

The Energy Sustainability Dilemma: *Powering the Future in a Finite World*

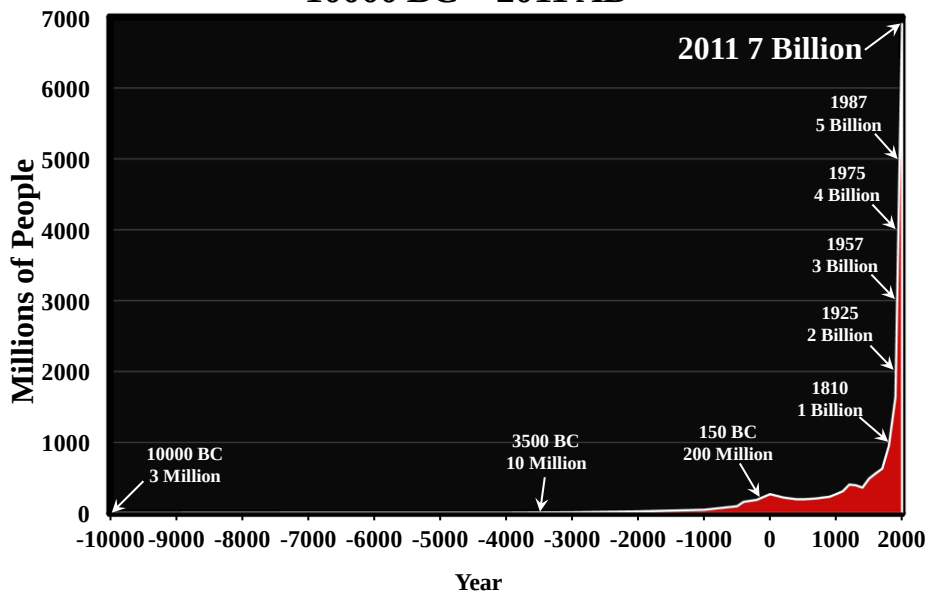
*Cornell University
Ithaca, New York
May 2, 2012*

J. David Hughes
*Global Sustainability Research Inc.
Geological Survey of Canada - retired*

Points to be covered:

- The “ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY DILEMMA” defined:
 - History - *where have we been*
 - Forecasts - *where are we going and how likely is it that we'll get there*
- Availability and deliverability of the nonrenewable fuels (*OIL, GAS, COAL, URANIUM*) that are the energy-dense elixers of our modern society
- *ELECTRICITY* – some issues in keeping the lights on
- Implications of *POPULATION GROWTH* and *ASPIRATIONS* of future energy consumption
- Going forward in an Energy Constrained World

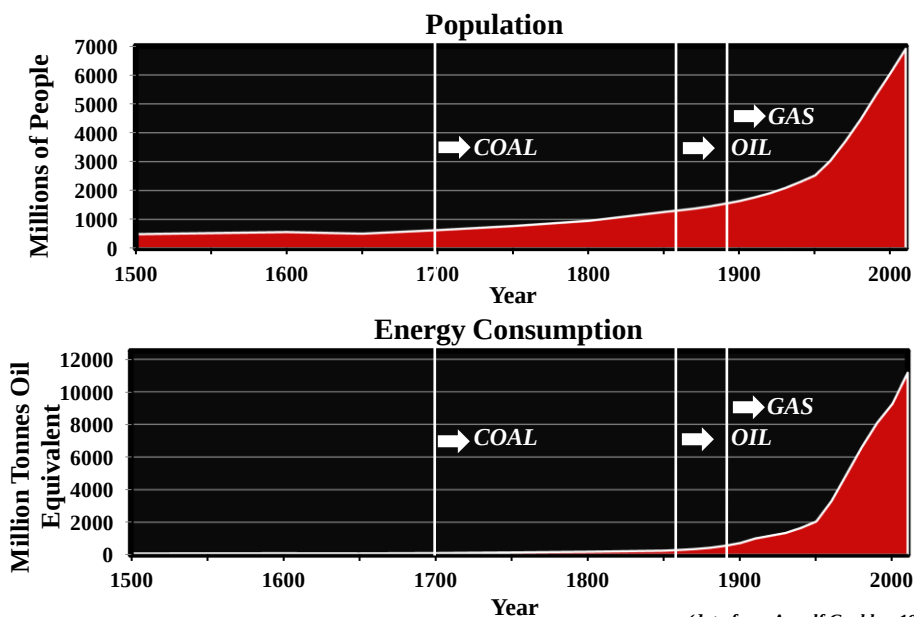
The Phenomenal Reproductive Success of the Human Race 10000 BC – 2011 AD



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(data as cited from U.S. Bureau of Census from various authors)

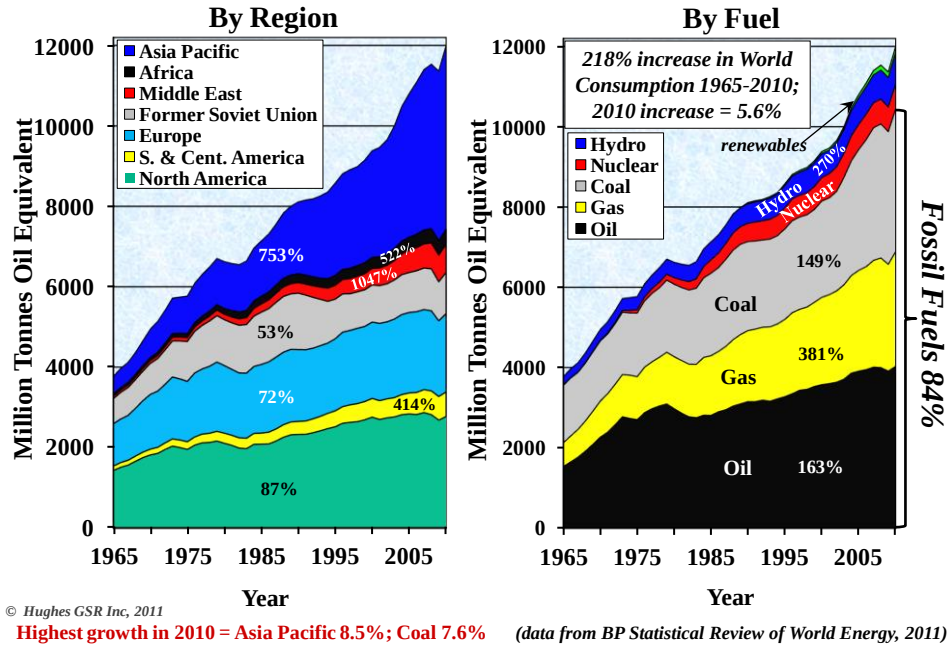
Population versus Energy Consumption, 1500-2010



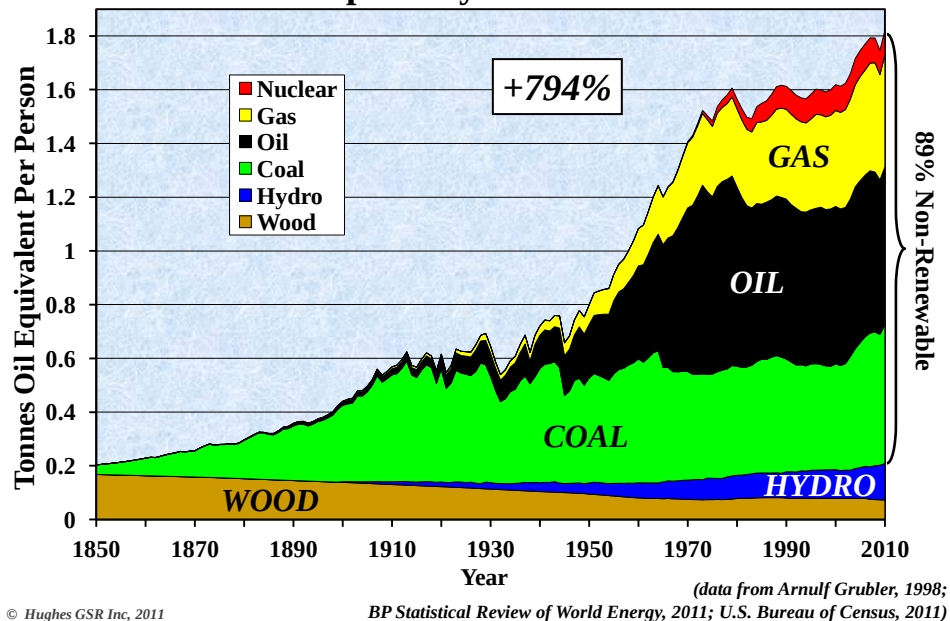
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(data from Arnulf Grubler, 1998;
BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2010; U.S. Bureau of Census, 2010)

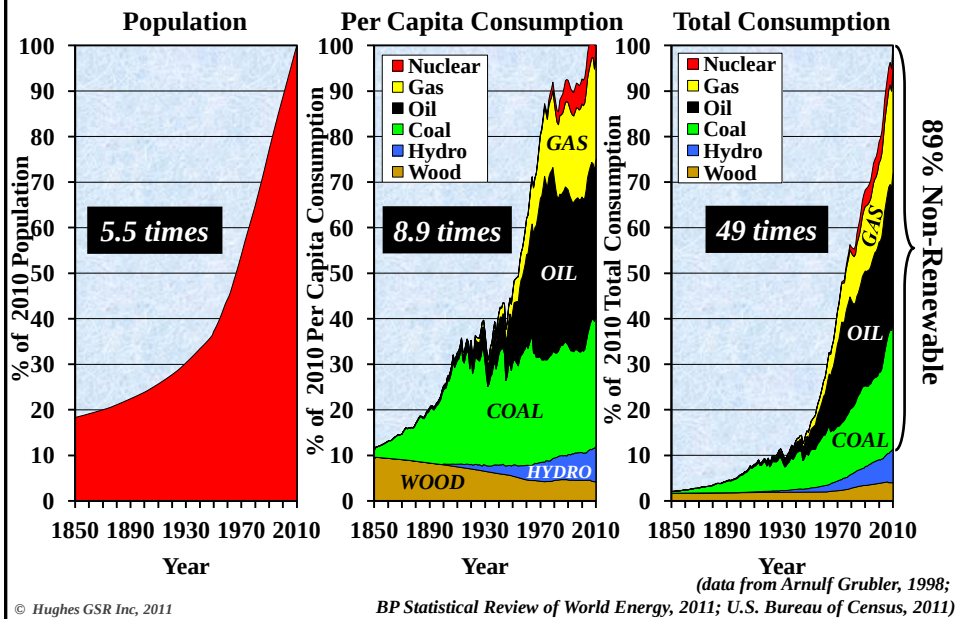
World Primary Energy Consumption: 1965-2010



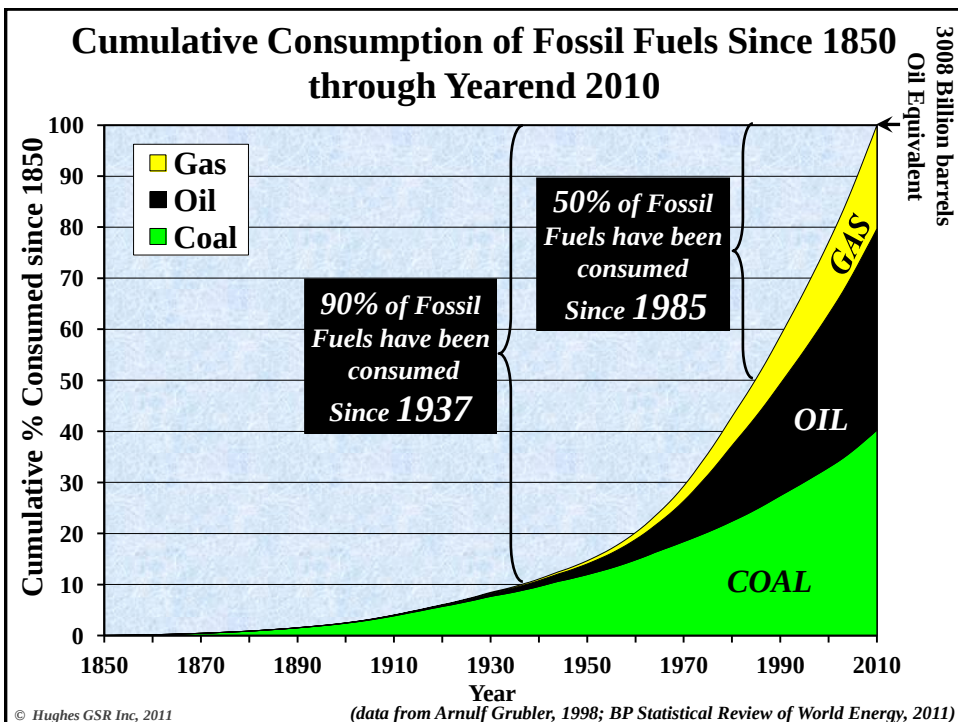
World Per Capita Annual Primary Energy Consumption by Fuel 1850-2010



