

# INSIGHTS

## For the Mainstream Investor

WEEK ENDING JUNE 16, 2017 EDITION 198



### BP ENERGY REVIEW

*Oil giant's annual world review*

BP's [annual statistical review](#) of world energy concludes that technological advances have facilitated a shift toward lower carbon fuels. The report notes that in 2016 coal consumption fell to its lowest level since 2004, while renewables (excluding hydro) grew by just over 14%.

In addition, 2016 was the third consecutive year in which global demand for energy grew by less than 1%. The decline in demand, coupled with the transition away from coal to more environmentally efficient energy sources, marks a shift in the market from traditional to renewable energy sources. [READ MORE](#)

### DID YOU SEE?

Uber directors agreed to adopt all the recommendations of former attorney general to improve the company's culture. [READ MORE](#)

### TRANSPARENCY IN LOBBYING

*Political spending scrutinized*

Shareholder activists – spearheaded by a group of nuns in Baltimore, MD – urged Alphabet (Google's parent company) to be more transparent about what the company spends on [political lobbying](#).

Other shareholders agree that companies – not just Alphabet – should be more transparent. "It concerns us that companies are in effect funding third parties to lobby for legislation at a state and federal level, which we believe is at odds with the interests of long-term shareholders," says Mirza Baig, head of investment stewardship at Aviva Investors, one of the UK's largest asset managers.

### WHAT WE'RE WATCHING

Last week BlackRock urged Exxon Mobil Corp to "enhance its disclosures regarding risks related to climate change". [READ MORE](#)

### THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

1,300 commitments to action were made by the end of the UN Ocean Conference

450 million was pledged by Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to eradicate polio

71 percent of companies in China failed environmental standards in the last inspection round

14th Sustainable Development goal is to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

9 directors will be appointed to the FujiFilm Board, down from 12, 3 of which will be independent

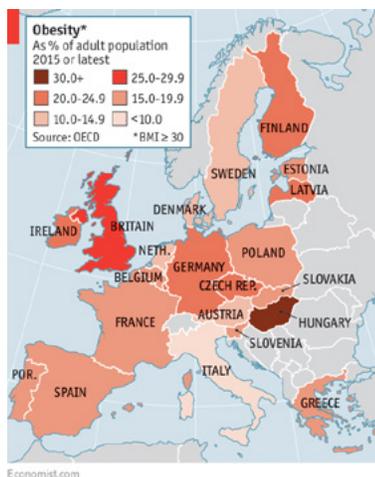
4 million deaths globally are attributable to a high body mass index

3.5 million USD is the highest price paid for a charity lunch with Warren Buffett, for which the proceeds go to charity

0.1 percent increase in emissions of CO2 from energy consumption in 2016, according to BP

### INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK

*Obesity in Europe*



Sources: [The Economist](#)

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### G7 AND CLIMATE CHANGE

*Disagreement continues*

Scott Pruitt, the head of the US Environmental Protection Agency, left the G-7 summit early this week to attend a cabinet meeting in Washington. Although Pruitt's absence may negatively affect the ability of the world's largest economies to agree on a course of action, the remaining countries **remain strong** in their commitments made in Paris last year.

Canadian Environment Minister Catherine McKenna told reporters on Monday, "we're going to be moving forward... with the states, cities and businesses in the United States that are committed to serious climate action and committed to the Paris Agreement." [READ MORE](#)

### HISTORY LESSON

Moore's law: Computing power doubles every two years on average, with corresponding advances in speed and declines in cost. This can be applied to a number of historical technological advances. Economists today are **applying it to renewable energy** to disprove the notion that coal will ever be cheaper than renewables in the future.

### GOOD NEWS...

An electric, zero emission ship will set sail in 2018. A Norwegian shipping company announced that by 2019 the ship will be able to work by remote control and at the start of the next decade it will be able to deliver on a fully automated basis.

[READ MORE](#)

### UN OCEAN CONFERENCE

*Agreement reached unanimously*

This week an agreement was reached unanimously by the 193 UN Member States on measures to ensure the long-term health of the ocean. [The Ocean Conference](#) concluded with a list of over 1,300 commitments that will reverse the damage that marine pollution, illegal fishing, and ocean acidification has caused.

The [Call to Action](#) reflects the urgency and willingness of countries to work collectively to develop adaptation and mitigation measures as well as to reduce the use of single use plastics. Following the disquieting news around the Paris Agreement, the Ocean Conference has effectively refocused collective international efforts to mitigate the effect of climate change on the ocean. [READ MORE](#) and watch the [VIDEO HERE](#)

### WORTH NOTING

[ShareAction](#) will take over climate disclosure body Asset Owners Disclosure Project ([AODP](#)). [READ MORE](#)

### ... AND BAD NEWS

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has reported two separate cases of the polio viruses. The circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2s (cVDPV2s) have been confirmed.

[READ MORE](#)

### WHAT WE'RE READING



BP

[Statistical Review of World Energy June 2017](#)

### BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Sweet sizzlin' green bean anyone? A recent experiment shows one way to get people to eat more vegetables – rebrand them! [READ MORE](#)

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