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## Solari Report Update



### "Follow the Money" - Financial Transparency with William Bergman - Feb 19

To

*"In a digital age, data about money is worth more than money." ~Nicholas Negroponte*

This week, the Director of Research at Truth In Accounting in Chicago, Bill Bergman, joins me for a discussion of financial transparency. Bill has a remarkable background – economist at the Federal Reserve and analyst at leading brokerage and investment research companies. Bill also has a history of using financial transparency to ensure that our resources are lawfully managed. He was forced out of the Fed when his research into money laundering got too close to the truth. A rare breed among first rate economists, Bill does not stop with the official reality. He follows the money to find the real opportunities in the real economy.

**Do you think “financial transparency” is a mundane topic? Think again! This is about “money hunting!” Let me give you some examples.**

Despite an excellent employment history, you are unable to find a job and are living on unemployment insurance and food stamps. You call the support phone line for food stamps and get someone in India working for JP Morgan Chase to answer your questions. This means the US government is paying

you to not work when you could be working and paying taxes doing that job. The government is, in fact, spending more money to ensure that you do not have a job. And to do so, they are paying an extra mark up to a bank that received bailout gifts in the billions.

Then you realize that farm land in your county is lying fallow funded with federal farm subsidies surrounded by people with no work who are drawing federal government subsidies. However, your food stamps are paying for food shipped in thousands of miles from Latin America. Why not grow fresh food locally if it lowers subsidies being paid to people who are not working? Perhaps healthy, fresh food would lower health care expenses as well. The government is, in fact, spending more money to ensure that they finance large corporate systems outsourcing food production to other countries.

The economics made no sense – a complex drain of tax dollars and financial debasement. It does, however, make sense for politicians whose campaigns are funded by the resulting capital gains on the stocks of the corporations that operate the system and win the government contracts.

**If you follow the money, opportunities to generate income locally in a manner that would save government money are everywhere.**

- Corporate contractors paid \$25-150 an hour plus mark up by the federal governments to do jobs that could be teleported into your community. Your neighbors currently living on government subsidies would love a job for \$10-20 an hour plus health care insurance. Local businesses will not get the opportunity to compete because the government contract budgets are not accessible;
- Perhaps you do not notice the FHA foreclosed property across town that could be purchased and rehabbed for \$100,000. Yet, it sits empty while HUD funds a public housing complex rehab for \$250,000 per unit. Costs are loaded up with generous “fees for our friends;”
- You have not thought about the federal prison in the next county. Your spouse is working two jobs to cover household expenses and to pay federal taxes. In an entire lifetime, your family will pay \$154,000 in federal income taxes. It turns out that this is the cost for one year for

one prisoner to process through the criminal justice system. If you understood what it cost you, maybe you would feel differently about incarcerating non-violent criminals for growing medicinal marijuana for people who can not afford health insurance; or,

- Maybe you would have felt differently about the bailouts if you have known that the banks enjoyed gifts and loans in an amount equivalent to at least several multiples of all of the outstanding residential mortgages in the country.

**There is no more powerful tool to bring about real change than financial transparency. Turn on the lights and the profit potential is everywhere.**

Catherine Austin Fitts

## **From The Blog**

### **March 05**

1st Quarter Equity  
Overview

### **March 12**

Precious Metals Market  
Report with Franklin  
Sanders

[We Apologize!](#)

[Catherine's Latest](#)

[Crowdfund: Scoop.co.nz to  
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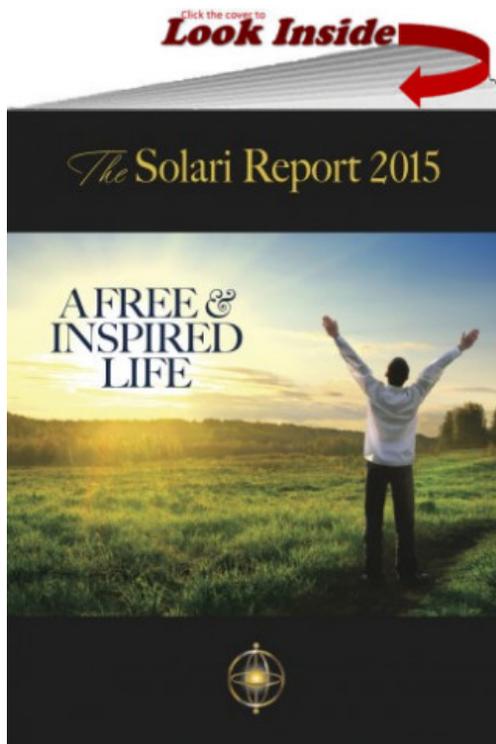
## **“A Free & Inspired Life” Hot off the Press!**

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## **Highlights from the 2014 Annual Wrap Up**

On Thursday, January 8th, the Solari Report team published our Annual Wrap Up, complete with an online Web Presentation with graphs and charts to help you assess and digest the richness of our topic.

