

Remarks of President, Roma Stibravy, Board Meeting, March 30, 2022

The world is at war, as we live in a global society with all affected in some way. The science and agreements concerning climate change have collided with world politics. The Paris Climate Change Agreement, 2015, agreed to a goal of net zero emissions by mid century. Then we had in the US and Western countries a rise of nationalism with elected leaders slowing the process. Now it is the addiction to oil that is governing decisions and outcomes in the worst of humanitarian conflicts.

Climate change has not taken time out for the war in Ukraine!

Is this not the time to triple down on renewables and efficiency? Yes, we need a transition phase. The Middle East recognized this most decidedly when they built Masdar City some 15 years ago, and became host to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IREA). There needs to be this transition phase where we continue with the use of coal, gas, and oil. But in trying to reach our goals to a renewable energy future we have to double the pace of the transition. All electric utility producers worldwide must increase the use of renewables by at least 10% a year.

In addition, we are living in a growing world of Bitcoin where, for example, 50 long haul trucks filled with computers are parked in a town in Nebraska creating coins while using more energy than the city of Las Vegas. Also, a question, what happened to the technology to recycle and reuse the heat given off by computers?

May we look forward to a world of cleaner air not burning forests and burning tanks.