—seduced generations of young people into the belief that the human race is a destructive force in the universe, that we are inflicting damage on Mother Nature and that human activity is responsible for an impending climate catastrophe. This is drummed into school children in America, Europe and around the world. Government leaders in every nation in the world—EVERY NATION—now genuflect to the "fact" of "global warming," and as in the extreme cases of Joe Biden's administration and the European Union, implement policies to reduce human consumption and energy usage in order to "save the planet."

What we are living through is the end-game of initiatives that were begun in the last century. There are many features in the chronology of this, but two are noteworthy. The first was the publication, by the Club of Rome, of *The Limits to Growth* report, first presented at international gatherings in Moscow and Rio de Janeiro in 1971 and then published in 1972. That report, given massive coverage in the establishment media, argued that continued human upward development is impossible and that human population levels must be slashed. The Club of Rome itself is a creature of the European black nobility, and it was the Club of Rome which created Klaus Schwab's World Economic Forum, with the Club's founder Aurelio Peccei giving the keynote speech at the first WEF conference in 1971. At that time, Lyndon LaRouche was the only public figure to recognize this evil, and he authored a book, *There are No Limits to Growth*, to attack the Club of Rome.

The second initiative was the Earth Summit, sponsored by the United Nations and held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992. It was at this summit that a plan of action for "sustainable development" was announced and dubbed "Agenda 21." Agenda 21 was the paradigm and the initiating point for the launching of the United Nations' Conferences of the Parties, the first of which was held in Berlin in 1995. Flowing from that first COP conference, the entire UN bureaucracy has become a vehicle for implementing mass murder and a global green agenda.

#### **Satanic Religion**

It has been announced that in addition to a plethora of global oligarchs—including King Charles III who will be attending COP28, one of the leading participants will be Jorge Mario Bergoglio, also known as Pope Francis, who intends to take part in the entire conference. Six weeks ago, on Oct. 4, Francis authored and published an Apostolic Exhortation titled *Laudate Deum* ("Praise God"). This document is intended to directly influence the discussions at COP28. In it, Francis states;

It is no longer possible to doubt the human – "anthropic" – origin of climate change. Let us see why. The concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which causes global warming, was stable until the nineteenth century, below 300 parts per million in volume. But in the middle of that century, in conjunction with industrial development, emissions began to increase. In the past fifty years, this increase has accelerated significantly. . . .

Let us stop thinking, then, of human beings as autonomous, omnipotent and limitless, and begin to think of ourselves differently, in a humbler but more fruitful way. . . .

If we consider that emissions per individual in the United States are about two times greater than those of individuals living in China, and about seven times greater than the average of the poorest countries, we can state that a broad change in the irresponsible lifestyle connected with the Western model would have a significant long-term impact. . . .

"Praise God" is the title of this letter. For when human beings claim to take God's place, they become their own worst enemies. . . .

Such anti-human rantings are not new for Pope Francis. Already in 2015 he published the encyclical *Laudato si'* ("Praise Be to You"), wherein he denounced climate change denial and called for extreme action to reduce carbon emissions.

In preparation for COP 28, a two-day summit of religious leaders—the "Global Faith Leaders Summit"—was held on Nov. 6 - 7 in Abu Dhabi. Chaired by COP28 President Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, this summit brought together 28 leading, and in many cases the highest ranking, officials from among the world's principal religions. These included leaders from the Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Churches, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, every major branch of Islam, the World Council of Churches, the Russian Orthodox Church, the Church of England, the Baha'i Community, the Sikh Religion, and the World Evangelical Alliance. Under the auspices of COP28 leaders, these religious shepherds pledged themselves to the cause of the full COP program. This included a ceremony in which each delegate planted a tree to symbolize the renewal of the Earth.

#### Evil versus the Good

It must be faced—even if the implications are terrifying—that the most powerful political, financial, religious and cultural institutions in nations throughout the world are now under the control of people who have defined Man as a destructive force in the universe. This is blatantly the case in Europe and North America, but we have reached a point where this sickness is no longer limited to the "advanced" nations. The oligarchs proclaim: "Mankind is destroying the planet through our greed and sinful

appetites. It is in our nature." Human upward progress, human creativity, higher rates of what Lyndon LaRouche called Potential Relative Population Density—which can be achieved only through increased human consumption, increased energy usage and new scientific breakthroughs—have been defined as evil by the oligarchical elite. A cultural evil which is to be eradicated.

This is not new in human history. Witness the role of the oligarchical priesthood in ancient Babylon, the role of the mystery cults in the Roman Empire or the Papal-Venetian alliance of the Middle Ages. Today, however, the intention is to impose an anti-human oligarchical system world-wide and to kill hundreds of millions. Their future is a future of scarcity, suffering and triage.

Let us remember that Donald Trump, as President, withdrew the United States from the Paris Climate Accords, and that he was the ONLY world leader to do so. It is impossible to overstate the importance of Trump's action. But today, something even greater is required. The issue before us is not to prove that solar and wind energy is more expensive and less reliable than fossil fuels or nuclear. We confront not an accounting problem but one of mankind's future.

Despite Pope Francis' pessimism, we must proclaim, "We are human beings made in the image of the Creator. We contain within us the spark of Prometheus. We can build thousands of fossil fuel and nuclear power plants. We can develop fusion energy. We can move rivers, turn the deserts green and provide every human with a protein-rich diet. We can explore and colonize the solar system. We can unlock the secrets of the universe. This is not arrogance. It is what God intended for us."

We live within the pale of oligarchism. We must break out. We must shatter the oligarchical culture. We must proclaim the as yet unrealized potentials of the future. We bequeath that to our posterity as our gift.