Here is what I will be covering:

- A Free and Inspired Life – our theme for 2015.
- Money Maps of the World – we have created a tool to review the “geo” of “geopolitics.”
- Planet Equity – our choice for the “big trend” to highlight this year.
- The Most Important Stories of 2014 and the Deeper Trends – I look at critical drivers in our culture and economy that define your opportunities and risks.

- 2014 Financial Market Round Up – a review of performance in the global financial markets.
- 2015: Get Ready, Get Ready, Get Ready – let’s talk about scenarios and strategies for this coming year.
- Vision 2020 – The Solari Report team wants to support your free and inspired life: here are our plans for 2015.
- Best Books for 2015 – Some of our favorite picks to keep you in the know this year.
- And the Winners are... – announcing the Solari Report hero, documentary and movie of the year.
- Credits and Closing – The Solari Report draws from the best and the brightest – we want to remind you of who they are and how you can enjoy their offerings.

This is a great way to start your year – with perspective!

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## Highlights from Our Last Report

Oil and gas prices have dropped by almost 50% over the last year, with significant consequence to the values of companies, currencies and the balance of trade between nations.

What is causing this drop? Clearly, the “Oil Card” is at play – the US manipulating prices lower to pressure Russia as part of economic sanctions. No doubt, a slowing global economy is also reducing demand. However, a wide range of new technologies are also at play – from fracking technology to a global smart phone revolution to increasing productivity in material sciences and renewable energy. However, there is always the possibility of breakthrough energy innovations in the mix.

To explore what is happening in breakthrough energy, I asked industrial scientist Joel Garbon, head of the New Energy Movement, to join us on the Solari Report to update you on the innovations underway. What is the likelihood that breakthrough energy may impact the economy in the foreseeable future? Talking with Joel is always a fascinating exploration of what is possible.

If you think G-7 central bank QE is fueling higher stock prices, wait to you see what happens If breakthrough drops in the price of energy should ever happen.

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## Special Solari Report: In-State Equity Crowdfunding Offerings as an Alternative to Federal Jobs Act - Now Available to All Solari Readers!

*~The following article and accompanying table are intended for use as reference tools and as indications of the types of requirements and restrictions that may be found in*

**and as indications of the types of requirements and restrictions that may be found in various state statutes and regulations. They should not be relied upon, may not be current, accurate or complete and do not constitute legal advice for readers. Any small business interested in conducting a state crowdfunding offering should consult competent legal counsel in the applicable home state before taking any action.~**

*[CAF Note: Whenever I am interested in a highly complex legal and regulatory issue, I turn to our attorney Carolyn Betts to research and write something that distills the material down so that a serious entrepreneur can get the lay of the land before finding the right attorney. The goal is to take a very important issue and reduce the task of defining options to something a busy person can handle it. As the federal government has declined to create a regulatory pathway for crowdfunding to serve as a legitimate tool for entrepreneurs to raise equity capital, the states are proceeding to take action. If using crowdfunding to invest or raise capital with securities is of interest, do check out what is happening in your state. Here it is – another tour de force from Carolyn Betts.]*

[See it here!](#)

## About The Solari Report

A live, weekly one-hour briefing with Catherine Austin Fitts and specialized experts, [The Solari Report](#) helps to navigate you through the shifting political and financial climates while building your wealth.

[Learn more and subscribe here.](#)

*Nothing in this Solari Update should be taken as individual investment advice. Anyone seeking investment advice for his or her personal financial situation is advised to seek out a qualified advisor or advisors and provide as much information as possible to the advisor in order that such advisor can take into account all relevant circumstances, objectives, and risks before rendering an opinion as to the appropriate investment strategy.*

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