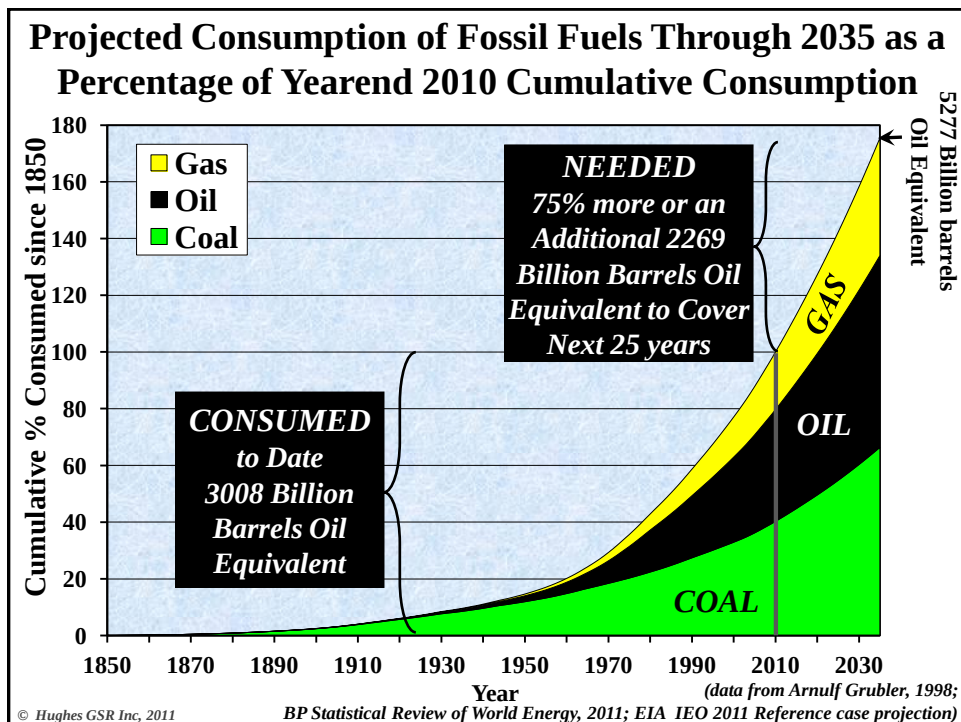
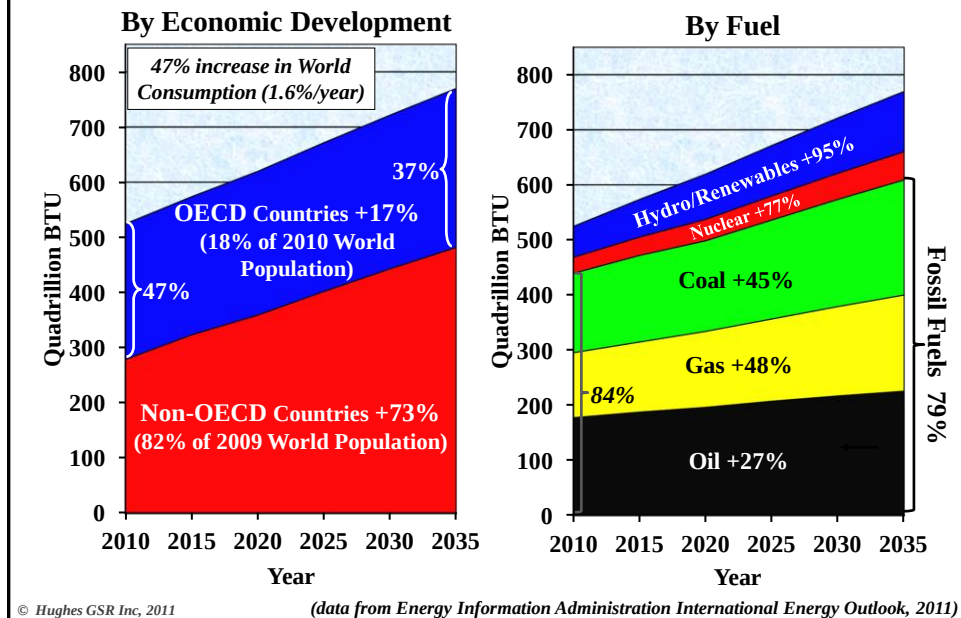
World Population, Per Capita and Total Energy Consumption, 1850-2010, as a Percentage of 2010 Levels

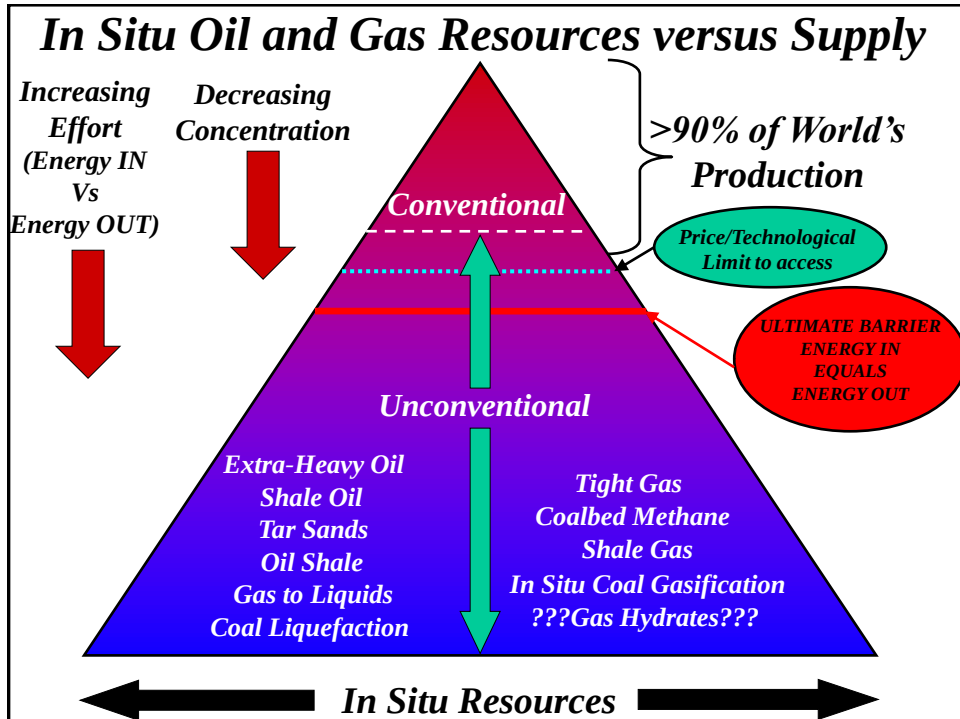


Cumulative Consumption of Fossil Fuels Since 1850 through Yearend 2010



Forecast Growth In World Energy Consumption, 2010-2035 (EIA, 2011, Reference Economic Case)

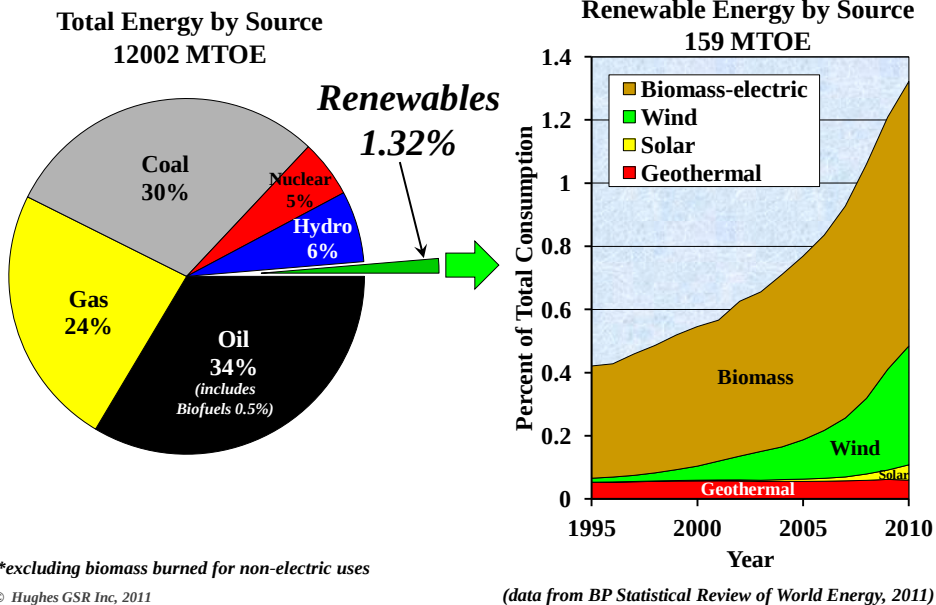




Beware of Scale:

- The 84% of Primary Energy provided by Hydrocarbons is **A LOT**
- Less than 2% of Primary Energy Consumption is now provided by non-hydropower renewables
- There are no scalable alternatives to hydrocarbons at the **RATES OF ENERGY THROUGHPUT** we enjoy at this point in time
- Unconventional hydrocarbon production is **DIFFICULT TO SCALE** compared to the cheap hydrocarbons of yesteryear

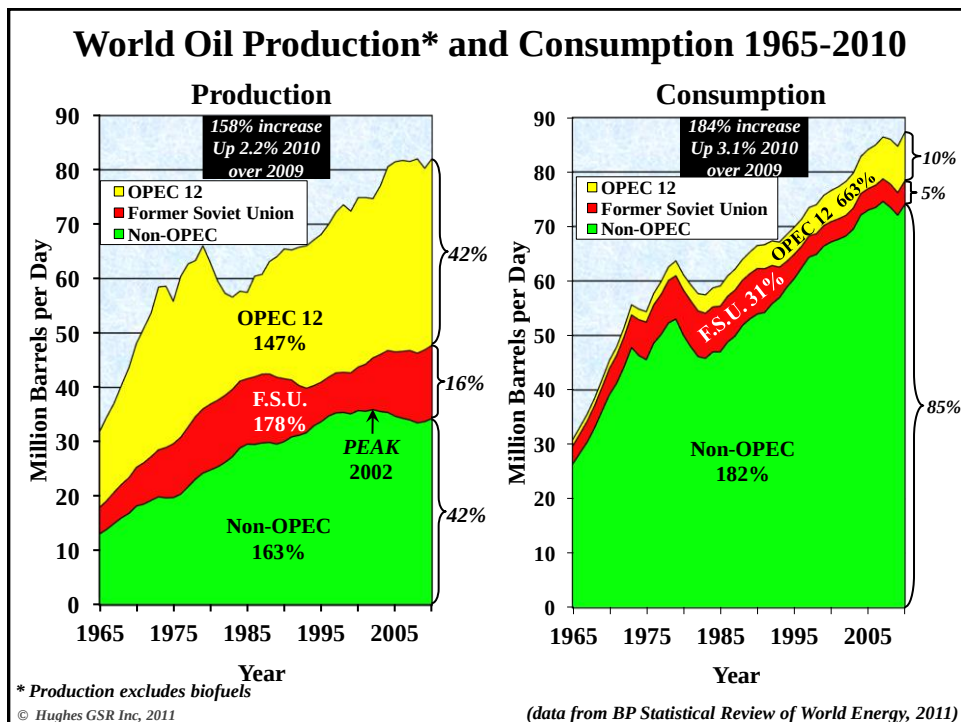
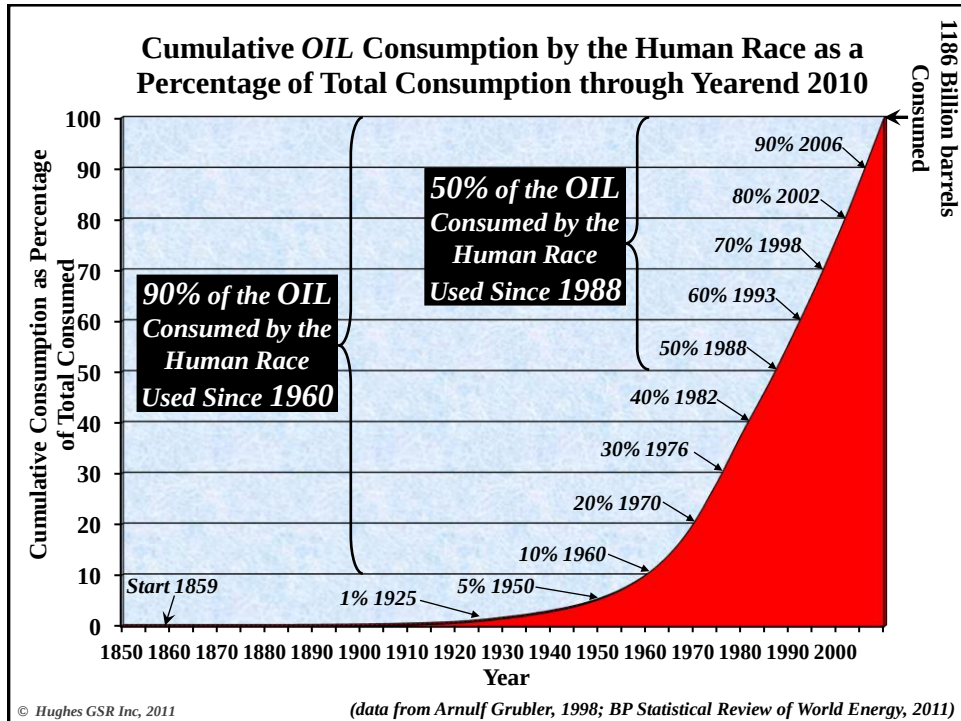
Global Primary Energy Consumption by Source in 2010 A Comparison to Total Non-Hydro Renewable* Energy

