

After more than 4 weeks of strong heat and drought, the thermometer in Iowa stood still at 106 degree Fahrenheit for three days last week. In addition, night temperatures did not drop below 80 degrees Fahrenheit, which was considered a record for that particular day in July. The corn was already considered ruined, no rain in sight. Relief came with a torrential thunder storm, but it also brought along a power outage of 4 hours, which caused the outage of most electrical systems including air conditioning. There have always been weather extremes and power outages, but let me take this as a starting point to discuss the next challenges ahead in the goal to achieve more energy