

Larry Goldstein's Energy and Economic Perspectives

I Apologize ... Imagine

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I apologize. I recently read a very clever note by someone whose name I have forgotten.

He asked us to open our minds and assume it was 2035. The world was 100% plug-in electric vehicle. That's all the market knew. Now came this new invention: the internal combustion engine (ICE) that ran on fossil fuels.

You could fill your car in 5 minutes not hours. Your mpg would be 35mpg+ with the ability to increase it by at least 30%. The plug-in electric vehicle states a range of 400, but you'd be lucky to get 300.

The ICE holds its market value while a plug-in loses more than 50% even if you can find a buyer.

The plug-in actually uses a ton of fossil fuels to produce. Almost all of the production is in developing countries where environmental (and child protection) laws are not always followed.

Now, **imagine**: a hurricane or similar event that triggers an evacuation. Picture everyone getting into their half- or quarter-charged EV: The roads would stall from Miami to Charleston. The demand for charging would be impossible to meet.

An ICE would be produced in the U.S. or north America. The dependency on China would be lower. That would reduce friction and the need for tariffs. This would reduce the risks of a trade war.

Can you imagine?

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He has testified numerous times before congressional committees and regulatory bodies and has been appointed to the National Petroleum Council (NPC) by every recent U.S. Secretary of Energy. He has briefed the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, senior officials at the Government Accountability Office, and a wide range of government agencies on developments in domestic and world petroleum markets. He has also served as consultant to the Iraq Coalition Provisional Authority. During the 1970s and 1980s he frequently appeared on the CBS Evening News anchored by Walter Cronkite.