Energy consumption could be halved now on global scale with existing technology:

I would like to state, as a professor of energy, www.kostic.niu.edu/energy, that energy conservation "with existing technology" has real immediate potential to SUBSTANTIALLY reduce our national energy dependence until new yet-to-be-invented technology is available long-run. For example, at present, the Toyota Prius, commercial hybrid car makes double mileage than classical comparable car (double efficiency, 46 mpg vs. 23 mpg), and commercial Combined-Cycle-Power-Plant (CCPP), combining gas-steam turbines cycles, is about two times more efficient than classical comparable power-plant (about 60% vs. 30%), all commercial products with existing technology - thus it could be done for any car and any power plant energy consumption could be halved on global scale – two times less energy and pollution than current. With energy conservation measures (insulation and regeneration, cogeneration and optimization with energy storage) it is even more straightforward to substantially reduce energy use in buildings and industry. We just have to make it a priority: invest resources in existing and new infrastructures and businesses and create new jobs to substantially improve equipment/product/process efficiencies in energy production and consumption sectors, while investing strategically in research and development. Life may be much happier after the fossilfuel era, if we are wise to invest in and work on national priorities instead of promoting and bailing out unethical greediness. For more information, contact Professor Kostic at kostic@niu.edu.

NEWSWEEK, FEB. 23, 2009: "No One Wants to Hug a Banker"

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"The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - ARRA of 2009 (Recovery Act) is intended to be an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The Act is an extraordinary response to a crisis unlike any since the Great Depression, and includes measures to modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need.- http://nsf.gov/recovery/ "