

Anthropocene contexts for geoengineering

Oliver Morton
Senior editor
The Economist

10th Annual Symposium
of the
Rutgers Energy Institute

May 5th 2015

Few concessions



Sand Dunes, Carson City -- Timothy O'Sullivan

Lines in A Landscape



Jeff Nixon

Lines in London's sky



Lines with the landscape lost



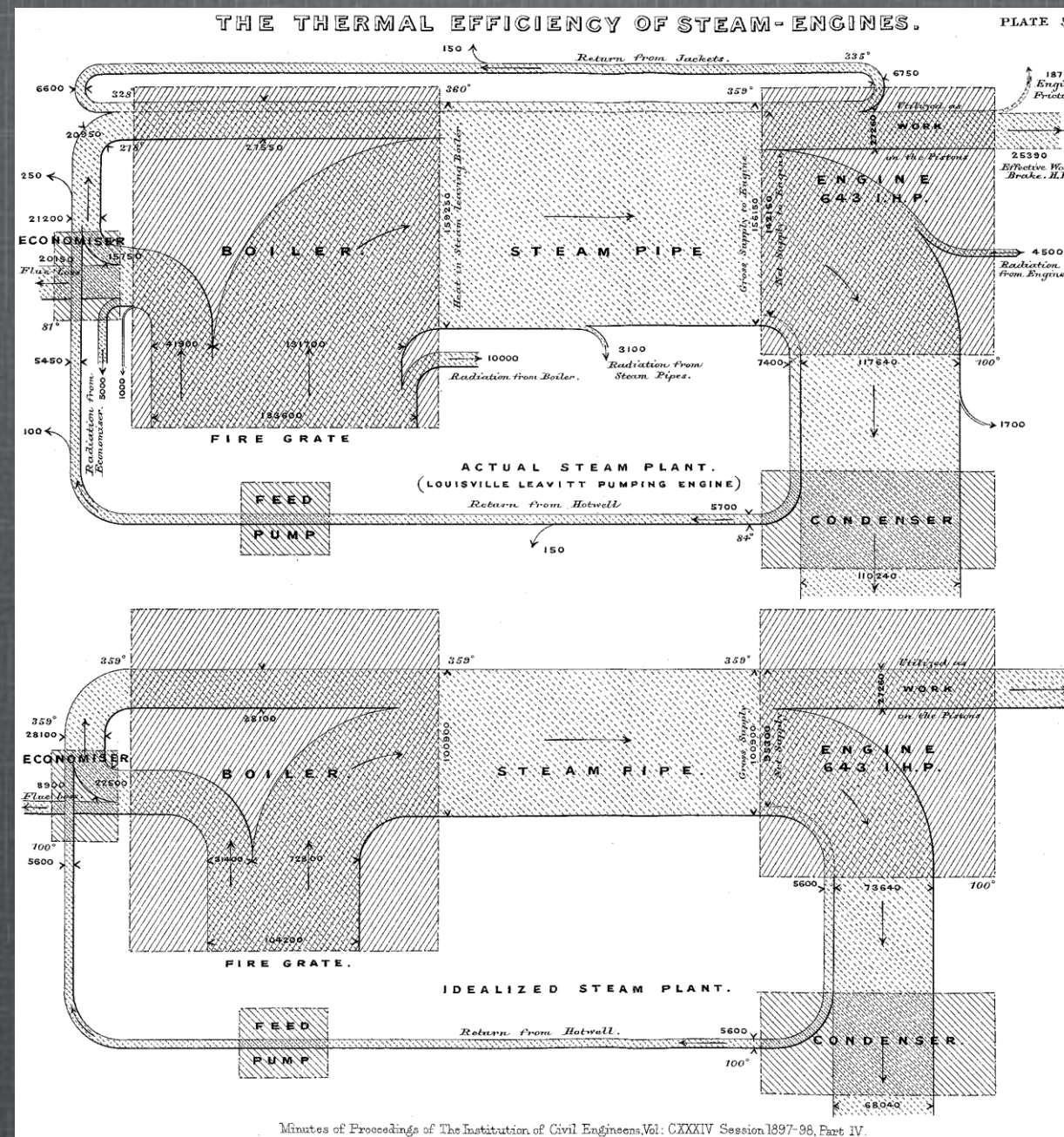
Amos coal power plant, Winfield, West Virginia 2007 – Mitch Epstein

