

The

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Unsettling Subsidies



Did You Know?

Q: "Should the Federal Gov't eliminate tax breaks and subsidies for oil companies?"

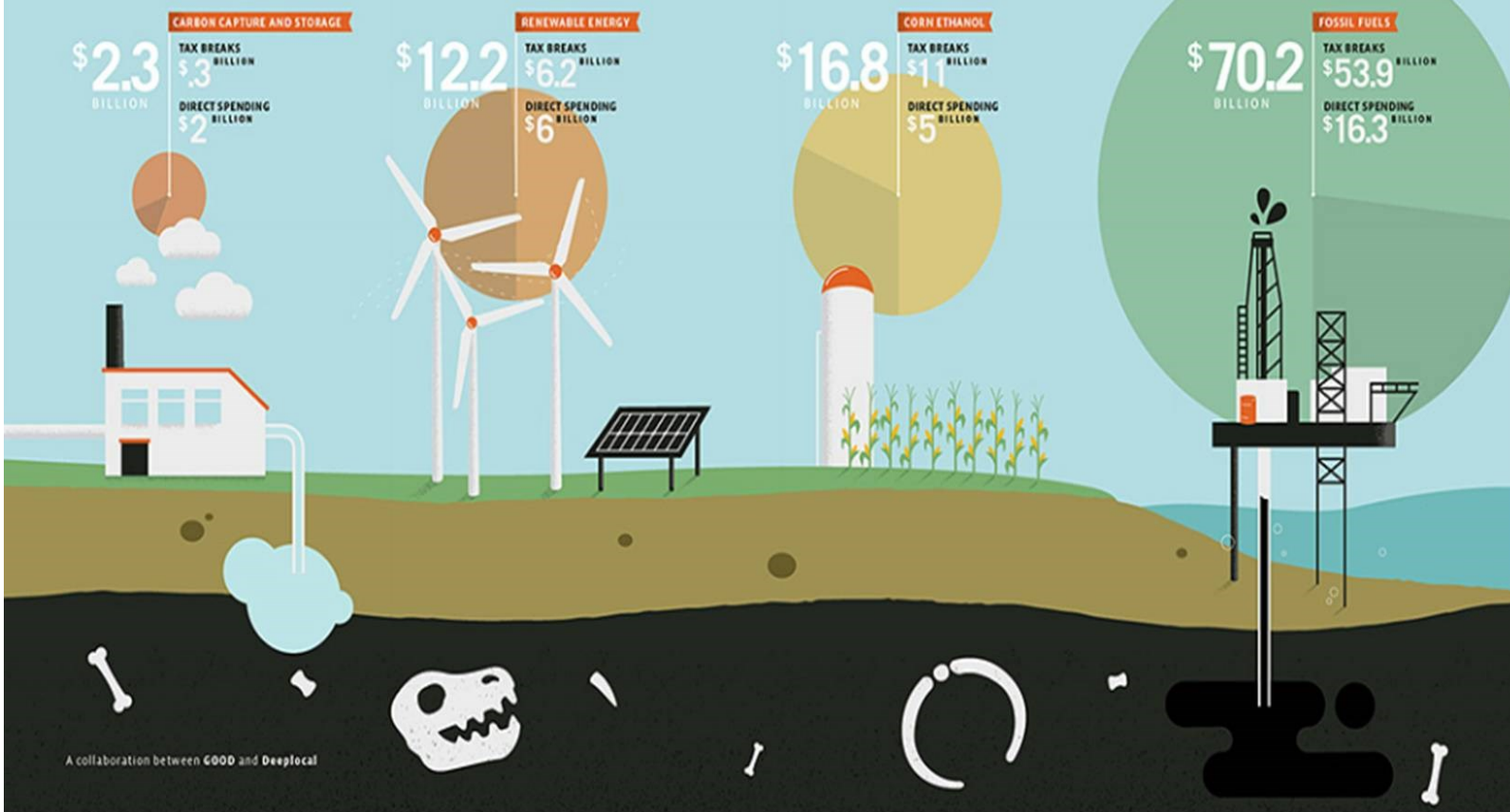
A: 64% of Americans said "Yes"
-Suffolk University
Nationwide Poll

SUBSIDIZE THIS

THE PRICE THAT YOU PAY FOR ENERGY—WHETHER ELECTRICITY AT YOUR HOUSE OR GAS AT THE PUMP—ISN'T ACTUALLY THE PRICE THAT THE MARKET WOULD SET FOR THAT ENERGY.

The government spends billions of dollars to support the energy industry, which allows it to make energy cheaper than it should cost on the open market. These subsidies—either in the form of tax breaks or direct funding—favor some types of energy over others, giving our country a skewed sense of what each gallon of gas or wind-powered electron costs. This is a look at where the government directed its subsidy dollars from 2002 to 2008.

SOURCE: "Estimating U.S. Government Subsidies to Energy Sources" by the Environmental Law Institute



A Subsidy is a benefit given by the government to groups/individuals usually in the form of a cash payment or tax reduction. It is usually given to remove some type of burden and is often considered to be in the interest of the public.



The sustainable energy sector in America is very slow. One reason why "green" energy is still struggling is due to the misplacement of subsidies.

Only \$12.2 of the \$101.5 million went to renewable energy—that's only 12.02% of the subsidies and tax breaks!

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