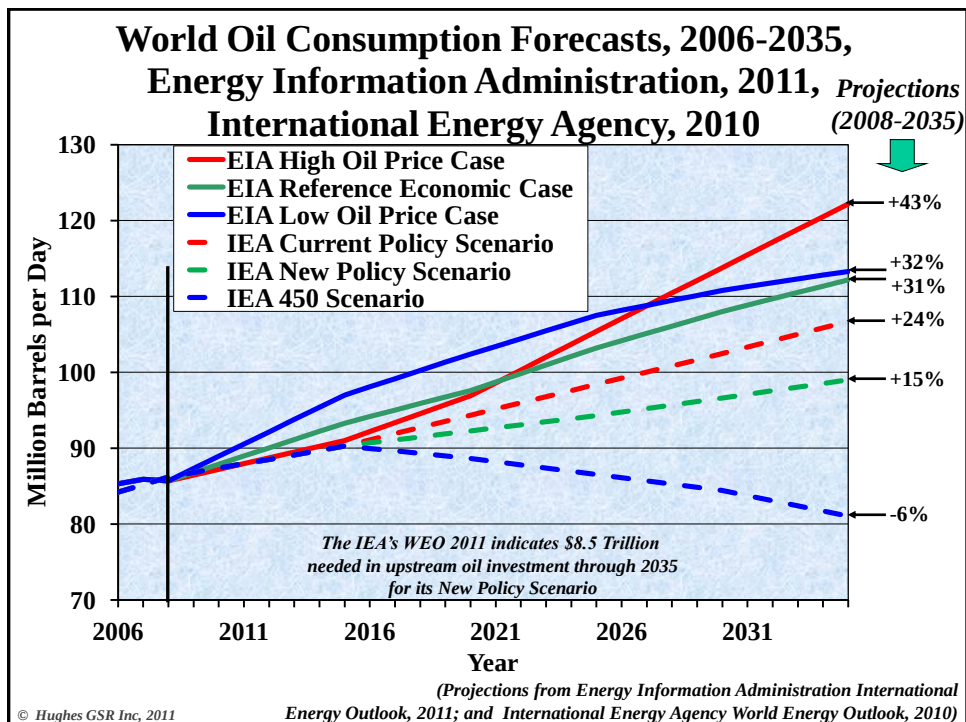
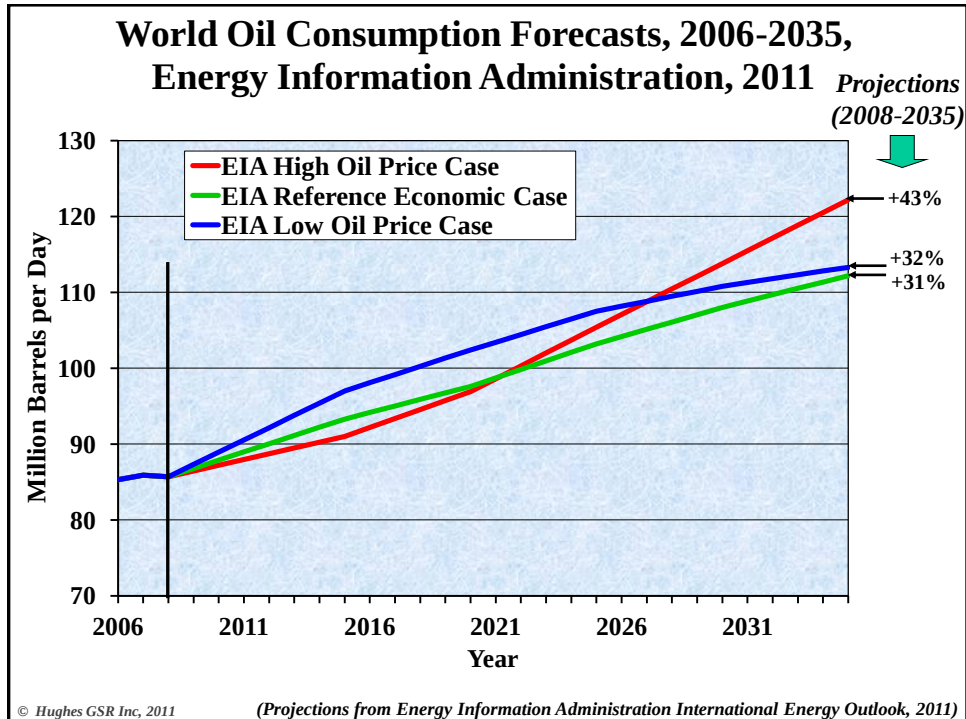


Summary

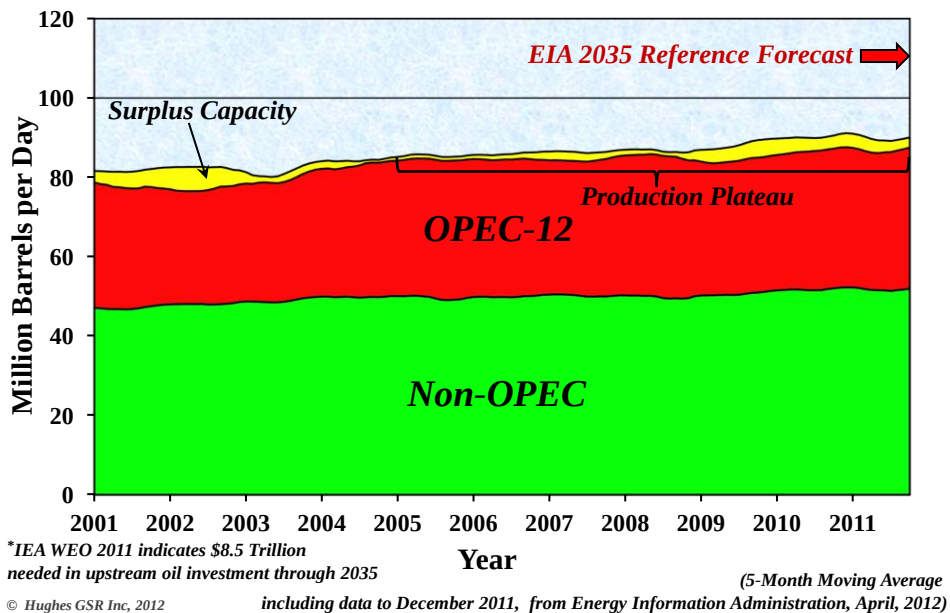
- Hydrocarbons provided 84% of the world's primary energy in 2010
- Forecasts suggest that 79% of a greatly expanded energy demand will continue to be provided by hydrocarbons in 2035
- Most of the balance of energy supply will be provided by large hydro and nuclear – sources with their own environmental problems
- The Question is: *IS THIS SUSTAINABLE?*

..... Lets look in more detail at oil, gas and coal

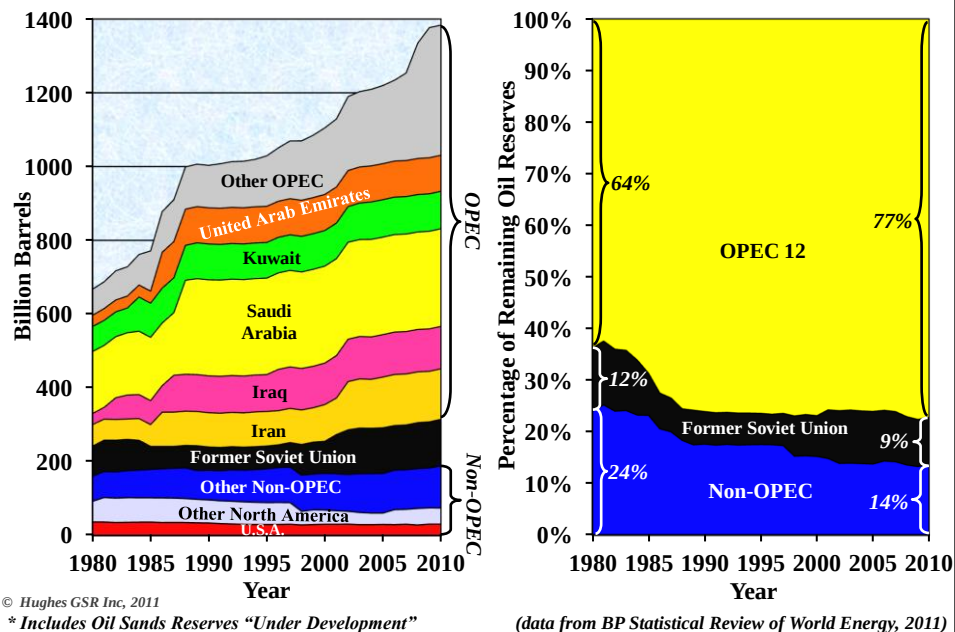




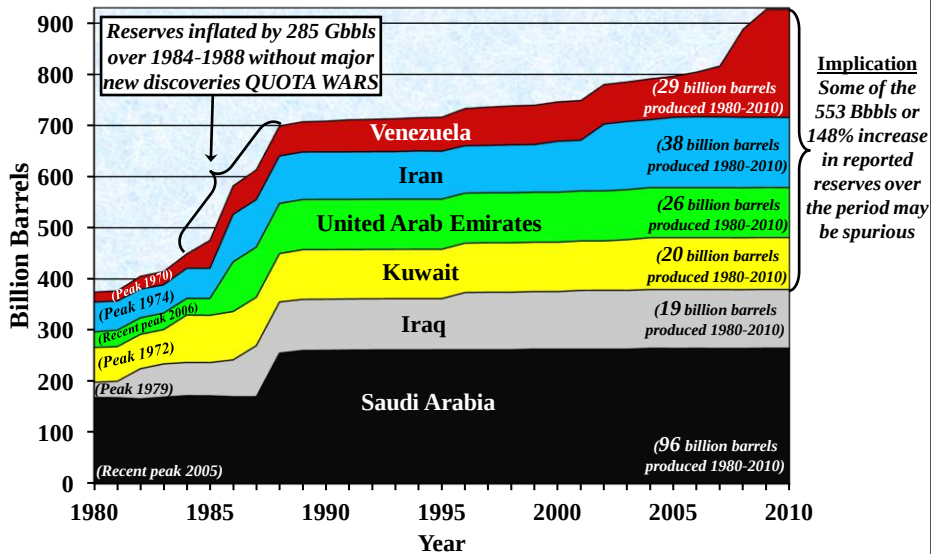
World Oil Supply – January 2001 to October 2011 Can Investment* Get Us to 112 Million barrels per Day?



