

# “Abundance” for Whom? The New Neoliberalism in Shiny Green Wrapping

By [Your Name]

We’re told we’re entering an age of *Abundance*. An age of AI, electrification, and limitless innovation—powered by clean energy, massive data centers, and public-private partnerships that will supposedly lift all boats. The champions of this narrative, mostly clustered in Silicon Valley and think tanks with VC portfolios, envision a future where the government boldly builds again... but only what *they* want built.

Here’s the catch: the so-called Abundance agenda is selective. And its selectivity reveals a dirty truth. This isn’t a vision of abundance for everyone—it’s abundance for markets, for investors, for data farms and EV fleets. And for the rest of us? Austerity by omission.

Let’s be blunt. The obsession with electric power infrastructure—grids, transmission lines, datacenter siting, battery plants—is not driven by some neutral assessment of public need. It’s driven by *profitability*. It’s a gold rush dressed up as a public good. AI companies want power. Tesla wants power. Crypto wants power. And lo and behold, the state rushes in to deliver it. Massive subsidies, streamlined permitting, deregulated zones. Suddenly, we’re all infrastructure Keynesians again—just as long as the end user is a billionaire-backed firm and the ROI is forecastable.

Meanwhile, where’s the urgency for **water infrastructure**? America’s pipes are rusting into the ground. Lead poisons children in cities like Jackson and Flint. Sewage overflows in rural counties. But these systems don’t yield 30% IRR. You can’t IPO a sewer.

And **public transportation**? Neglected, fragmented, and underfunded. You won’t see many abundance evangelists talking about fixing the bus network in Detroit or building subways in Phoenix. Too slow. Too messy. Too communal. There’s no unicorn waiting at the end of a subway line.

This is not an accident. It is ideology. The Abundance narrative, for all its shiny promise, walks and talks like **neoliberalism 2.0**: government intervenes, but only to serve markets. Only to “unlock” private capital. Only to boost the sectors that already dominate our economy and politics. The market is still king—but now it drives a Rivian.

It’s the same logic that gave us privatized water in poor communities, charter schools in place of public ones, and Uber instead of buses. It is **austerity in a technocrat’s hoodie**, deploying the state only when and where capital wants help.

Don’t be fooled by the rebrand. A future where the grid hums but the tap runs dry is not abundant. A nation of autonomous trucks and crumbling bridges is not abundant. True abundance would mean *everyone* gets to live with dignity—not just those whose needs can be monetized.

## **ChatGPT Opinion Piece Re Abundance and Public Infrastructure 05272025**

We need a new abundance: one that starts not with what's profitable, but with what's essential. That funds what markets won't. That values clean air, clean water, reliable transit, and public space as much as datacenter throughput. That treats housing and health not as markets, but as rights.

Until then, this isn't abundance. It's just elite futurism—on the public dime.