Line of a landscape lost



The Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary, Trinidad State Park

The Anthropocene: Flows in an engine



The Anthropocene: Lines of power



*Rain, steam and speed, the Great Western Railway – J M W
Turner*

The Anthropocene: Flows of experience



Snow storm – steam boat off a harbour's mouth – J M W Turner

The Anthropocene: cycles of observation



"Goethe's Theory"-- J M W Turner

A moment of intensity



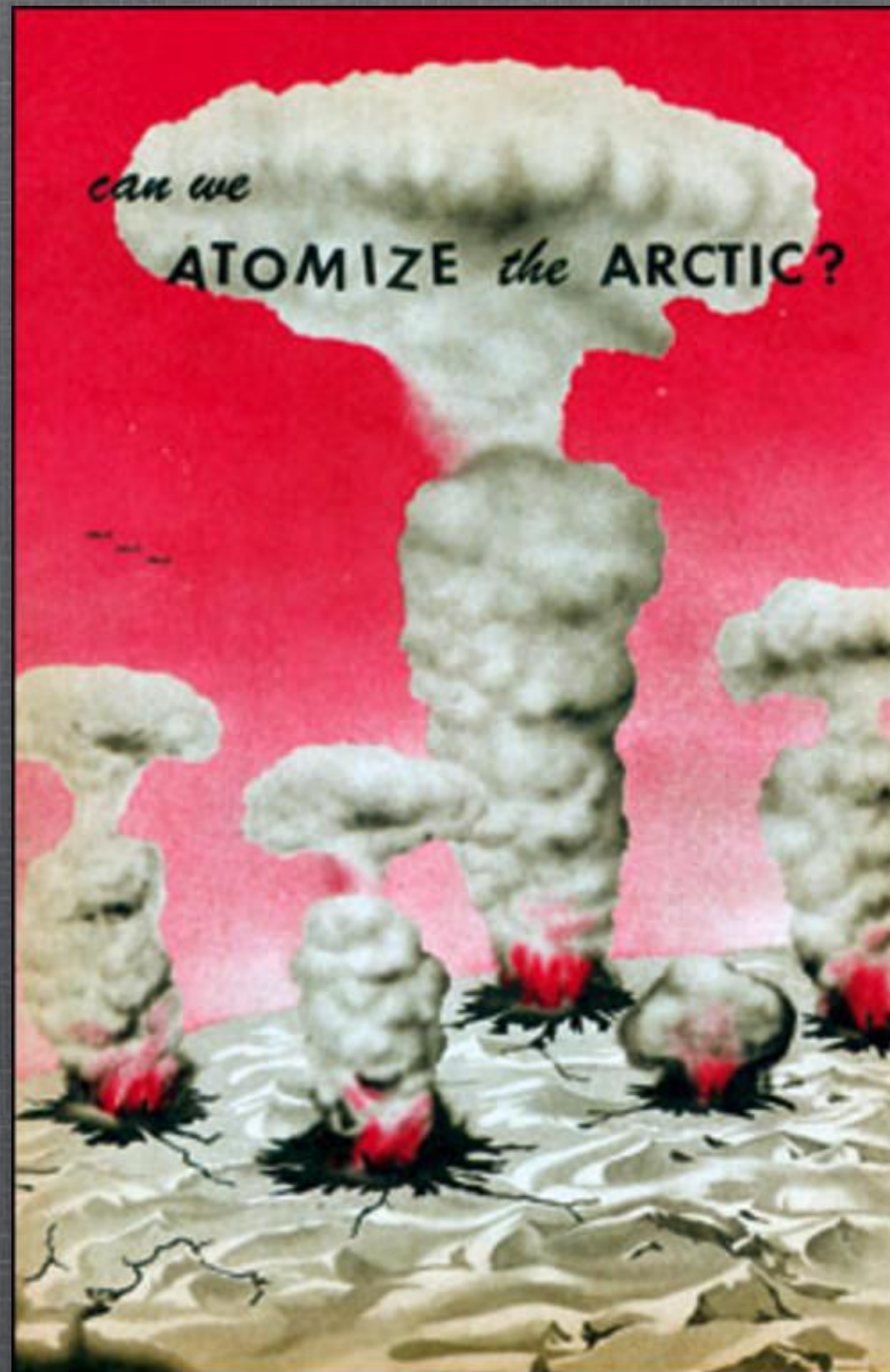
John, Nevada

Shock and awe



George Yoshitake