World Conventional Oil and Oil Sands* Reserves 1980-2010



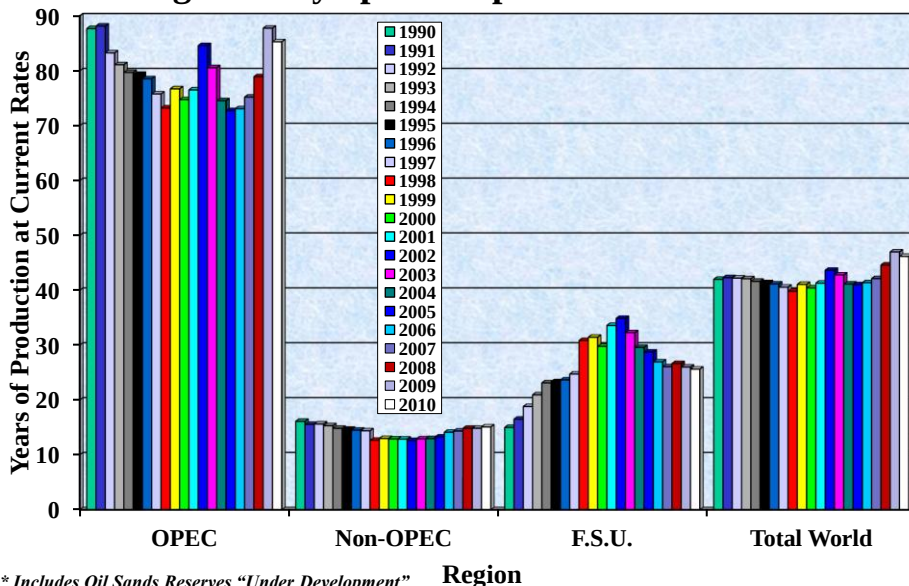
Oil Reserve Reporting in Selected OPEC Countries, 1980-2010, (87% of 2010 OPEC Reserves and 67% of World Reserves)



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(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

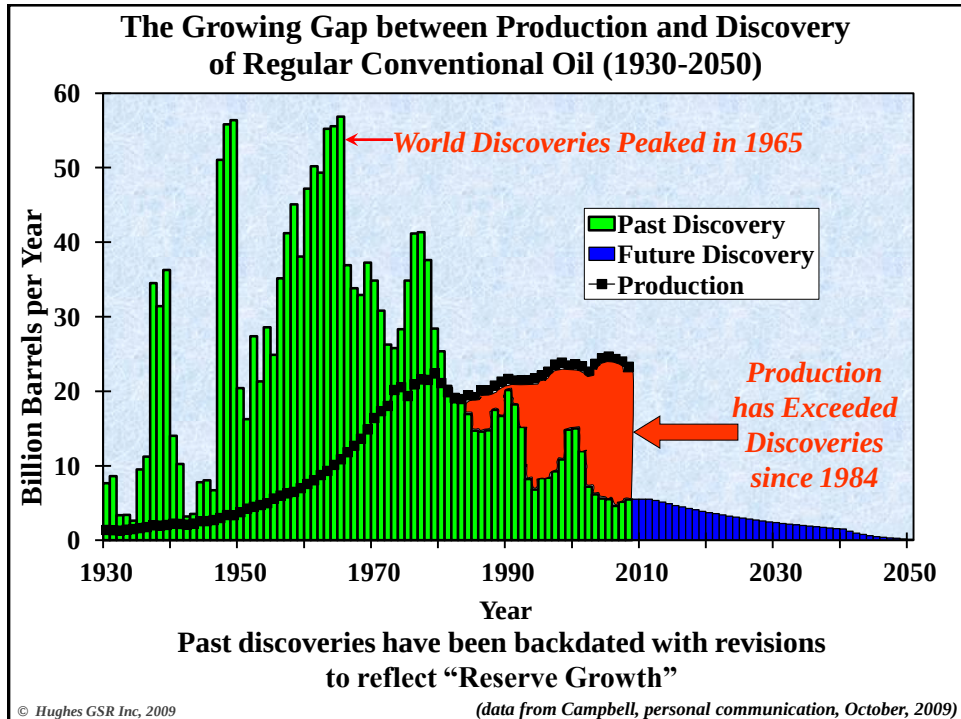
World Oil Reserve Lifespan in Years Including Possibly Spurious post-1984 OPEC Reserves



* Includes Oil Sands Reserves "Under Development"

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(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)



World Oil Production Peak

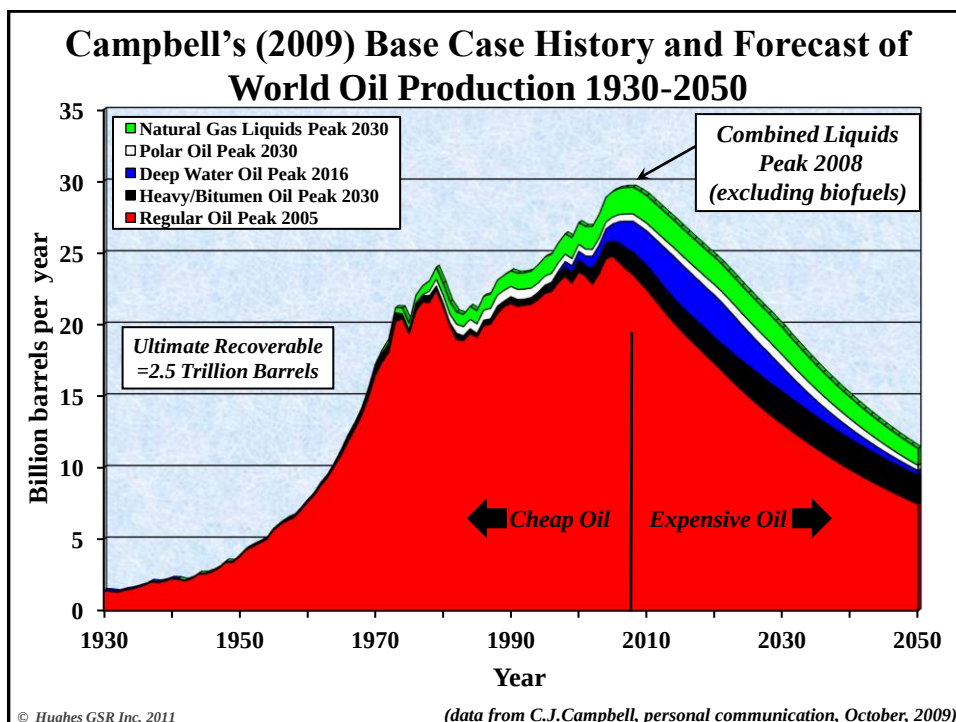
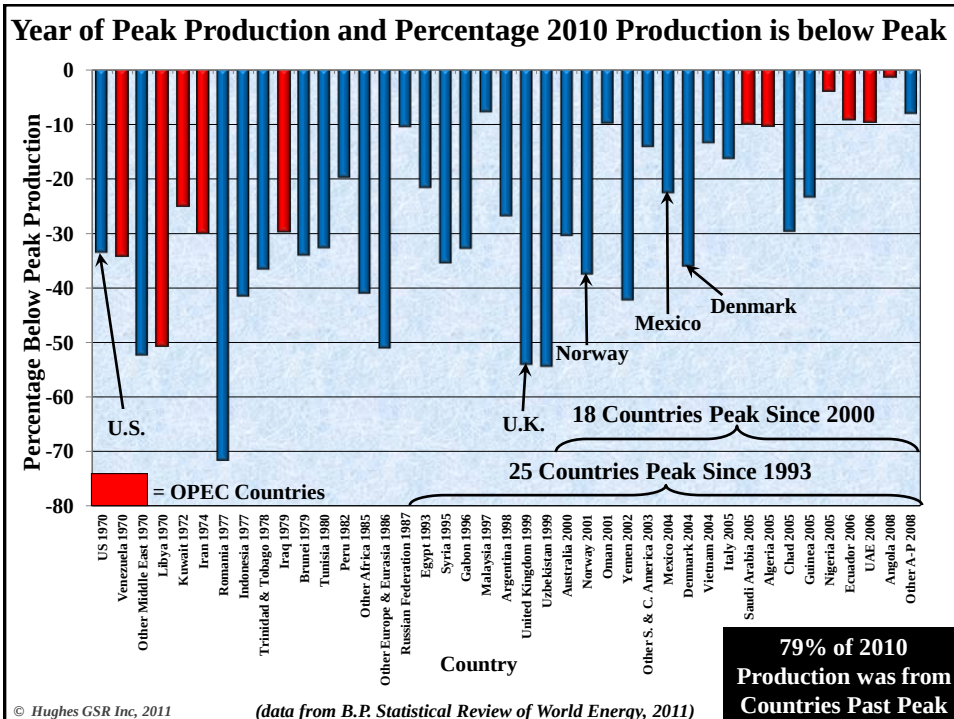
WHEN?

- Debatable, because of the variables, **BUT IT IS HIGHLY
LIKELY TO HAPPEN**

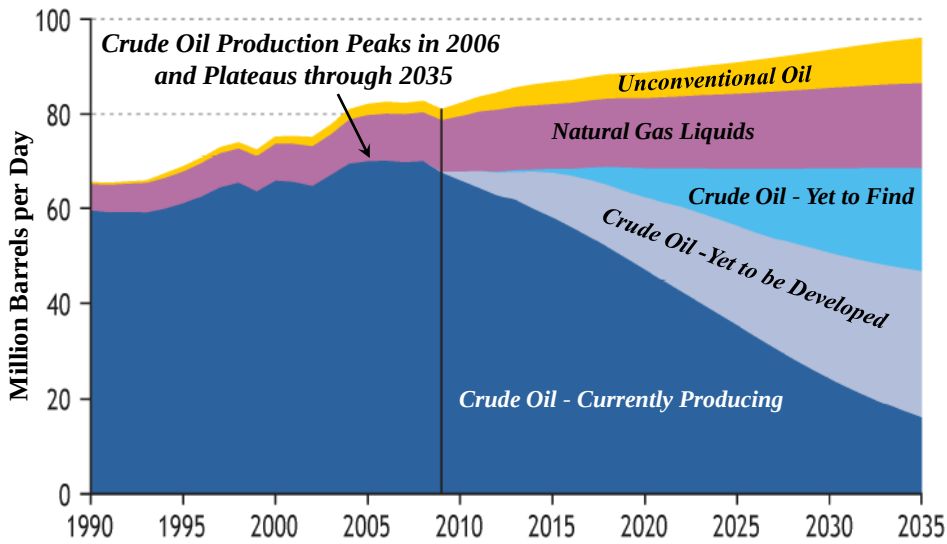
DEPENDS ON:

- **ULTIMATE RECOVERABLE RESERVES** - a function of:
 - Mother Nature's Endowment (total discovered and undiscovered resources)
 - Technology and Price (determines economics)
 - Reserve Appreciation (Growth) in known pools (through more drilling, better technology and higher prices)
- **RATE OF CONSUMPTION** - a function of:
 - Price (controls economic growth and encourages/discourages conservation)
 - Infrastructure for production
 - Depletion rates of producing pools

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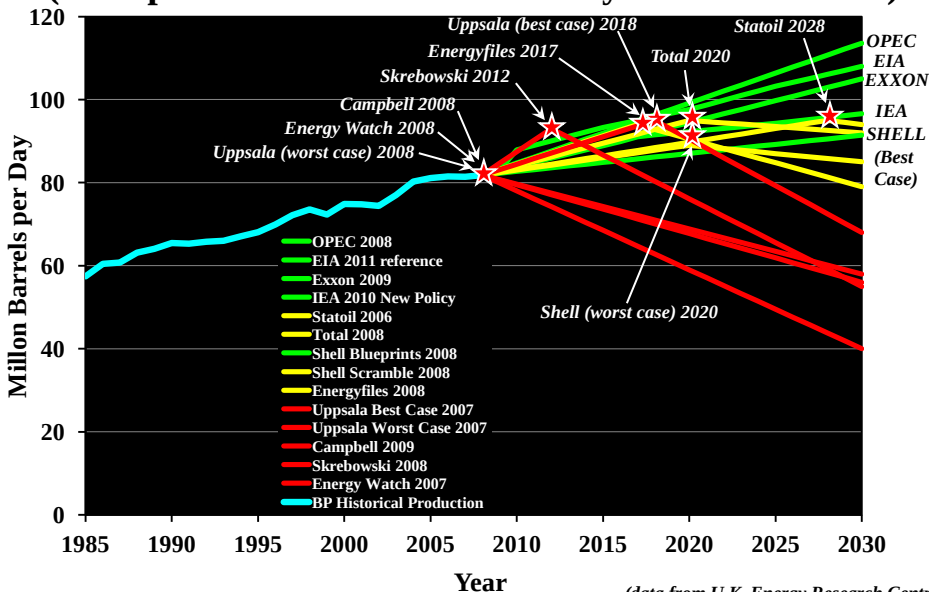
Global Liquids Production 1990-2035, IEA 2010 World Energy Outlook – New Policies Scenario



