

REAL ENERGY: PROBLEMS AND FORECASTS

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Abstract: The state of the art and the major trends in the development of world energy engineering are analyzed. It is concluded that throughout the 21st century, the role of alternative sources will remain rather modest. Fossil fuel will still be the major source of energy until the end of the century. Because of depletion of accessible oil resources, the proportion of crude oil in the world energy balance will permanently decline, while the proportion of natural gas will grow. In the long term, humanity has no sources other than fusion energy but transition to this source would not solve the problem of the planet heat balance.

Keywords: energy; renewable energy sources; oil; gas; coal; thermonuclear energy; wind power; solar energy; fossil fuel; hydrogen power engineering

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