Dr Huxley's modest proposal



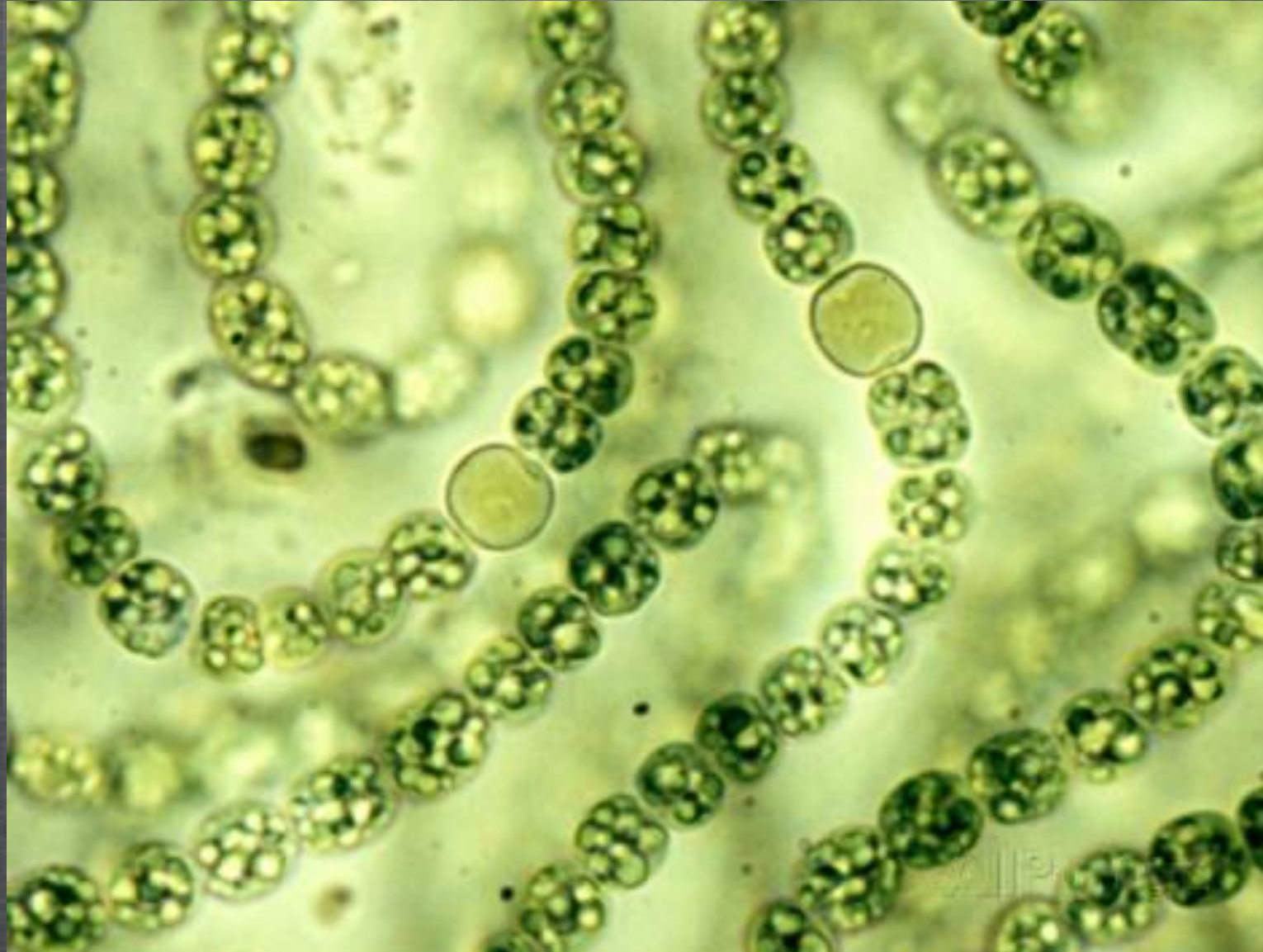
Mechanix Illustrated, May 1946

Fixing the sublime



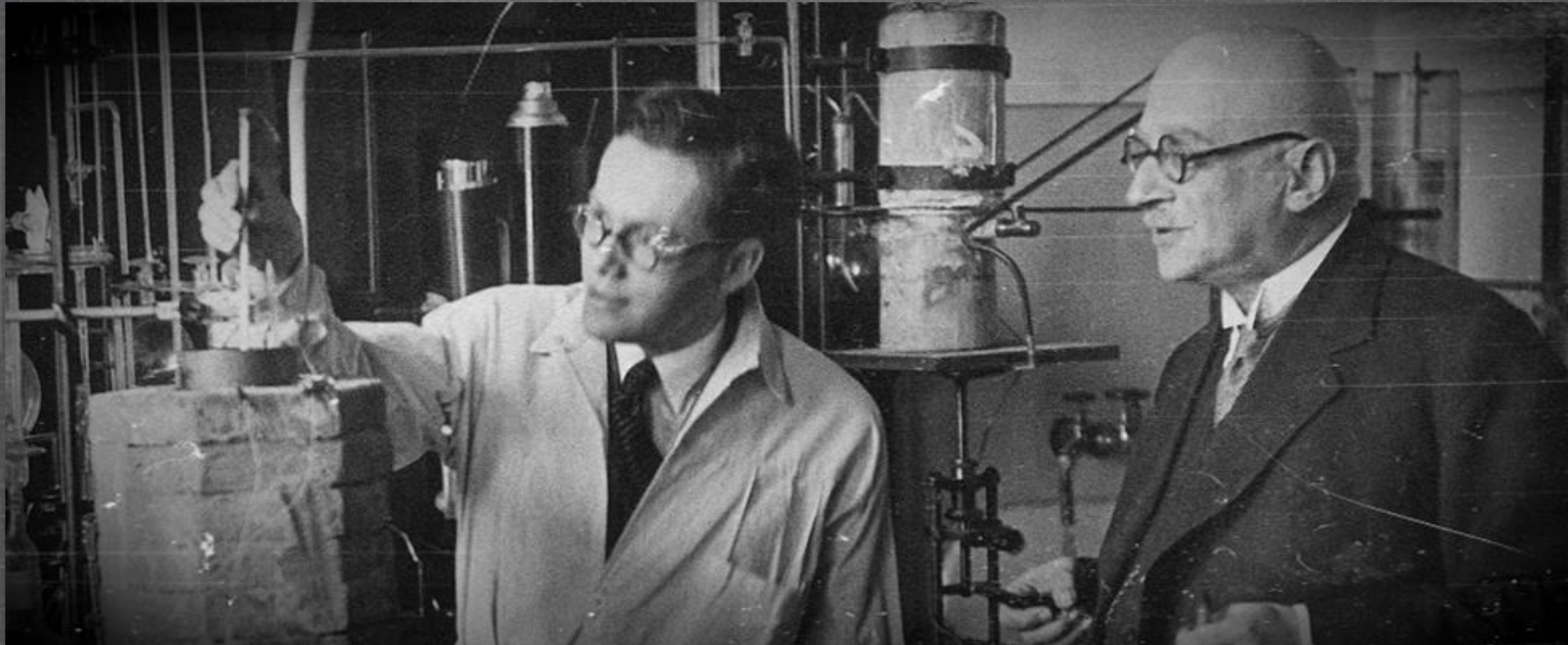
Lightning field – Waleter de Maria

The alchemy that was



Nostoc

The alchemy that came to be