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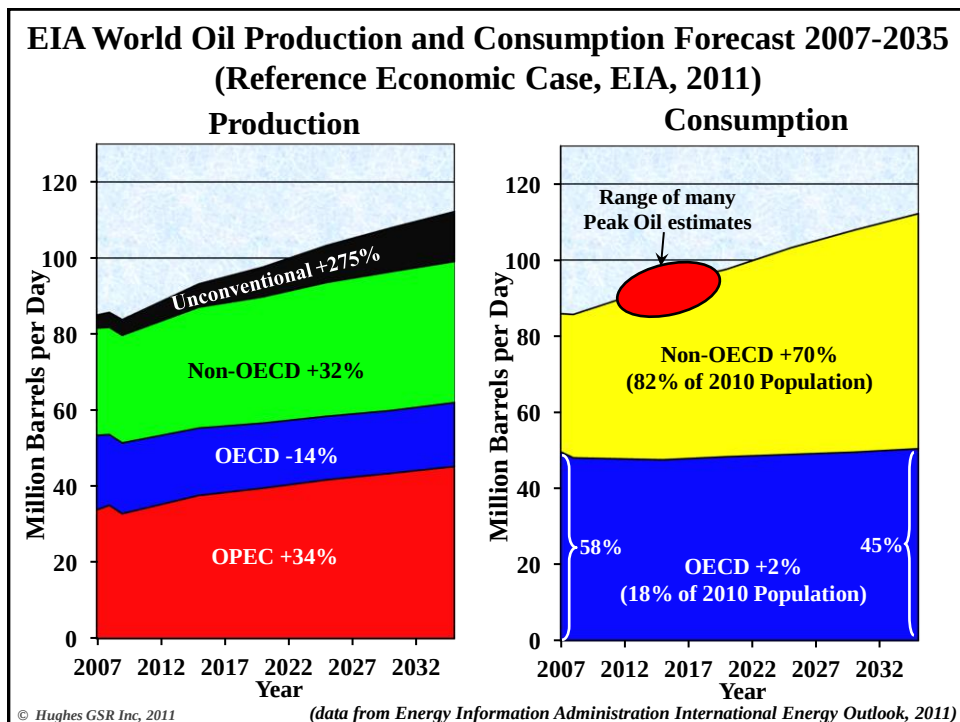
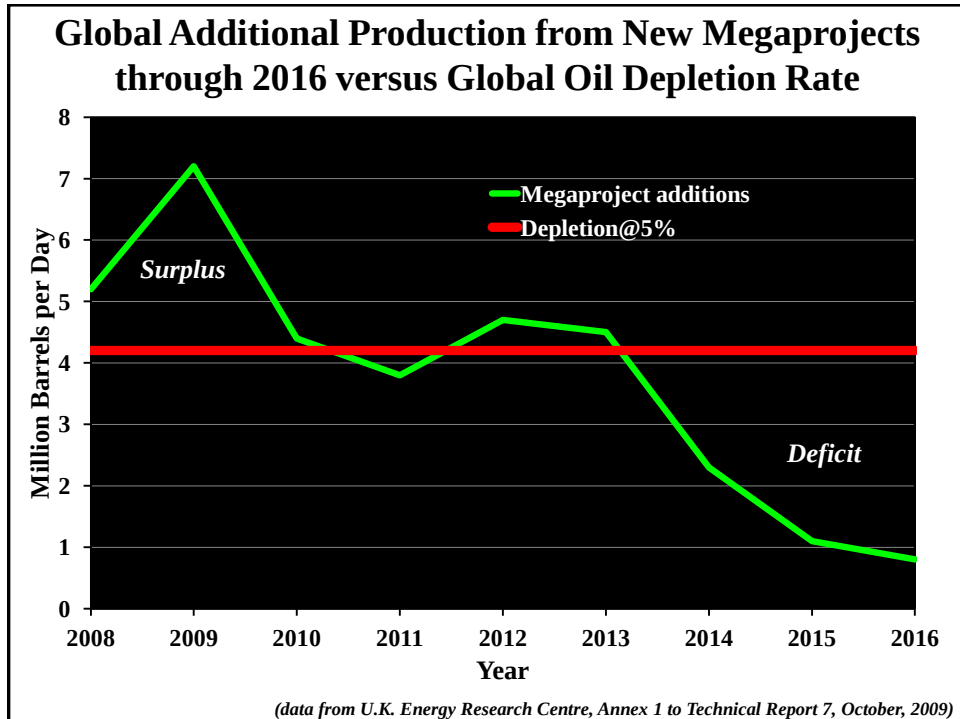
(source: International Energy Agency World Energy Outlook, 2010)

Modeled Forecasts of Liquids Production through 2030 (Peak production dates indicated by Source and Star)

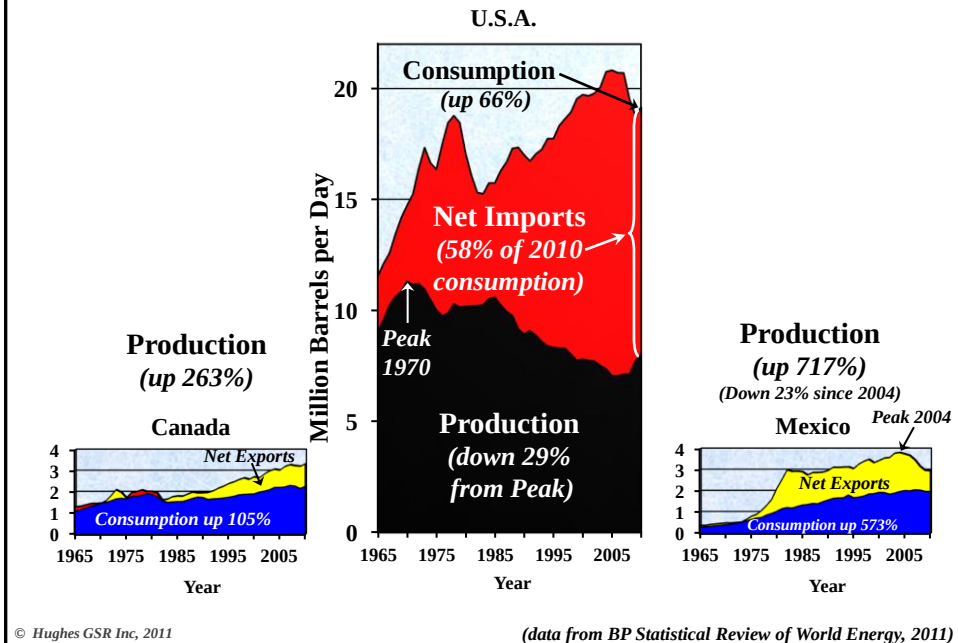


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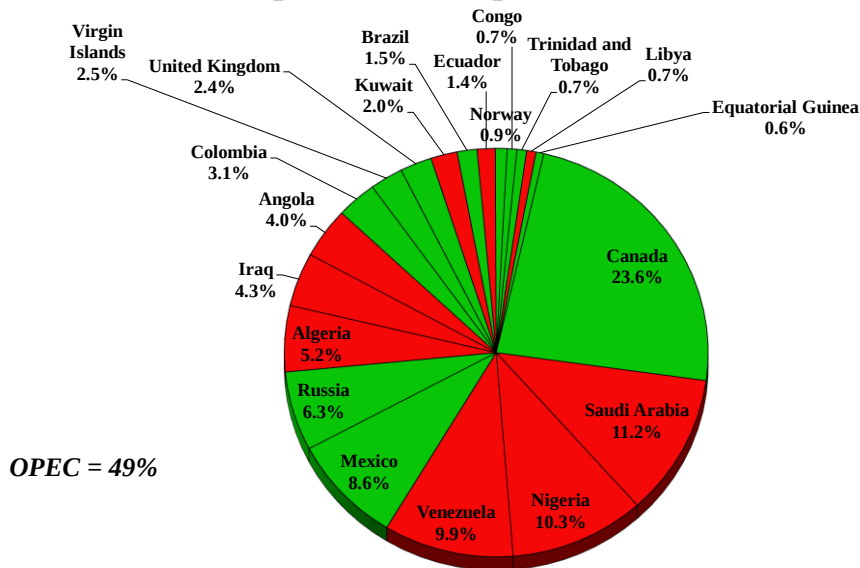
(data from U.K. Energy Research Centre, Annex 1 to Technical Report 7, October, 2009; EIA, 2010; IEA, 2010)



North American Oil Consumption and Movements: 1965-2010



US Oil Imports from Top 20 Countries in 2010

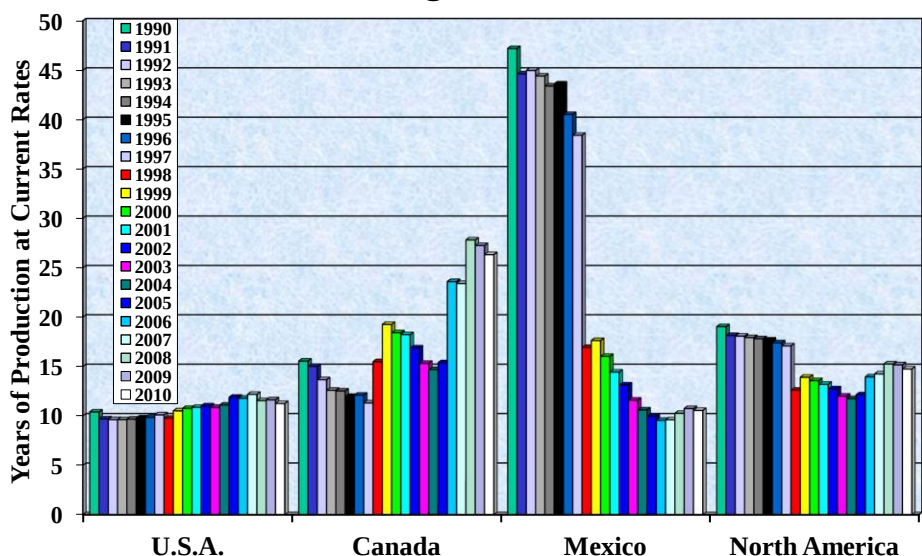


Top 20 provided 9.8 MMbbls/day in 2010

Red = OPEC; Green = Non-OPEC

(data from EIA, 2011)

North America Oil Reserve Lifetime in Years Including Oil Sands* 1990-2010

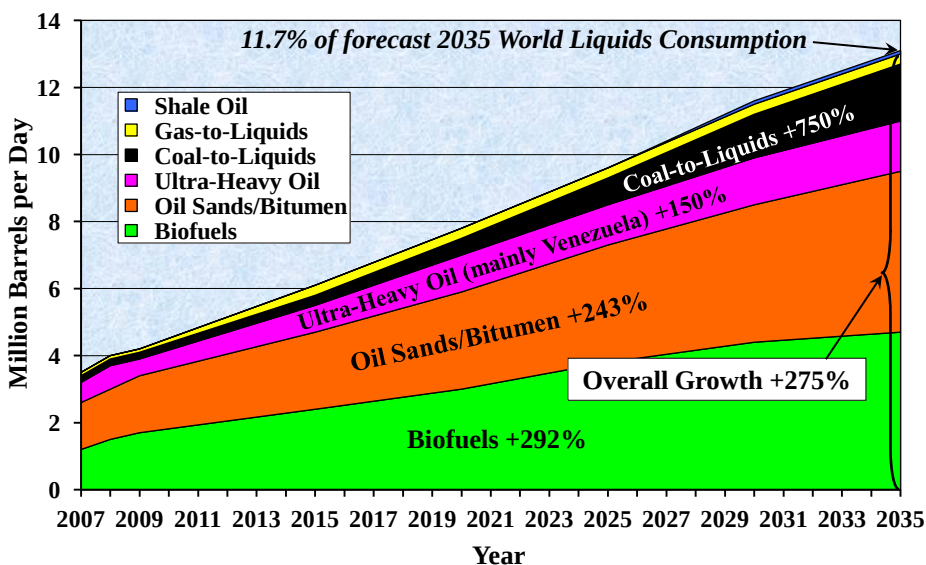


* Includes Oil Sands Reserves "Under Development"

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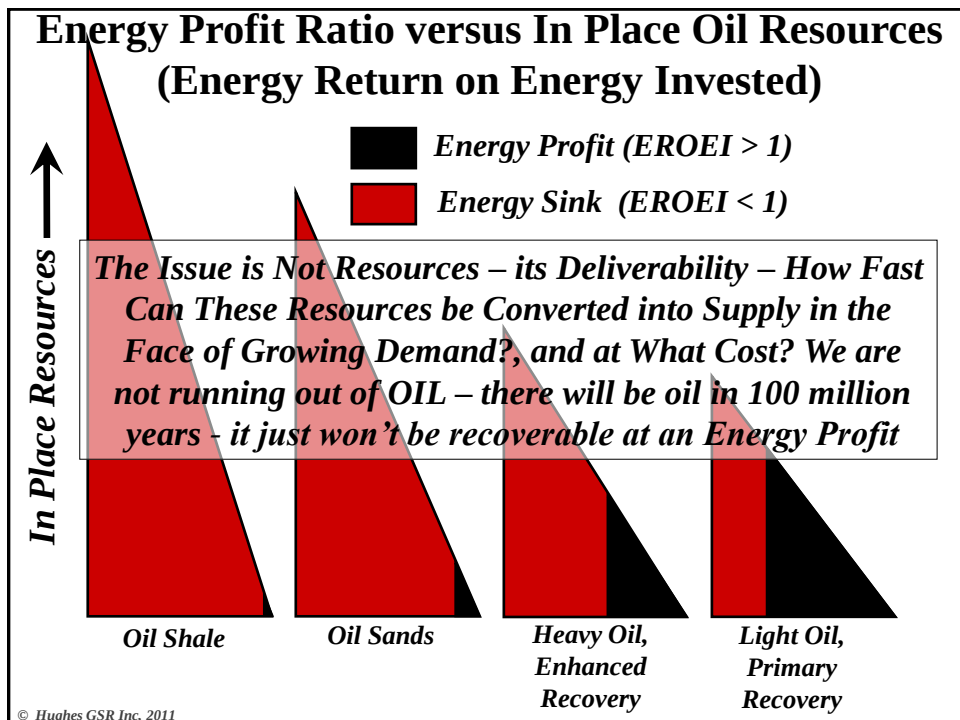
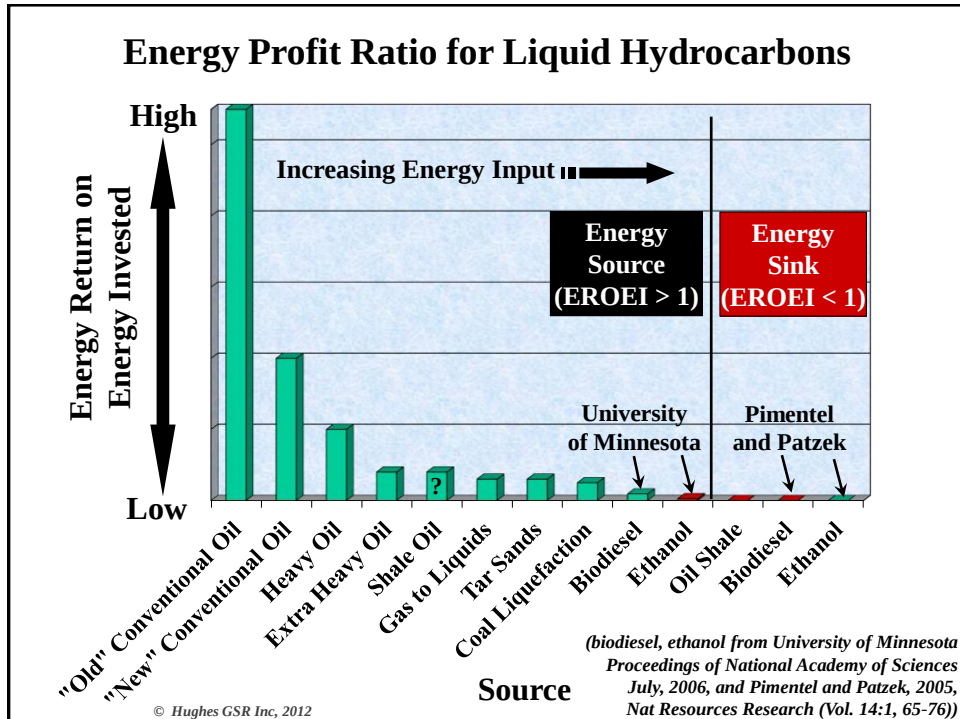
(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

