**SSC2030: Reading quiz for chapter 3 of ‘Clean Break’**

1. Give an example of types of citizen-owned distributed energy replacing fossil fuels in Germany. And what type of ownership model(s) is(are) used?

Local biomass heating plants owned by cooperatives and used to heat villages are a good example. This model is called *Bürger Energie* (citizen energy)

2. Who is John Farrell?

John Farrell is a senior researcher with the Minnesota-based Institute for Local Self-Reliance and is a prominent fan of *die Energiewende*.

3. List four benefits of DG (distributed generation) that Farrell is enthusiastic about.

* Efficiency
* Low cost
* Democratization: giving citizens power and control
* Equity and individual freedom
* Profit to be shared with or reaped by the general population

4. Why does Farrell believe Germany’s energy transition is far outpacing change in the US.

"The reason Germany is so far ahead of us in renewable power is simple," said DG-advocate John Farrell. "Their policies are designed so that people have skin in the game."

5. Describe the ownership, investment and voting structure of German energy coops as described in this chapter.

All coop members pay identical membership fees and payback of those fees is generally fairly rapid. A member can by as may coop shares as she wants to. But, each member gets only one vote, no matter how many shares they own. So, extra shares are an investment but not overt political power.

6. Why is the cost of installing solar power (and other forms of renewable energy) lower in Germany than in the US?

Germany has focused on reducing costs of implementation of renewable energy; they’ve made it the easier energy to use. The reverse is still true in the US: it’s easier and cheaper to install conventional energy systems.