

# **A Guide to the New Millennial Energy Currencies**

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### **Abstract**

Energy transactions of the future will evolve through a combination of changes in currency (Digital:bitcoin), energy (multi-directional) and environment (carbon). Just as telecom providers and vehicle makers evolved their business approaches to customers decades ago, so will the next wave of energy players be forced to change due to technological disruption and the emerging values of a new generation.

As customers begin to choose energy partners in much the same fashion they select mobile phone providers, a new generation of energy retailers will offer a greater variety of options than the simple consumption bill, payable each month. "Mobile Millennials" will expect the manner and metrics of energy transactions to be as fluid, convenient and meaningful as their other services. As we already see changes such as time of use, bulk purchases and other variants of energy pricing, the next generation will expect to be able to compare "pre-packaged energy measures" to guarantee their price for a "bank" of energy, just as they do their phone time. Due to the advent of affordable stationary or mobile storage technologies and distributed generation such as solar roofs, consumers will be able to sell back unused stored energy or that which they produce themselves.

As opportunities grow in scope and range, currency specialists will be offered opportunities in the energy sector, with their talents in transactive terms such as "futures, spot and swap" becoming increasingly important in a far more complex energy mix. Carbon will emerge as a new metric in which even individual consumers can transact, in some cases due to financial benefits, and in others due to personal environmental concerns. And finally with the advent of e-wallets and bitcoin, the efficiency and variety of financial transactions will permit even peer-to-peer energy movement.

Is your world ready for such a radical change? Are banks prepared to trade in the digital currencies of the future? Will energy providers emerge to compete with the established utility companies, with marketing programs able to rival the best mobile phone providers? Will entities from other industries begin to poach into the energy world as never before? Stay tuned, the future provides us with immense opportunity to innovate and help create a better energy world for tomorrow.