World Unconventional Liquids Production Forecast 2007-2035 (EIA Reference Economic Case, 2011)



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

(data from Energy Information Administration, International Energy Outlook 2011)

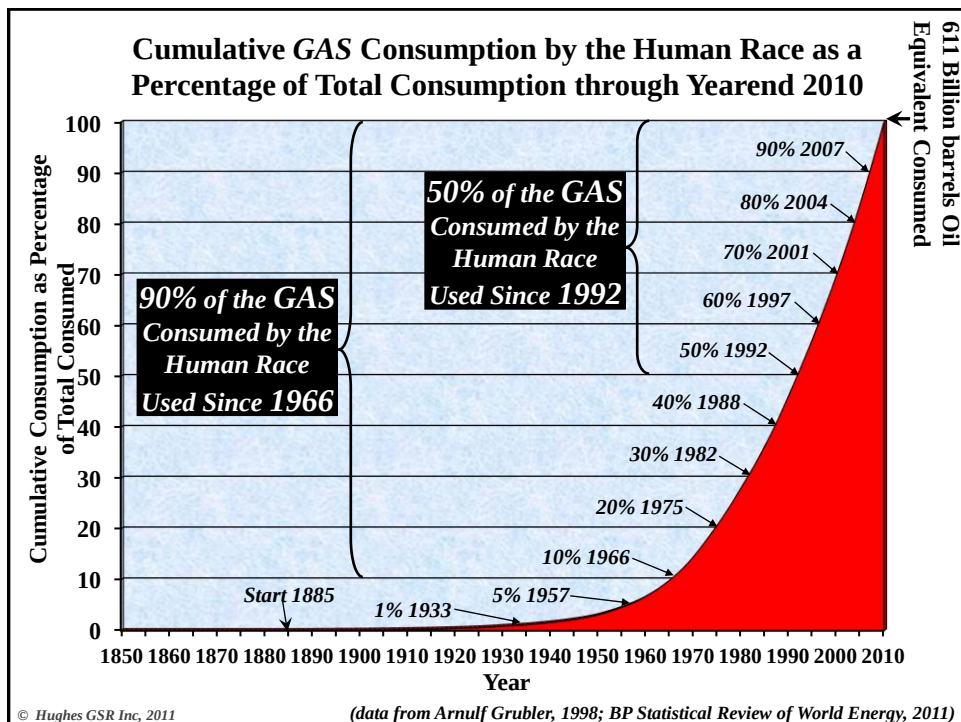


*Dr. Fatih Birol, Chief Economist of the IEA, the
OECD's Energy Watchdog as quoted in the
Independent August 3, 2009*

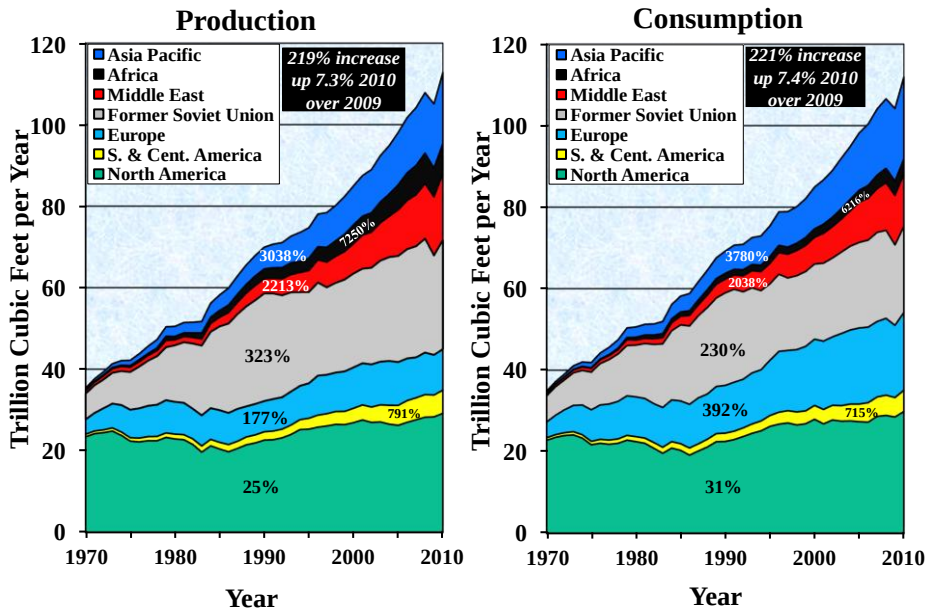
*“Even if demand remained steady, the world would have to
find the equivalent of four Saudi Arabias to maintain
production, and six Saudi Arabias if it is to keep up with
the expected increase in demand between now and 2030. It's a
big challenge in terms of the geology, in terms of the
investment and in terms of the geopolitics ”*

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(from <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/warning-oil-supplies-are-running-out-fast-766585.html>)



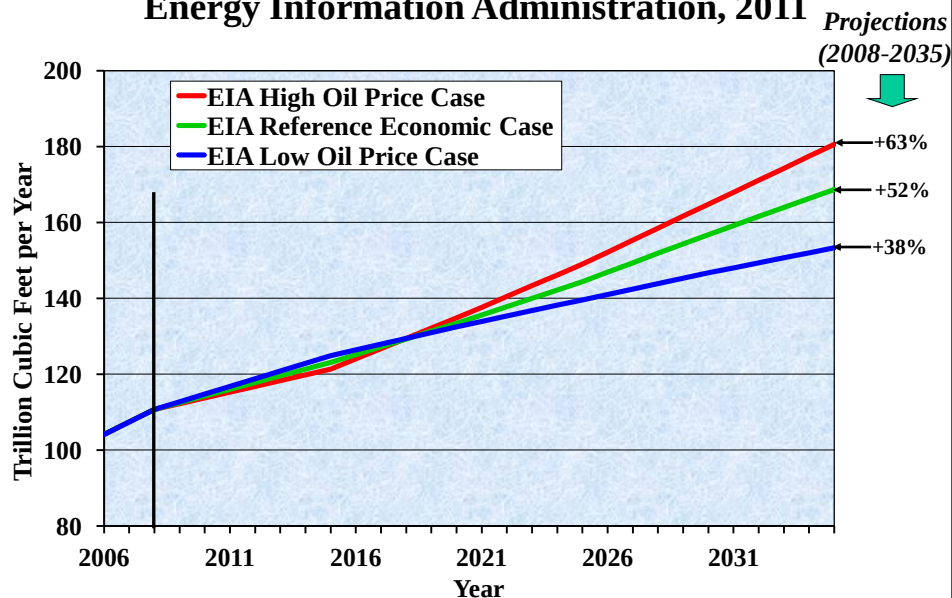
World Gas Production and Consumption 1965-2010



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(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

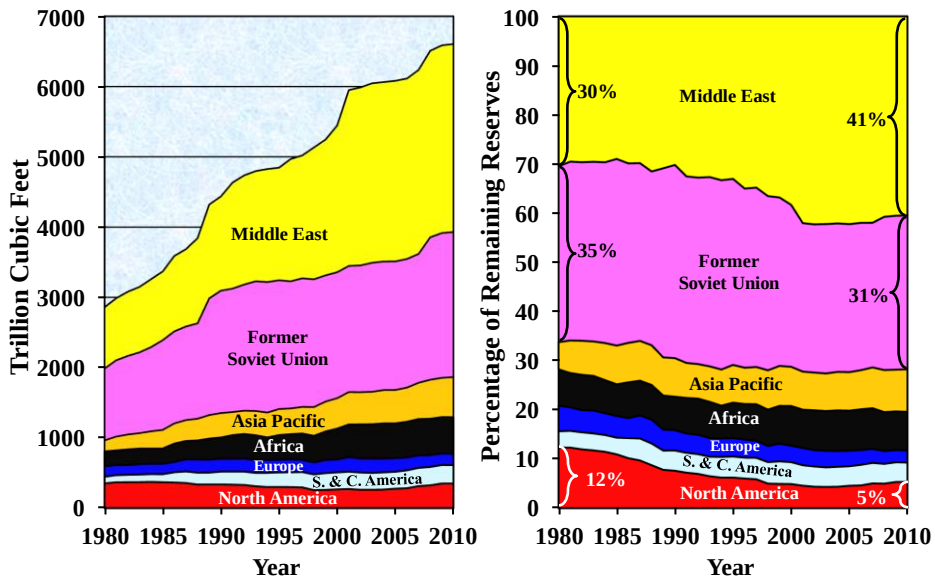
World Gas Consumption Forecasts, 2006-2035, Energy Information Administration, 2011



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

(Projections from Energy Information Administration International Energy Outlook, 2011)

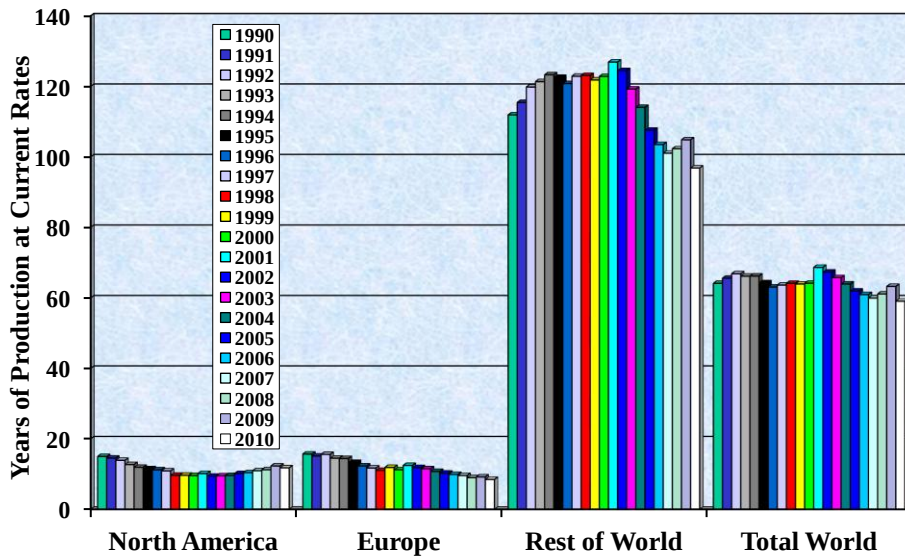
World Gas Reserves: 1980-2010



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

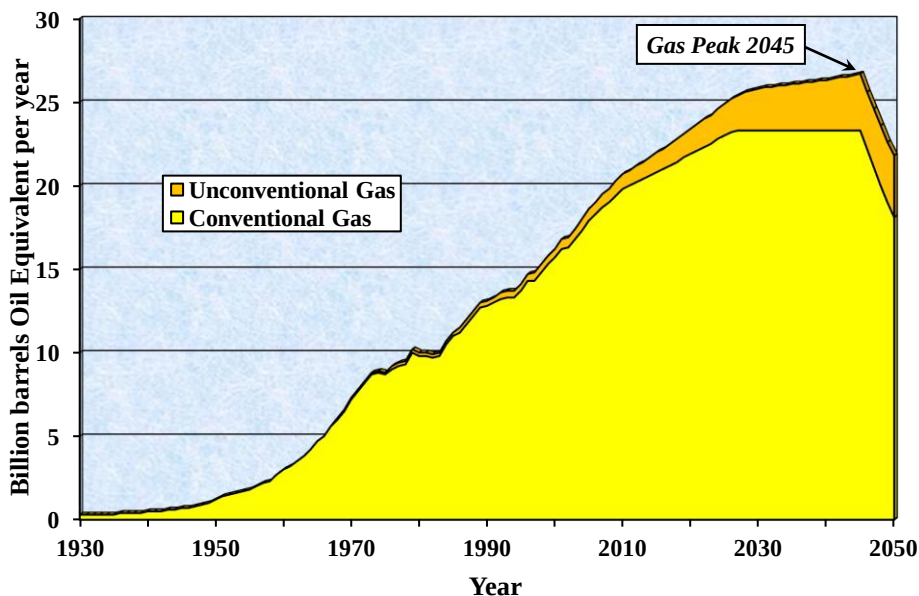
World Natural Gas Reserve to Production Ratio in Years 1990-2010



