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Experimental Sustainable Development

Experiments in sustainable development are becoming more common, I will specifically explore the Qatar Energy City, currently being developed in Lusail. They have developed new energy sources despite this countries access to a seemingly unlimited amount of natural gas, available via the North Field; proven to contain 900 trillion cubic feet of reserves (McCurry, 1). This rapidly expanding area necessitates consistent shipping, both the port and current airport are enlarging to accommodate more activities, along with expansion they are separately building the first ever airport designed to allow the new A380-800 a Double Decker airbus (McCurry, 3). The total expenditure amount proposed is US\$2.6 billion in funding for this project alone which is substantial, however, not in comparison to the total US\$80 billion planned projects in Qatar as a whole (McCurry, 1).

Amazingly these projects are funded by the energies they will eventually replace; the proponents are attempting to gain a foothold thru the study of sustainable energies in order to develop their economies, and gain profit from the practices they create. This is a great example of how individual, generally capitalist, interests can also utilize practices, which eventually would lessen the demand for various other unsustainable energy sources. Although the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has other sources of energy, their commitment to study sustainability, ultimately lessening world dependence on fossil fuels is commendable. Although various places do not plan to stop producing some products which pollute the environment they are devoted to creating new products so that consumers can have options which were previously unavailable due to the lack of technology, availability and marketing.

A picture to illustrate the relatively small experimental city in Lusail, Qatar (energy city):



Work Cited

1. McCurry, John. Energy City is Qatar's Latest Leap Forward. Site Selection. May 2006. <http://www.siteselection.com/issues/2006/may/p209/> (not working, librarian retrieved)
2. <http://www.energycity.com/master.htm>