## **OPPS-20** Why Are We Putting All Our Eggs in One Basket? **CME Coronal Mass Ejection** Carrington **Event 1859** X50 Flare What happens when the next one hits?

What happens when these disappear?

Moving to 100% renewable is a ludicrous option for a lot of reasons (technical and economic, covered in detail by many qualified scientists and engineers from around the world). But what happens today when the earth takes a direct hit from a Carrington like solar flare? Nothing good. Electrical transmission lines and major transformer locations become useless. Every electrical vehicle in the world becomes useless even if they do not experience direct damage. Our society is totally dependent on our electrical grid, but our heating, agricultural and supply chain systems still depend on coal, oil and natural gas. The flare will

Solar Flare Warning

damage ICE vehicles as well but with some much quicker and locally available repair options, the ICE vehicles we require for our food, energy and supply chain options will be up and running long before any electric vehicles. Repairing the damage to the electrical grid could easily take years. Under today's

conditions a major power transmission transformer could have a one-to-two-year delivery schedule. What is the timeline when every transformer on the continent blows out and the manufacturing processes are brought to a standstill? How long will it take to rebuild the lost wind and solar generation equipment? All those electrical appliances we take for granted (fridges, freezers, stoves/ovens, lighting, (gasp, your phone), etc.) are not going to be there for a long-extended period (if ever). Are you ready to live a life, without electricity? I suspect not. The chances of a Carrington Like event in this current solar cycle (25) are still relatively small. But the chances go up significantly in Solar Cycle 26 (mid 2030s). If we make it to Solar Cycle 27 (mid

2040s) the chances of high magnitude solar flaring are very high. We are already in a significant and accelerating magnetic excursion with weakening electromagnetic field protection. Will that mid 2040s solar flare graduate to a full blown solar micro-novae (the near-term extinction level event that few people know or talk about)? I hope not.

Looking past the focus on "Climate Change", one should ask themselves what is the most realistic near-term threat to our planet? No, it is not "Global Warming". It is not even "Climate Change" as it pertains to "Global Cooling". It is not an unseen asteroid or a sudden super volcano eruption. The real threat comes from the sun. The last major Super Flare (aimed at earth) was the 1859 Carrington Event (X50). That flare ignited telegraph lines on fire. Serious damage, but at a time in history when society was not dependent on a massive electrical transmission grid and earth's magnetic field was significantly stronger. We are already extremely vulnerable. A smaller flare in 1921 caused significant damage and a major flare in 2012 just missed earth (barely avoiding major damage as per a recent New York Post article).

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