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

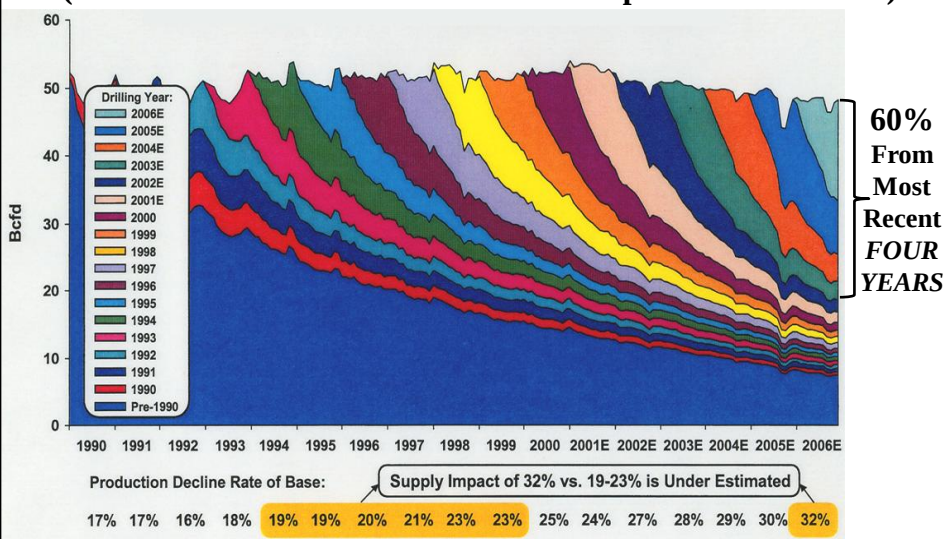
Campbell's (2009) Base Case History and Forecast of World Natural Gas Production 1930-2050



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2009

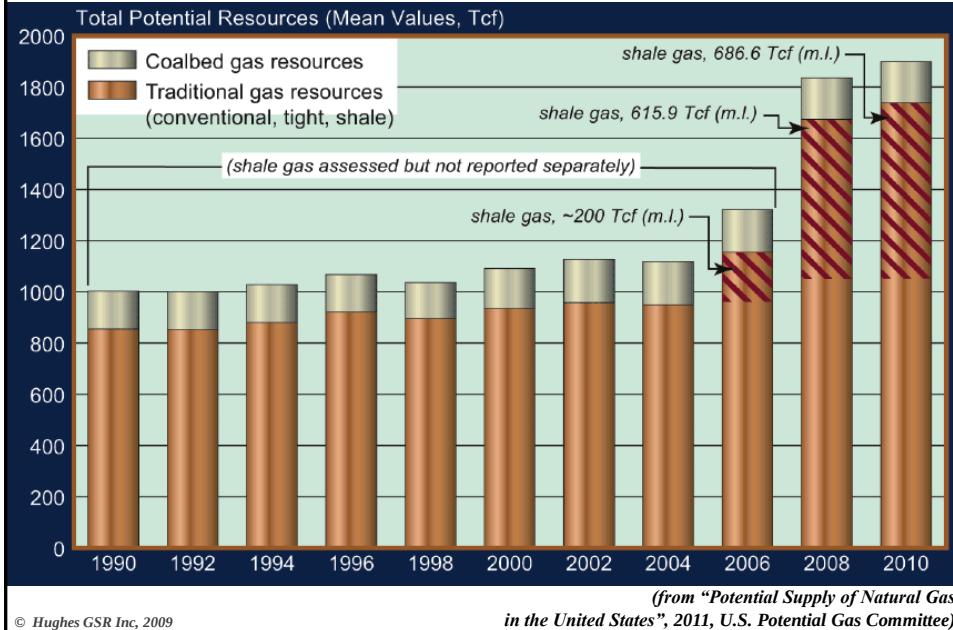
(data from C.J.Campbell, personal communication, October, 2009)

Natural Gas Production in the United States by Well Vintage at Yearend 2006 (60% of Production from wells drilled in past *FOUR YEARS*)

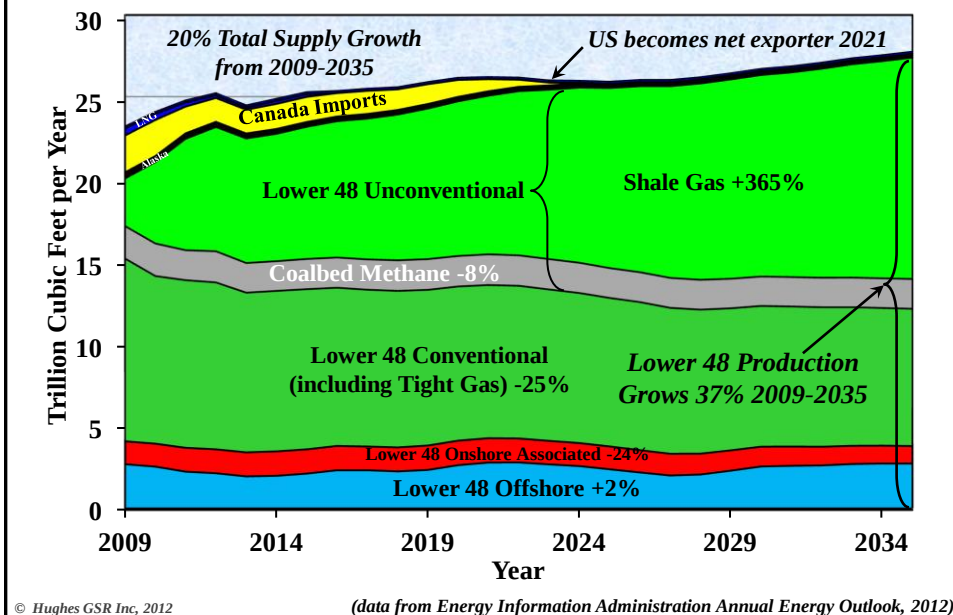


(data copyright IHS Energy, Diagram prepared and copyright by EOG Resources Inc., 2006)

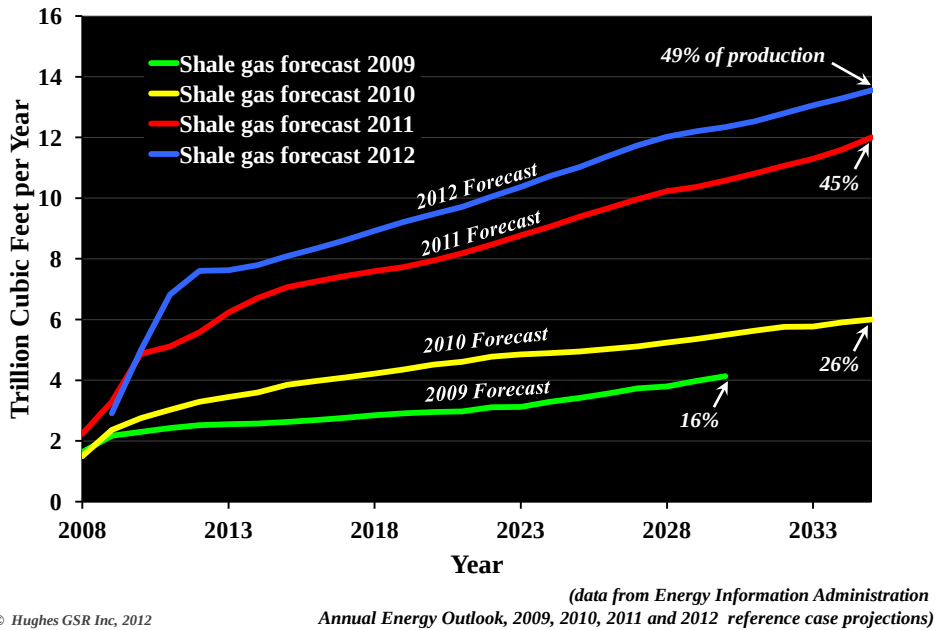
U.S. Potential Gas Committee 2011 Resource Estimates



U.S. Natural Gas Supply Forecast by Source 2009-2035 (Reference Case, EIA, 2012)

