

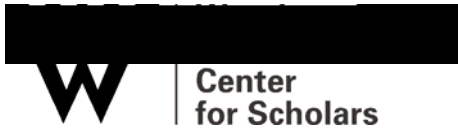
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*Environmental Change and Security Program*

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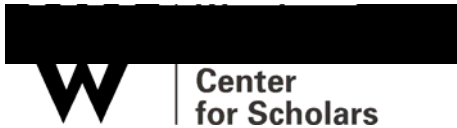


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slides. *The L.A. Times* Washington bureau where I did those

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interesting to see. And I mean, it's not a complete depression in the industry, but it's just startling to see how things are changing.

So what stories will I be looking at as the future goes? What stories will the other reporters who are covering the environment look at in the future? I think that all the money in the stimulus package will provide endless stories to follow, because a lot of that money will go to supposedly push us towards a greener future, and it will be interesting to see how it works. Will the electric grid actually get any smarter? We're going to spend tens of billions of dollars to get it there, let's go and look and see how much smarter is the electric grid getting. Will any of those changes actually make their way into real people's houses and change the way people use electricity? Make them use it smarter, or make them use the last of it. That will be interesting to see. Those will provide great stories. And of course, this huge story of whether or not the country will decide to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, and in what way they're going to do it. I think you can count on dozens and hundreds of stories on those topics, so that will be there.

And there are lots and lots of questions in that coverage that are fascinating to me. And one of the things that I think I didn't cover enough of in previous efforts of Congress to do something about climate change was, what are they going to do if they set up a cap-and-trade system, which they're talking about doing? That will potentially bring in enormous revenues. And what's going to happen with that money? Will that money be doled out kind of 16-17,000 ways, just kind of like a stimulus package every year? Well, I think that's one of the reasons that that bill sunk last time, is that it kind of looked like pork. Will it be handed back to the American people? That's what some of the people I've spoke to are talking about, and that's an interesting idea. So what happens with the money as a result of a big program like that, will be a big story to follow. And of course, what are the ongoing impacts to our environment from climate change? I think that those will be stories that, hopefully, NPR will still have enough money to put me on planes to go and look into and sniff around about, and hopefully, Seth will still be on those planes figuring those things out. We'll see.

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