



Powering the Dragon: China and the Global Energy Challenge E2 EcoSalon

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Speaker Bios

Thomas Friedman became *The New York Times*'s foreign-affairs columnist in 1995. Mr. Friedman's latest book, *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the 21st Century*, was released in April 2005 and won the inaugural Goldman Sachs/Financial Times Business Book of the Year award. Previous to becoming foreign-affairs columnist at *The New York Times*, Mr. Friedman served as chief economic correspondent in the Washington bureau, chief White House correspondent, Israel bureau chief and Beirut bureau chief. Mr. Friedman has won three Pulitzer prize awards and in 2005 became a member of the Pulitzer Prize Board. Born in Minneapolis on July 20, 1953, Mr. Friedman received a B.A. degree in Mediterranean studies from Brandeis University in 1975. In 1978, he received his Master of Philosophy in Modern Middle East studies from Oxford. Mr. Friedman writes frequently about the environmental challenges presented by China's rapid economic growth and the necessity of adopting green technology solutions. Mr. Friedman is married and has two daughters.

Barbara Finamore, a Senior Attorney at NRDC, founded and directs its China Program. Barbara has had over 25 years of experience in environmental law and policy in the United States, China, Russia and Taiwan. She served as President and Chairman of the Professional Association for China's Environment (PACE) and co-founded the China-U.S. Energy Efficiency Alliance with E2 member Peter Liu. Barbara received her law degree in 1980 from Harvard Law School, and a Wasserstein Public Interest Fellowship from Harvard Law School in 1993. Barbara lives in Taipei with her husband, Stephen Young, a Foreign Service officer currently serving as Director of the American Institute in Taiwan. They have three children, Michael, Rebecca and Patrick.

Rob Watson joined NRDC in 1985, starting in the San Francisco office. Rob currently directs NRDC's Green Building and International Energy projects and has worked extensively in the former Soviet Union, Latin America and China, and is the only foreigner recognized by China's Ministry of Construction for "green building innovation." Rob founded the LEED Green Building Rating System and led the greening of NRDC's four offices. Rob just added an MBA from Columbia University to his M.S. from the University of California, Berkeley. He lives in New York with his wife, writer/architect Margaret Howard Watson, and budding environmental scientist, Max, 7.