



Search  WEB SEARCH

HOME U.S. BUSINESS WORLD ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS TECH POLITICS SCIENCE HEALTH TRAVEL MOST POPULAR

Science Video Weather News Space & Astronomy Animals & Pets Dinosaurs & Fossils Biotech Energy Environment

POPULAR SEARCHES: mike tyson sonia sotomayor prop 8 iran north korea home prices Search All News News Search Advanced Search

# US wants to paint the world white to save energy



Buzz Up Send Share Print

2 hrs 32 mins ago



AFP/Getty Images/File – US Energy Secretary Steven Chu, seen here in April 2009, said Tuesday the Obama administration wanted ...

LONDON(AFP) (AFP) – US Energy Secretary Steven Chu said Tuesday the Obama administration wanted to paint roofs an energy-reflecting white, as he took part in a climate change symposium in London.

The Nobel laureate in physics called for a "new revolution" in energy generation to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

But he warned there was no silver bullet for tackling climate change, and said a range of measures should be introduced, including painting flat roofs white.

Making roads and roofs a paler colour could have the equivalent effect of taking every car in the world off the road for 11 years, Chu said.

It was a geo-engineering scheme that was "completely benign" and would keep buildings cooler and reduce energy use from air conditioning, as well as reflecting sunlight back away from the Earth.

For people who found white hard on the eye, scientists had also developed "cool colours" which looked to the human eye like normal ones, but reflect heat like pale colours even if they are darker shades.

And painting cars in cool or light colours could deliver considerable savings on energy use for air conditioning units, he said.

Speaking at the start of a symposium on climate change hosted by the Prince of Wales and attended by more than 20 Nobel laureates, Chu said fresh thinking was required to cut the amount of carbon created by power generation.

He said: "The industrial revolution was a revolution in the use of energy. It offloaded from human and animal power into using fossil fuels.

"We have to go to a different new revolution that can severely decrease the amount of carbon emissions in the generation of energy."

Turn OFF Expand/Collapse Article Collapse Article

Related Searches: greenhouse gas emissions climate change steven chu

Recommend 196 users recommend

Buzz Up Send Share Print

## More on Climate Change

- Climate change: Progress seen on funding problem AFP
- US wants to paint the world white to save energy AFP
- Help for poor countries at Paris climate talks AP

More »

## More...

- Video: Obama's Auto Rip-Off FOXBusiness
- Video: Philly Legal Community Lauds Supreme Court Choice CBS 3 Philadelphia
- Video: Obama nominates first Hispanic to Supreme Court AP

## Most Viewed - Science

- US wants to paint the world white to save energy AFP
- Caught on Video: Whales Steal Fish LiveScience.com

## Most Blogged - Science

- In Hot Pursuit of Fusion (or Folly) New York Times – Mon May 25, 2:14 pm EDT
- Blogs About This Story (5)

## Elsewhere on the Web

- Time.com: Maybe an Asteroid Didn't Kill the Dinosaurs
- Time.com: How to Deal with Swine Flu: Heeding the Mistakes of 1976

## Top Stories

- Historic nomination: Hispanic Sotomayor as justice
- Calif. high court upholds gay-marriage ban
- Army chief: US ready to be in Iraq 10 years
- Analysis: US looking for Russians, Chinese to lead
- UAW trust to get up to 20 percent of GM shares
- How Afghanistan's little tragedies are adding up
- Minn. parents agree to let son undergo chemo



More Top Stories »

ADVERTISEMENT

## sponsored links

- Fridholm Painting**  
Interior and exterior painting. Kitchen & bath remodels. Call now.  
[www.jfridholm.com](http://www.jfridholm.com)
- Need Body & Paint Work**  
Bring your car to us for collision repairs and custom painting.  
[CollisionCtr.localplacement.com](http://CollisionCtr.localplacement.com)
- If Your Car Has Bumps**  
And Bruises bring it to us. We repair & paint damaged vehicles.  
[GilesAuto.localplacement.com](http://GilesAuto.localplacement.com)

## Featured

-  **Antarctica research**  
What lies ahead for the "White Continent?"  
» More Antarctica videos
-  **Honorable discharge**  
Regimental Goat William Windsor parades into retirement in The Week In Photos.

## Updates

Manage My Updates