Could Photosynthesis Breakthrough Yield Solar Power Advance?

Source: http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.energy/2007−04/msg00107.html

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From Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, April 12, 2007:

http://www.lbl.gov/Science−Articles/Archive/PBD−quantum−secrets.html

"Quantum Secrets of Photosynthesis Revealed"

BERKELEY, CA −Through photosynthesis, green plants and cyanobacteria are able to transfer sunlight energy to molecular reaction centers for conversion into chemical energy with nearly 100−percent efficiency. Speed is the key − the transfer of the solar energy takes place almost instantaneously so little energy is wasted as heat. How photosynthesis achieves this near instantaneous energy transfer is a long−standing mystery that may have finally been solved.

Scientific American has a news summary about this research:

http://tinyurl.com/25sfdl

or

http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=ED1D1446−E7F2−99DF−3CBF8B2F66C0C5D4&chanID=sa003

As does the journal Nature (in which the full article will be published). "Knowing how plants and bacteria harvest light for photosynthesis so efficiently could provide a clean solution to mankind's energy requirements. The secret, it seems, may be the coherent application of quantum principles....":

http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v446/n7137/full/446740a.html

PhysicsWeb also has a piece:

http://physicsweb.org/articles/news/11/4/10/1

Quite interesting and hopeful....

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Brett
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