

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

March 2003

## Editor's Note: Controversy Erupts over Skeptical Environmentalist

In the past few months we have received a number of comments on the December 2002 article entitled, "Becoming a Skeptical Environmentalist: Debunking the Eco-Myths that Face the Industry." Many of our readers enjoyed and appreciated the article and plan to use it as a resource. Others took issue with the article based on the growing controversy that Bjorn Lomborg's book has stirred in the scientific and academic world. One reader submitted a news release from the World Resources Institute (WRI) that was published on the Environmental News Network's web site applauding a recent rebuke of Lomborg's work. The release can be viewed at [http://newsroom.wri.org/newsrelease\\_text.cfm?NewsReleaseID=196](http://newsroom.wri.org/newsrelease_text.cfm?NewsReleaseID=196).

After reviewing a portion of the copious material that has been written on both sides of the controversy surrounding Lomborg's book, it is clear that providing a detailed account of the debate is beyond the scope of SBC Magazine and would require too many of this publication's resources to explore fully. Therefore, we have chosen to provide our readers with as many sources of information as possible on both sides of the debate so that individuals can draw their own conclusions on the veracity of Lomborg's work. Please keep in mind as you explore this issue that the criticism that is being leveled against Lomborg is, at times, strongly biased and more emotional than it is fact-based. Hence, it is very important to read all sides of the debate and carefully assess all of the information available.

We welcome continued discussion on this topic. If you would like to make a comment on this or any other topic covered in SBC Magazine, please email it to [editor@sbcmag.info](mailto:editor@sbcmag.info) or fax it to 608/271-7006.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Greenspirit's web site as it relates to Lomborg's work:

<http://www.greenspirit.com/lomborg/>

(Patrick Moore has posted the Scientific American article with Lomborg's response.)

Bjorn Lomborg's personal web site as it relates to The Skeptical Environmentalist:

<http://www.lomborg.com/books.htm>

(Click on "Critiques and Replies" for information specific to this controversy.)

Scientific American web site section on this controversy, see especially the "More to Explore" section at the bottom of the page:

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=00000B96-9517-1CDA-B4A8809EC588EEDF>

Lomborg's response to DCSD:

[http://www.lomborg.com/press\\_release.htm](http://www.lomborg.com/press_release.htm)

The Washington Post's article on DCSD decision:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A24584-2003Jan7-Found=true>

World Resources Institute provides links to more information on this controversy:

[http://www.wri.org/wri/press/mk\\_lomborg.html](http://www.wri.org/wri/press/mk_lomborg.html)

For articles printed in The Economist on the topic of this controversy, go to <http://www.economist.com> and search for "Lomborg." Some articles may require a subscription to view.

The Worldwatch Institute provides links to information on this debate at:

<http://www.worldwatch.org/issues/skeptical-websites.html>

The World Wildlife Fund provides "Nine Things Journalists Should Know about the Skeptical Environmentalist" on their web site at:

<http://www.worldwildlife.org>

Cambridge University Press highlights Lomborg's book on its web site at:

<http://www.cup.org/features/lomborg/press.htm>

(Click on "The Debate" for links to more sources of information on this controversy.)

Criticism of Greenpeace founder, Dr. Patrick Moore, can be found at:

<http://www.fanweb.org/patrick-moore/index.shtml>.

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