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Closing Remarks: The Three Pillars of Energy

Christopher D'Elia School of the Coast and Environment, Louisiana State University

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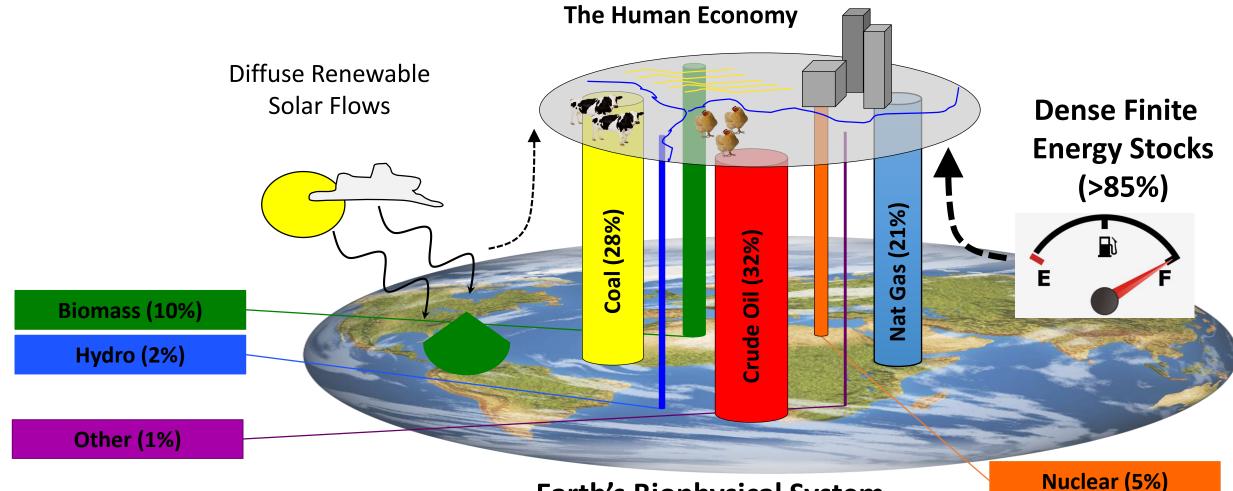
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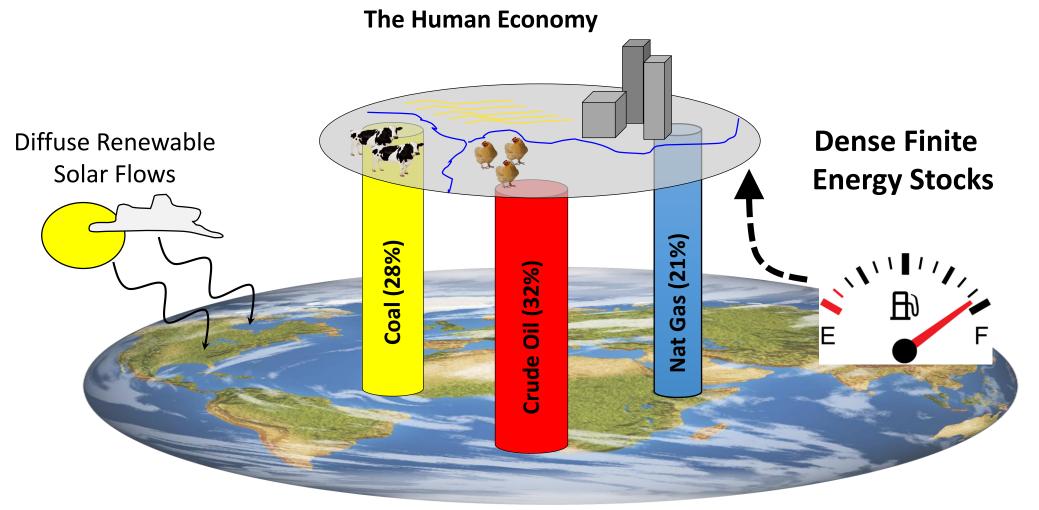
The Three Pillars of Energy

Christopher F. D'Elia, Professor and Dean John Day, Distinguished Professor Adrian Wiegman, Graduate Student The Energy Conundrum: The economy is held up by three primary fossil fuel energy pillars: High EROI *Coal, Oil and Natural Gas.* (Each pillar is proportional to its contribution to the primary energy mix, data from IEA 2013)



Earth's Biophysical System

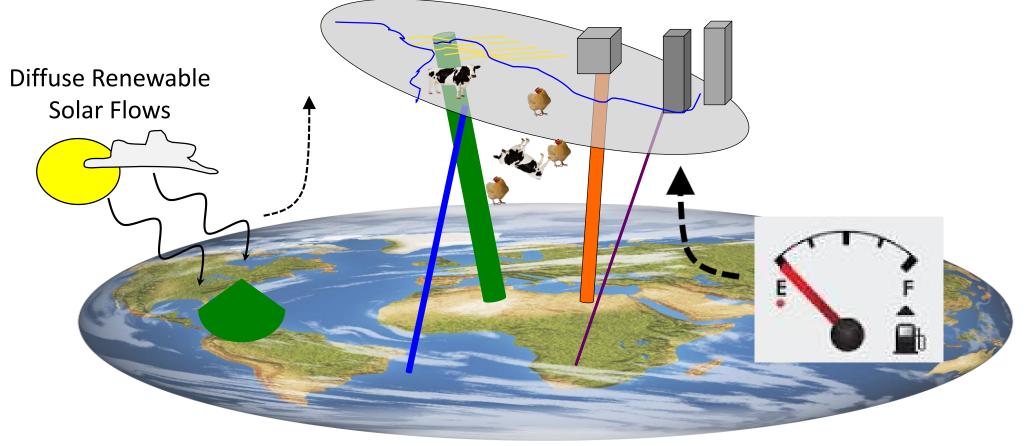
Take away renewable energy sources and fossil fuels will support the modern economy with little small sacrifices but little noticeable changes. However, the climate effects may be substantial.



Earth's Biophysical System

Energy data from IEA 2013

Take away fossil fuels and the economic system would collapse quickly; agriculture, global transportation and the industrial complex would fail. Famine, war and societal upheaval would result, as people struggle to live off of local resources. The Human Economy



Earth's Biophysical System

Energy data from IEA 2013