

Re: The Electric Car

What's the $2e20$ joules/sec represent?

The kgf that's converted into terrestrial surface joules worth of what such a $7.35e22$ kg orb that's being summarily flung about Earth, as though on the end of an impressive string, that's clearly offset by the mutual gravity of attraction. Obviously all that push-pull and centripetal energy is going somewhere.

How much the moon loses to tidal forces, ocean tides and heating the earth/moon crusts?

I believe the greater tidal force of the sun is actually in charge, and if anything the moon is simply in the process of gaining energy as extracted from Earth, not losing it. If it were losing energy it would be getting closer to us, not further away. So, perhaps just that alone is worth our tapping into.

You didn't answer my question: What does $2e20$ joules/sec (what we dumb engineers would call "watts") represent? How is that number arrived at?

Imagine a gigantic weight, mounted on springs, that wiggles around roughly once a day, driven by the moon's gravitation. Couple that motion to a generator. Do the math.

That's true enough, as representing multiple teraWatts of perfectly clean energy that's just going to waste. My LSE-CM/ISS and of its dipole element might rather easily take some of that give and take motion into account.

My proposal was sarcastic. You'd have seen that instantly if you could do the math.

John

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