Fritz haber and Carl Bosch

Spoils of war



Green and red revolutions



"Produce more chemical fertilizer, support agriculture" -- 1972

Things change

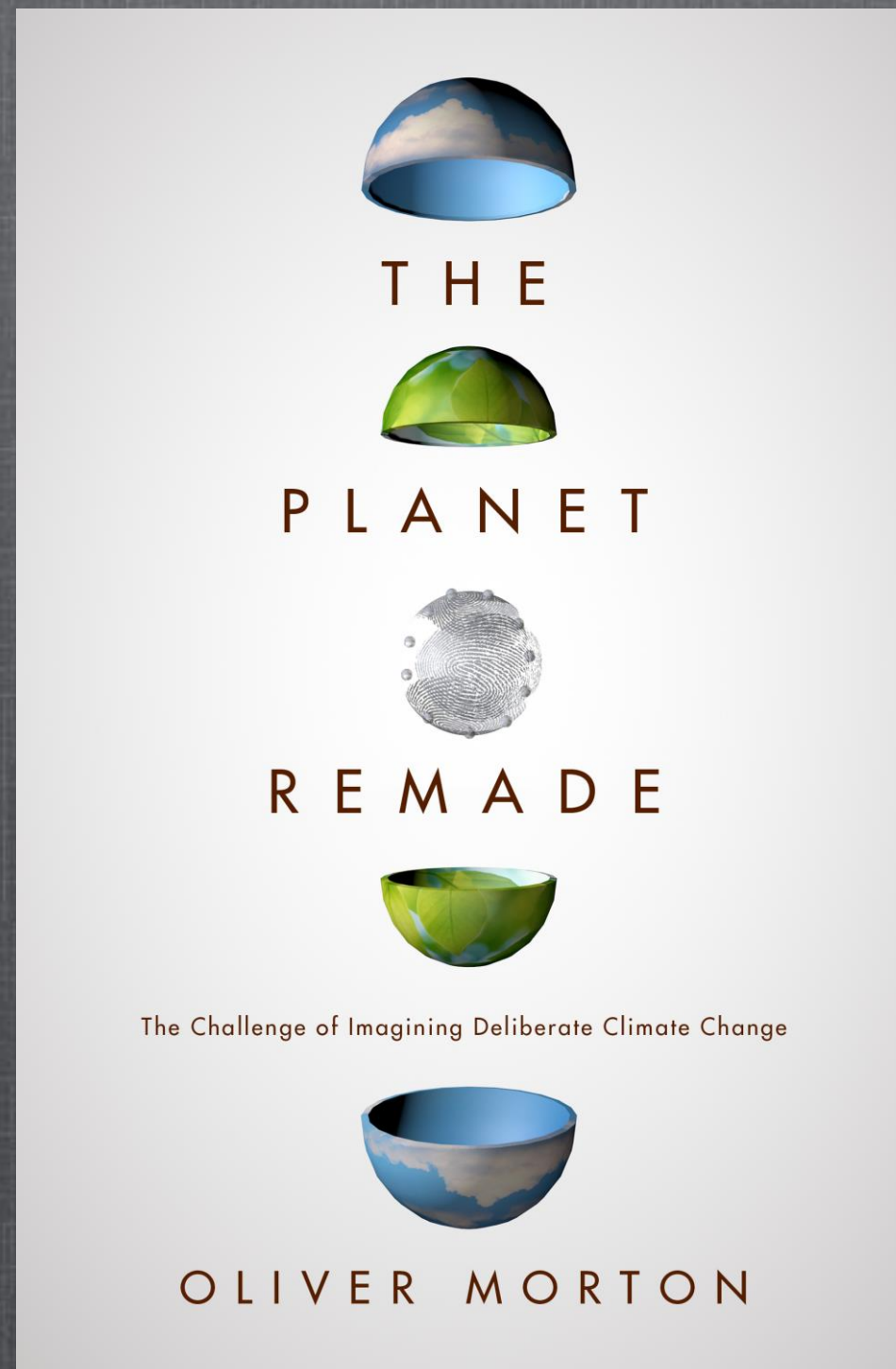


People and power



*The Weather Project – Olafur
Eliasson*

If you want more...





