

GROUP 2: “HOBBIT LAND”

Plentiful water/ scarce energy

Yolynda Begay, Facilitator

Indicators for plentiful/cheap water:

- Economics collapse = Increase water availability
- Food basket of the world; processed/canned/preserved
- Use river for transportation but understand it could be difficult
- Rebuild levee system to prevent a catastrophic event
- Building turnouts into fields
- Play with water i.e. Egypt water wheel
- Climate change that brings plenty of water; changes in run off precipitation
- Transition to farming/ranching; local agrarian lifestyle.
- Increase in rainfall
- Changes in river flow
- No trouble meeting our water compact agreement with TX
- Could potentially sell water
- Tribes would be happy

Indicators for scarce/expensive energy:

- Gravity fed surface water (water is plentiful)
- Decrease in world oil production & increase in price of oil
- Economic decline
- Carbon sequestration on power plants
- Technology cost – looking for least expensive & most productive
- Fossil fuels expensive
- Seeking non-traditional energy
- All energy sources would have to be scarce
- People would have to move closer to sources like water
- Increase in population density around sources
- Broad social and economic consequences
- Unemployment high and lots of instability
- Energy efficient homes – designed to be more sustainable i.e. incorporating cistern in design
- Energy brought into Rio Grande Valley – stimulate peripheral activities; could potential increase economic activity
- Energy generated through water source
- Local food production
- Stimulate more innovation
- “Culture of Conservation”
- War

- Demographic changes; could not afford a whole lot, expensive costs for households – given the economic downturn/recession people are already doing without, this would further deepen those impacts

What the 2025 world looks like:

- Food production altered
 - Changes in farming practices
 - Better return per acre
 - More animals to graze crops
 - Local food production
- Increase in biodiversity
 - Resilience to ecosystem
- Changes in water rights
- Resurgence of micro-hydro
 - Reservoir/plants
 - Millstones
- Excess food production; potential to sell organic produce
- Healthier people-eating locally/more physically active
- Shift in water management/institution
- NM State budget could have two outcomes
 - Decrease in population & increase in economic activity
 - Increase in state budget could be as a result of viable shale production
- Manufacture green energy
- Refugee from the coastal communities; increase in NM's population

Headlines along the way from present to 2025:

- U.S. turns its back on fossil fuels
- NM turns its back on water transportation
- Coastal refugees from the coast swell to NM
- Where are all the people going
- Construction industry building code revisions to achieve higher efficiency standard
- LANL announce 100 mpg vehicle
- Irrigated acreage increase to all time high
- Green Fire Times circulation hits 1 million
- 10 years since most recent wildfire
- Biofuels source increase
- Worlds largest tree found in NM
- Isleta Pueblo flooding concerns
- NM reaches food self-sustainability
- NM sends food to Mexico and exports to China
- Innovations in farm equipment
- Technology shifts its focus

Other suggested names discussed during group discussion:

- Turning back the clock

- Flying Flamingos/Whooping Cranes
- Agriculture Innovators
- Agricultural Utopia
- Utopia with no energy
- Low energy utopia
- Managing chaos of change