



## The Hail of It

March 27, 2024

The Hail of It Early yesterday, an out-of-control container ship ran into the Francis Scott Key Bridge over the Patapsco River in Baltimore. Early reports claimed that a dozen vehicles and 20 people went into the cold water, with only two survivors, so far, being rescued; last I heard, however, the total went down to [six missing](#) after the initial rescues.

It looks like an accident, and accidents happen, sometimes horrific ones. There's a reason "thoughts and prayers" are mentioned at such times, all other talk seeming vastly inappropriate.

Nevertheless, President Joe Biden immediately promised that the federal government would pay to replace the bridge.

Eleven days earlier a more humdrum disaster gave us greater license to speculate. "Thousands of panels on a solar farm southwest of Houston, Texas, were damaged by a powerful hailstorm on March 15," a *Newsweek* report [informs](#) us. "Aerial [footage](#) showed rows of cracked photovoltaic cells at the Fighting Jays Solar Farm near Needville in Fort Bend County. . . ." A vast array of solar panels, ruined by something not unheard-of in Texas: "baseball-sized hail stones" falling from the sky.

And seeping out of the panels? *Toxic* chemicals.

This is something that we, the voting public, must confront: the fact that most "green energy" replacements are fragile and often environmentally hazardous. Compared to [natural gas](#) they are ecological disasters.

While Joe Biden yammers about funding a new bridge, we need to force a more important conversation, about removing subsidies for pseudo-green alternative energy sources.

To save us from the poorhouse as well as from environmental disaster.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.