

Subject: **Climate Change**
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From: cbernof@aol.com
To: guardian.letters@theguardian.com

Re: Leah C. Stokes
"While the planet overheats, Ohio's coal industry gets a bailout"
The Guardian, July 28, 2019

To the Editor:

Electric utilities should not be rushing to shut down their coal-burning power plants, but should instead consider converting them, with government's help, to burn alternative sources of bio-fuel such as the oil-rich seeds produced by plants such as the fast-growing Chinese Tallow Tree.

Consider that the primary source of the coal, oil and gas now being dug out of the ground is derived from the primordial biomass created through photosynthesis millions of years ago and buried by geologic upheavals. This photosynthesis is also responsible for the oxygen in our atmosphere.

Because the long-buried sources of energy are finite and increasingly difficult to extract, we must learn to better exploit the energy of sunlight falling on the earth and the exceptional ability of plants, through photosynthesis, to consume and convert carbon dioxide and water into biomass while at the same time releasing abundant amounts of oxygen.

While many thousands of acres will be need to be planted, the warming climate fosters conditions for opening up new areas for the growth of energy-providing trees. And although the initial expense may be great, the working biomachinery involved is self-repairing, self-renewing and self-replicating.

If mankind is to survive on earth, we must try to reach a state of dynamic energy equilibrium in which the energy demands of civilization can increasingly be satisfied by the energy trapped from the sun in an equal and ongoing manner. At all costs, we must avoid future catastrophic wars over dwindling energy resources which would ultimately condemn us back to a pre-industrial age.

Further ideas and videos can be found at www.tallowfuel.com.

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