

Global Energy Shifts: Fostering Sustainability in a Turbulent Age

By Bruce Podobnik



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Explores the societal forces that led to the expansion of global energy systems demonstrating how the convergence of geopolitical, commercial, and social conditions can generate transformations in world energy foundations.



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Rank: #935534 in BooksPublished on: 2005-11-01Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 9.00" h x .60" w x 6.00" l, .72 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 240 pages

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Review

"Global Energy Shifts aims to recover the role of geopolitical rivalry, corporate competition, and social movements in shaping patterns of energy production and consumption via a grand historical survey. Podobnik is successful at de-naturalizing these transitions: they are shown to the negotiated/contested outcomes of interactions between states, capital and society as opposed to emerging from any 'inherent' properties of coal or oil. This is a significant contribution, and one made all the more forceful by the innovative use of diverse data sources."-Gavin Bridge, University of Manchester "Energy transitions are inherently complex and long-drawn affairs, extending over generations. That is why any serious appraisal of future options and changes should be informed by the history of past shifts, concerns and accomplishments: Podobnik's book is a wide-ranging and well-written contribution to this critical understanding."-Vaclav Smil, Distinguished Professor, University of Manitoba

From the Publisher

A timely look at key transitions in energy use over the past 100 years

From the Back Cover

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