



## Survival Requirements

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Suppose you have a roof. Now you punch holes in the roof. The next time it rains, do the holes help or hurt? You've still got a roof, right? Mostly?

Actually, it's bad to have holes in your roof. And the more holes you have, the worse it gets.

I elaborate this object lesson not primarily for you and your common-sensical friends, but to those determined to make it ever-harder for us to provide ourselves with food, clothing, and shelter by progressively crippling our means of doing so.

Example? The Environmental Protection Agency is [trying to kill](#) uninterrupted generation of power in the United States.

New rules the EPA has proposed would require

plants powered by coal or gas to eliminate almost all of their carbon emissions by 2040. The plants would have to shut down or switch to less reliable sources of electricity like the sun (unhelpful when it's cloudy or post-sunset), wind (unhelpful when there's no wind), and wishful thinking (never helpful).

Fossil-fueled power plants provide some 60 percent of production of electricity in the country. Jim Matheson, head of National Rural Electric Cooperative Associations, warns that the EPA rules would put the reliability of the power grid at risk.

Yes. Rolling blackouts currently the norm in a few states especially plagued by anti-energy policies would become the norm throughout the country.

Like us, proponents of such policies may already know that deliberately creating shortages of energy is bad.

Unlike us, though, they may think that others, and not themselves, will bear the brunt of the downpour.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.