

Energy at the mercy of business

GOOD letter, Mr Malin – Observer last week. Electricity is indeed a highly valued commodity which cannot be stored. And as you point out, it's pretty inconceivable that we can all be trained to run our appliances only on windy days.

So what, pray, is the use of all these wind farms none of us want to see marching across what's left of our green and pleasant land?

The truth is, there is a reason but it's not really to our direct benefit. There's political subsidy to be had – much the same reason for heading into the Gulf War. Wars and wind farms don't really further the human cause or our quality of life very much, but there's something about the figures, obviously, which looks good on paper.

There are action groups attempting to tackle the local proposals, rightly appalled by the devastating consequences to homeowners and wildlife of putting up wind turbines three times taller than pylons.

We would like to know where the political support is? And we would like to suggest most strongly, in the notable absence of political support, that this virus of wind farm developments has something up its sleeve other than concern for 'renewable energy'.

You cannot renew electricity, you can use it only when it's there, then it's gone. It works on a current, it does not stay still.

So the concept of 'renewable energy' is really a bit of a farce, and in the red face of modern science the idea of a wind farm looks very embarrassing indeed.

Nuclear power was once state of the art, and anyone who thinks nuclear physics died a death in the Seventies, think again.

There are particle accelerators across the world experimenting on everything from light (photons) to neutrinos, those lovely little packages of high-density energy which fire straight through matter on their way from the sun.

Science has all the answers it will ever need to create energy as we need it, when we need it, cleanly and efficiently. So why has the neutrino generator not hit the market yet?

Because commerce, as always, holds all the cards and they haven't finished milking us for all the cheaper forms of energy production. Just as they haven't finished milking us for petrol while oil is still in the ground, even though prototypes of transport running on clean, biofriendly fuels have been developed to production stage.

Nothing can stop the greedy governments and their petticoat corporates from milking us all dry while they pour billions into their defence

industries and pet-poppet projects, leaving their people to die homeless on the streets.

This is a savage world. Grit your teeth and stop believing what you see on the news.

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