

# INVESTOR'S EDGE<sup>®</sup>

Certain Wealth in Uncertain Times<sup>®</sup>

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## NATURAL GAS WILL BE AMERICA'S ENERGY SALVATION



It's time we stopped hiding our heads in the sand about today's energy problems while spending / wasting tens of billions of dollars on taxpayer-funded grants, incentives and subsidies for tomorrow's solutions. We need – and have readily available – an American source of relatively clean energy today for today's needs, if only the politicians would stop spending on pork and get the hell out of the way of private industry that is trying to provide this source: clean-burning natural gas.

We pay much more for the electricity to power and light our homes and offices, the coal, heating oil or gas to heat our homes, and the gasoline to fill our automobiles, than we acknowledge. We pay once to the utilities or at the pump, and once more when our taxes are withheld from our paychecks. Big government pork for ethanol subsidies, solar subsidies, biomass subsidies, and every other kind of can't-stand-on-its-own-economics power are costing us, not just in monetary terms but in time value – we are looking so far down the road we don't even see the 30-foot drop-off right in front of us. Think \$4 a gallon for gasoline is high? Add in the subsidies your tax dollars are diverted to for a \$0 return and you're probably paying closer to \$6 a gallon.

I say remove the subsidies, credits, and grants from *all* sources of energy. Big oil gets no special allowances for depletion. That's the industry you chose, bubbas. You knew it was a wasting asset when you decided to enter the business. Same for natural gas and coal companies. And the same for nuclear, wind, solar, biomass, et al.

Clean renewable energy that is not a wasting asset remains the Holy Grail of energy production. If we shut off the spigot of vote-buying that comes from dispensing grants and subsidies, energy companies will still seek ways to harness the power of the sun and the wind. As long as the sun still shines, those who can turn this diffuse energy into a concentrated form will make money. But I'm tired of effectively paying \$6 a gallon for gasoline when alternatives exist that are being ignored. Why are they being ignored? Mostly, so some people can feel morally superior

### THE SCORECARD

TOTAL RETURN SINCE 12-31-98 (INCEPTION)	INVESTOR'S EDGE PORTFOLIOS VS BENCHMARKS	RANKING SINCE 01/01/99	IF YOU HAD INVESTED	TODAY YOU'D BE WORTH	2009 RETURN	RANKING SINCE JAN 1, '09
236.1%	IE: GROWTH & VALUE	<u># 1</u>	\$250,000	\$840,143	5.4%	<u># 3</u>
3.4%	DOW INDUSTRIALS	# 2	\$250,000	\$258,577	8.2%	# 2
-16.9%	S & P 500	# 3	\$250,000	\$207,689	13.1%	# 1
158.6%	IE: AGGRESSIVE GROWTH	<u># 1</u>	\$150,000	\$387,941	-3.5%	<u># 3</u>
35.5%	RUSSELL 2000	# 2	\$150,000	\$203,318	14.6%	# 2
-8.4%	NASDAQ	# 3	\$150,000	\$137,415	27.4%	# 1

Prices, Indexes and Indicators cited in this issue are as of Monday, 31 August 2009

All portfolios initiated 1 Jan 1999, with \$150,000 in "Aggressive Growth" and \$250,000 in "Growth & Value."