

**Lyman Handy Colloquia**  
Presents  
**Getting Real About Energy in Cubic Miles of Oil**  
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**Abstract**

I co-wrote *A Cubic Mile of Oil* as a call for an informed public debate on energy, arguably the biggest challenge we face. In this talk I will discuss this book, which is a citizen's guide to energy, aiming to make all the technical discussion accessible and relatable. The book uses a simple visualizable measure, a cubic mile of oil (CMO), as the metric for comparing all global energy flows. As we look for alternate greener ways of producing energy, it is vital we get the scale of our solutions commensurate with the magnitude of the challenge. By the middle of this century, the global energy demand is expected to rise to somewhere between 6 and 9 CMO. Where are we going to get the energy? The debate about energy supply has often been portrayed as a tension between the moral imperative of protecting the environment or preserving the economic interests of the energy industry. This will explore the challenge that we face in balancing the tension between protecting the environment and the moral imperative of providing adequate affordable energy to people around the earth.

**Thursday, October 15, 2015**  
**12:45 pm, ZHS Room 159**  
The scientific community is cordially invited.