Blocking out sunlight works
After-effects of Pinatubo

Text TK



Mark Klett

Text TK



Rails and jet trails



Sunrise over Pecos

Two things to do with sunlight



“The great globe itself” is in a rapidly maturing crisis –
a crisis attributable to the fact that the environment in
which technological progress must occur has become
both undersized and underorganized
– John von Neumann, 1955



The Target Area

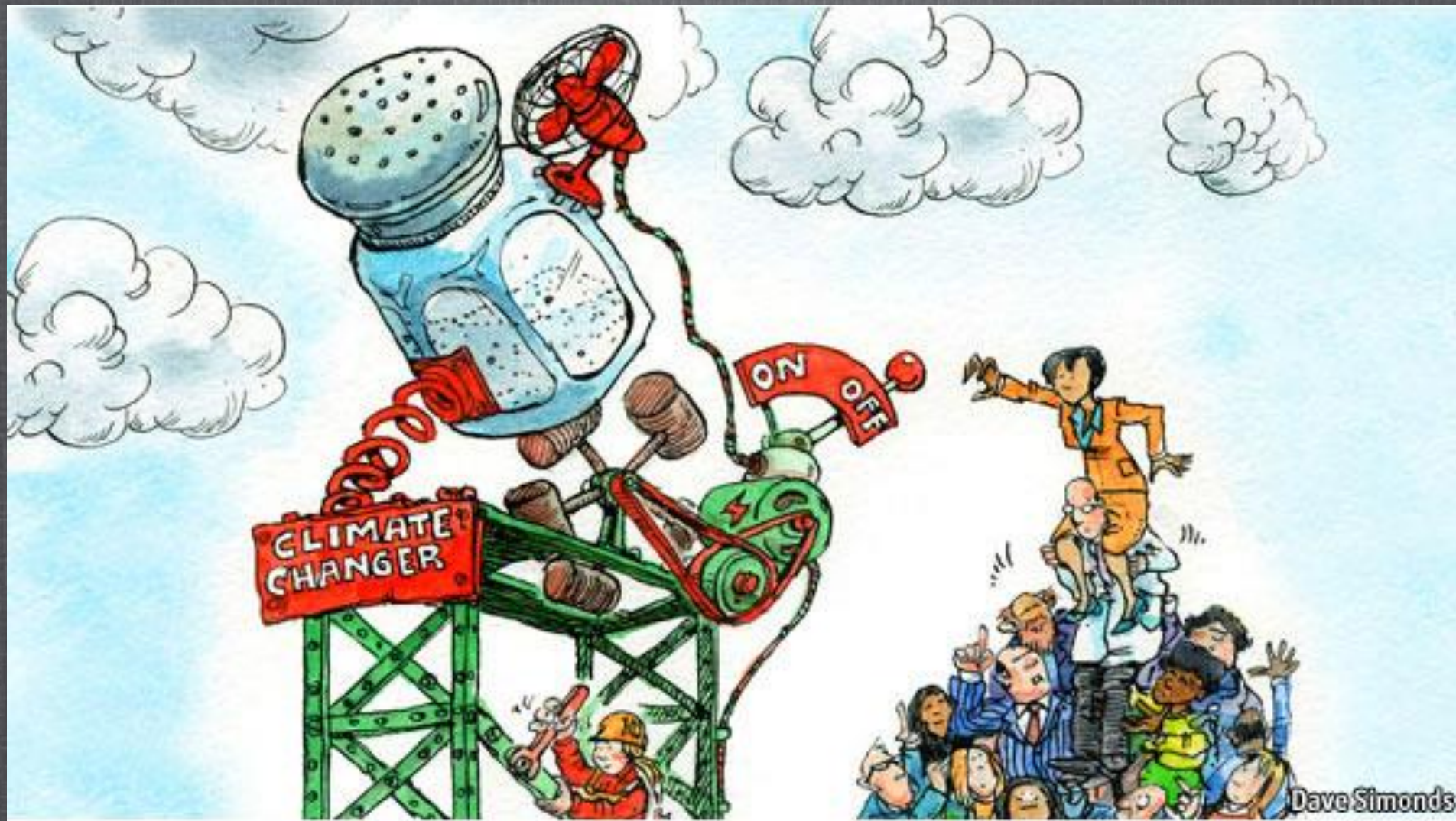


Bixby's Landing



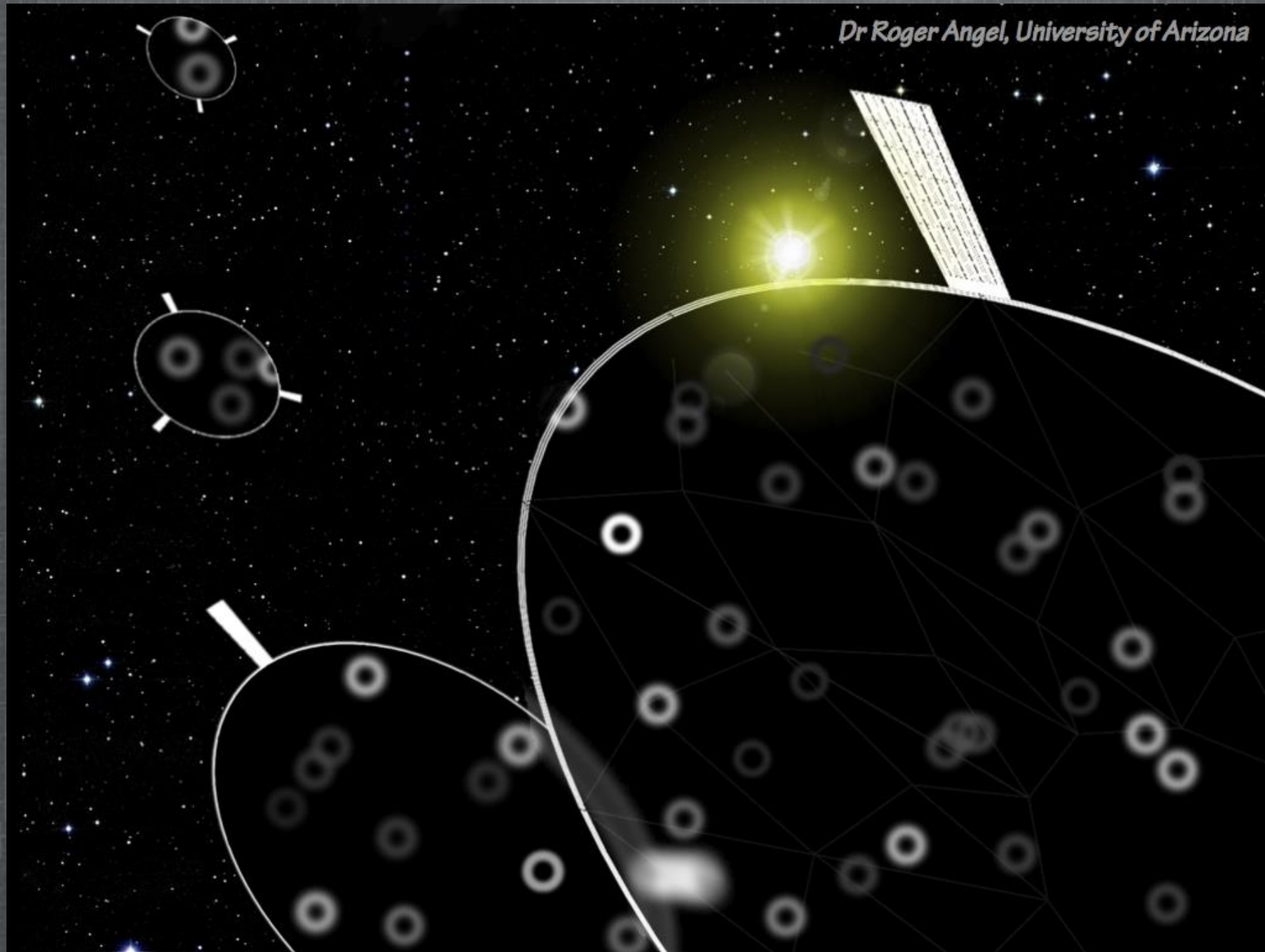
Is this all missing the point?

Techno fixes have their funny and undesirable sides



Social construction in action

Dr Roger Angel, University of Arizona









Jeff Nixon



artPORTAL



Another form of Geoengineering
Sucking up the carbon

Aspens, Ansel Adams

