

(Free and download) Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism (Our Sustainable Future)

Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism (Our Sustainable Future)

Ozzie Zehner

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Ozzie Zehner : Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism (Our Sustainable Future) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Green Illusions: The Dirty Secrets of Clean Energy and the Future of Environmentalism (Our Sustainable Future):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. This is a life-changing book!By Jocelyn MercadoI already had some mild opinions about environmentalism, drilling for oil, empty consumerism, the U.S. car culture, etc before reading

this book. I bought this book because I was seeking an honest, open analysis of "what can the average person do help with the climate/environmental crisis?" This book has absolutely, 110%, answered my question. Zehner has provided important information that all Americans (really, all people in industrialized countries) should be exposed to. You'll find out why solar cells, wind power, ethanol, and other "green" energy solutions are not as perfect as they are touted in the popular media. You'll probably be shocked to comprehend exactly how deeply ingrained we are in U.S. culture with the need to drive cars, buy as much as possible, and work overtime. Think about it - what do people really want? More vacation time? More time with the people we love, friends and family? More time outdoors in nature? And yet what do we do everyday? We go to work, go to the store, sit in traffic, eat prepackaged food, and watch TV. Do these activities make us happier? Healthier? More able to enjoy every moment? No. Absolutely not. The book includes realistic ways for real people to start small in reversing the unhealthy, damaging habits we have developed in our society over the past few hundred years, as well as larger, more sweeping suggestions for communities and the government to consider. If you want to read a book that will make you question your current way of life, and start working toward living a better life right now, read this book. If you're paying any attention at all, it will spur you into action. Let's start taking better care of ourselves and our earth, today, right now. Thanks to the author for a candid and striking discussion of topics that have typically been swept under the rug in our American society. This is an excellent book that I will read and refer back to again and again.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A worthwhile read

By Teacher/Photographer I checked this book out of the library but feel it's such an important book, that I ended up buying a copy on to keep in my permanent book collection. My only regret is that I did not read it before building a "green" home in a rural area. Although some of the author's suggestions are not practical (people like myself who live in extremely rural areas with few people/neighbors cannot logistically be without a car, cannot expect public transportation, cannot have interdependent/cooperative relationships with neighbors if there are no neighbors, cannot have conveniences such as medical clinic, shopping etc. in one "village" (I have to go 30 miles one way to buy food and other supplies) etc. But he does expose the farce that is green energy today (for instance, our house is solar powered with a battery bank - but in 7 years when the batteries wear out, they will be an environmental landfill nightmare). OTOH, his suggestion to use more passive solar is right on - and it's free (just build lots of windows on your southern and western sides). Our house gets to about 65 degrees F even on terribly cold days due to passive solar. I highly recommend that you read this book if you are hoping to live a "greener" lifestyle.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An outstanding effort put forth by someone with leftist sympathies ...

By Philip W. Tatler An outstanding effort put forth by someone with leftist sympathies who truly wishes alternate energy was viable, but is honest enough to come to grips with the current reality of the industry. Many will scan the first half and think Ozzie leans right politically in the debate, only to find with thorough reading of the second half of the book, he actually leans left. Time well spent!

We don't have an energy crisis. We have a consumption crisis. And this book, which takes aim at cherished assumptions regarding energy, offers refreshingly straight talk about what's wrong with the way we think and talk about the problem. Though we generally believe we can solve environmental problems with more energy—more solar cells, wind turbines, and biofuels—alternative technologies come with their own side effects and limitations. How, for instance, do solar cells cause harm? Why can't engineers solve wind power's biggest obstacle? Why won't contraception solve the problem of overpopulation lying at the heart of our concerns about energy, and what will?

"Causing shockwaves...Not anti-green but simply asking questions" -The Sunday Times "Terrific book. . . . Zehner is especially good at untangling sloppy thinking." -David Owen, and author of Green Metropolis

Top Nonfiction Books - Goodreads "This book takes a look at the dark underbelly of 'green energy' and attempts to shift the US dialogue to a more pressing problem: consumption." -Christian Science Monitor

AWARDS Nautilus Book Award Winner IPPY Award Winner Best Earth Day Books - Christian Science Monitor N. California Book Award Winner "A bold look at the downside of green technologies and a host of refreshingly simple substitute solutions." -Kirkus