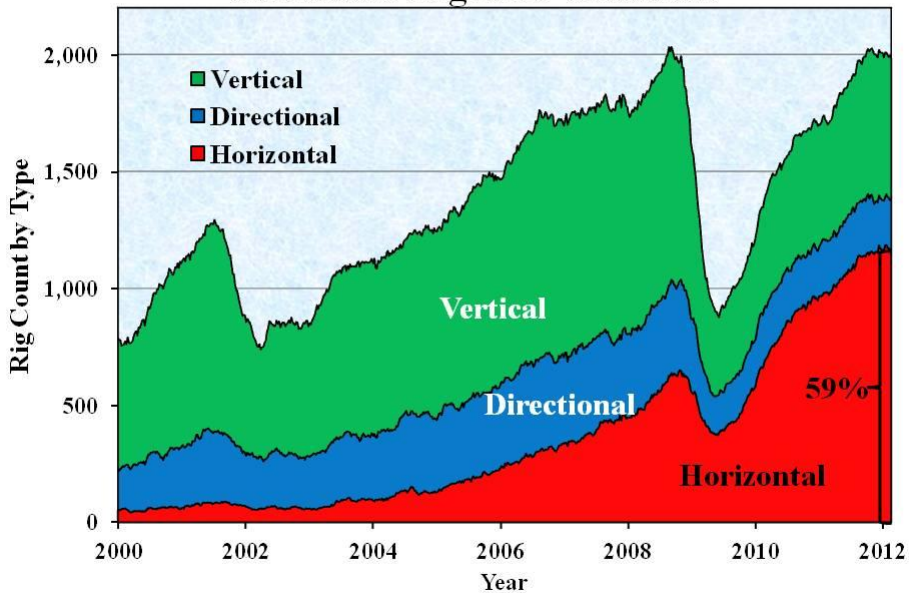


EIA projections of U.S. Shale Gas Production, 2009-2012



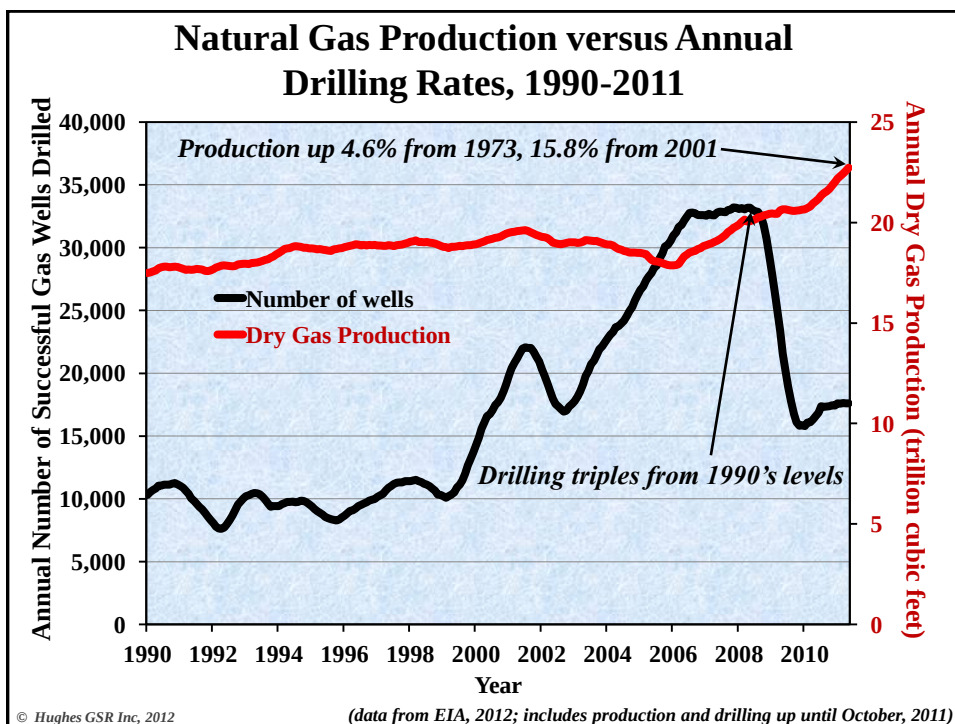
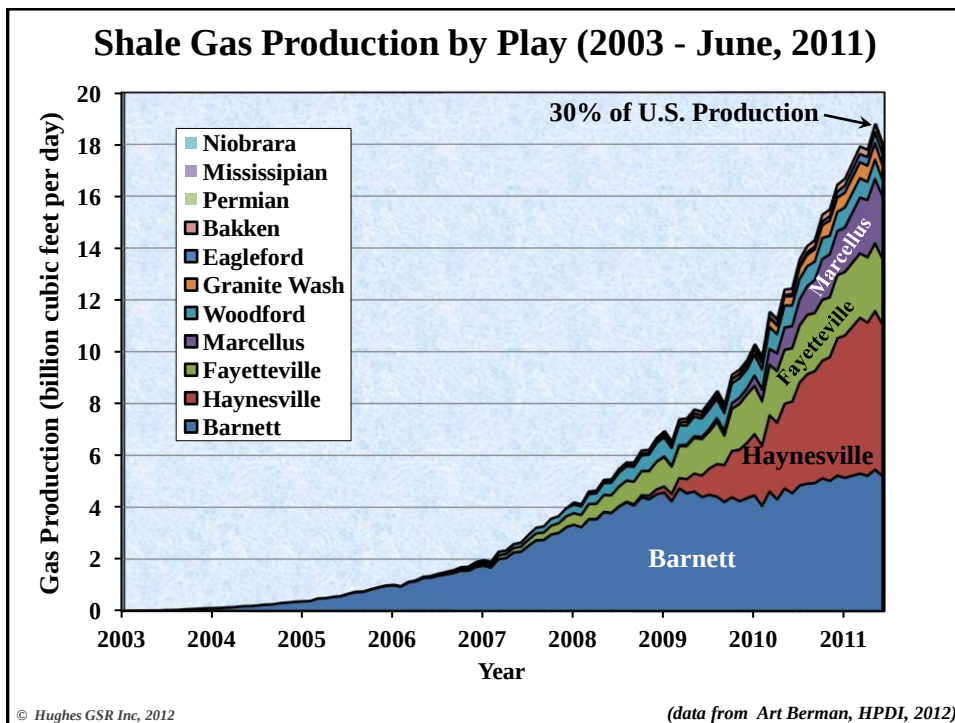
U.S. Rig Count by Type, 2000-2012

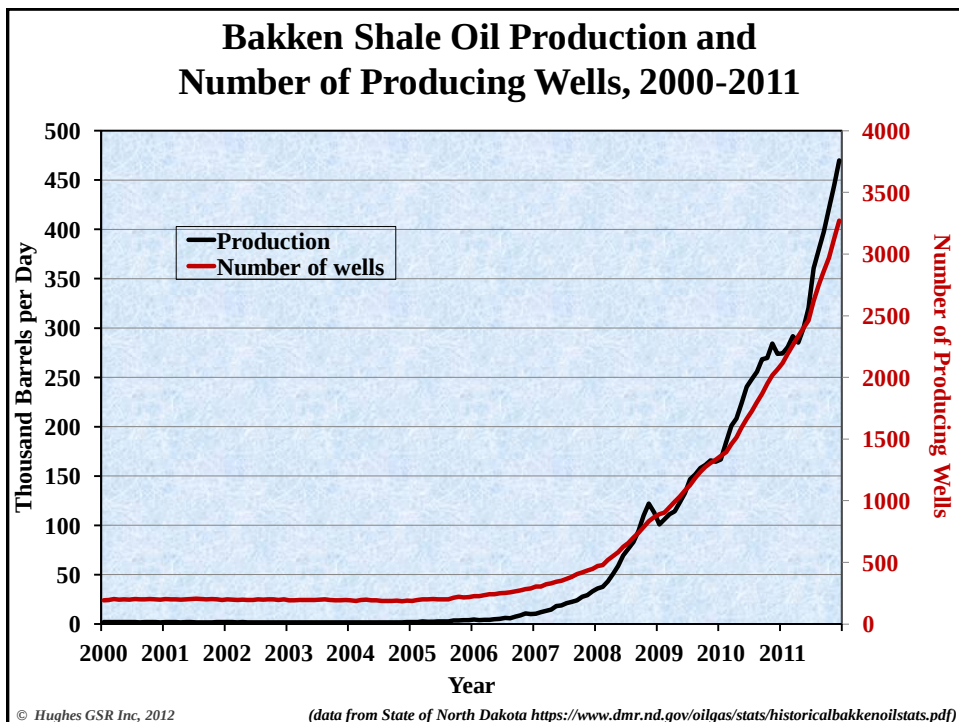
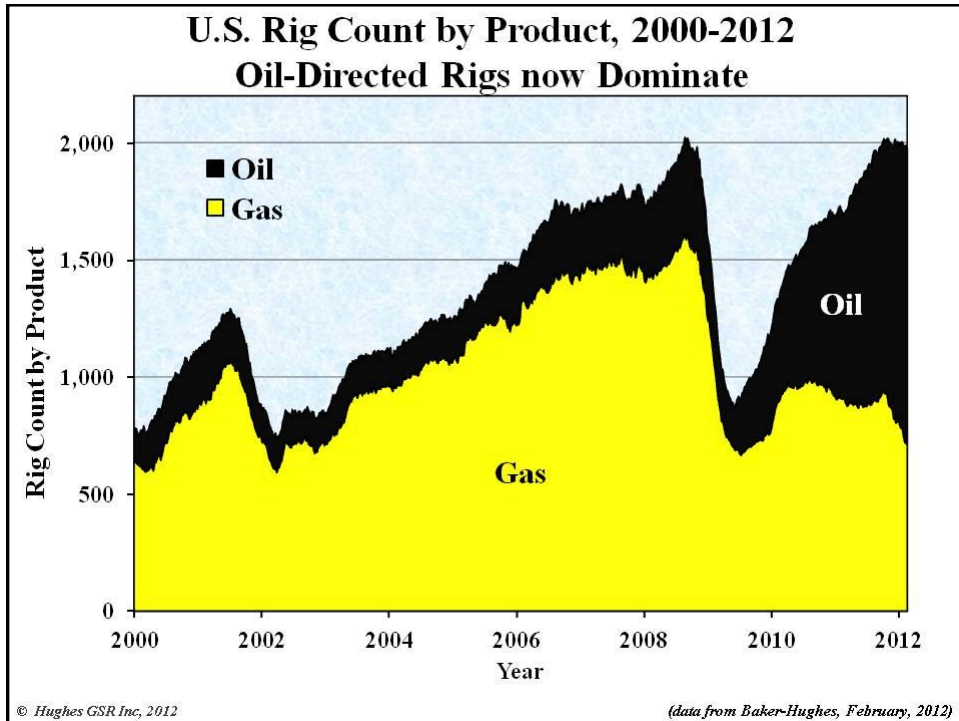
Horizontal Rigs now Dominate

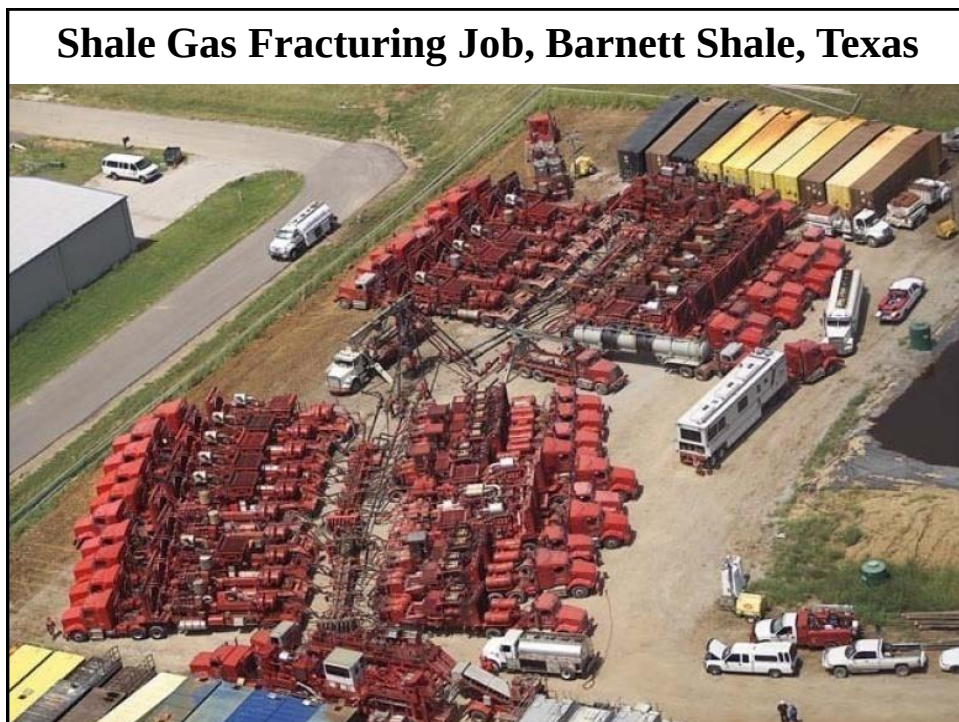
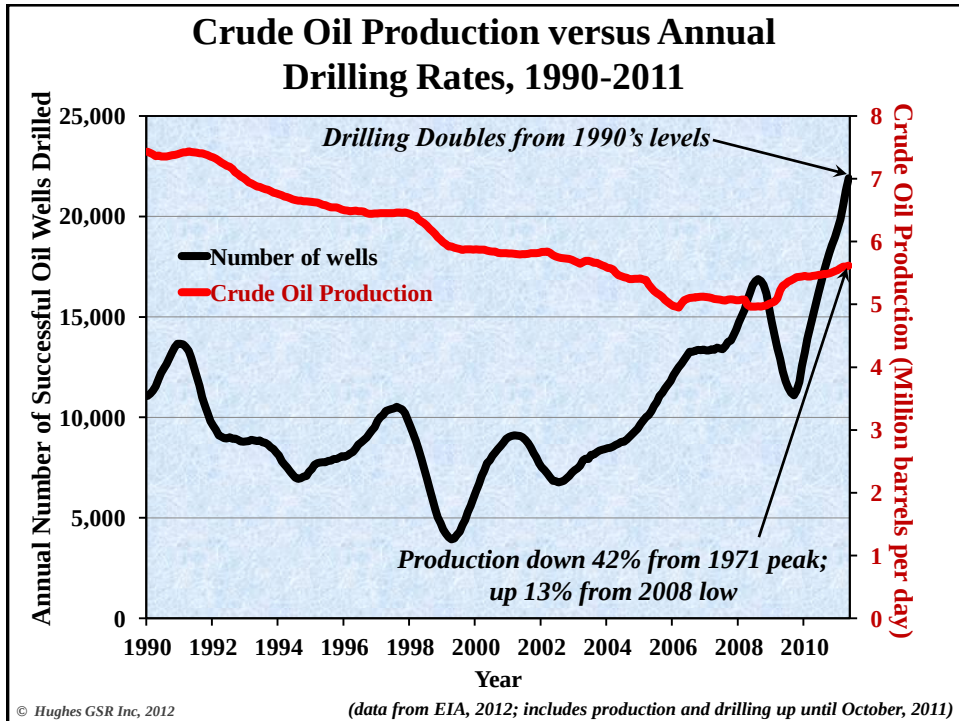


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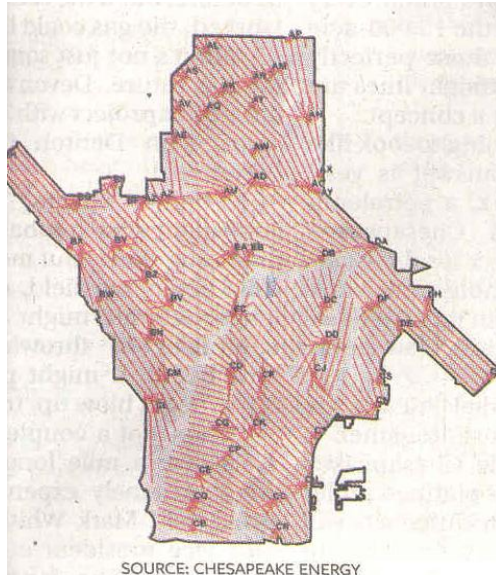
(data from Baker-Hughes, February, 2012)







Example: Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Property, Barnett Shale Play

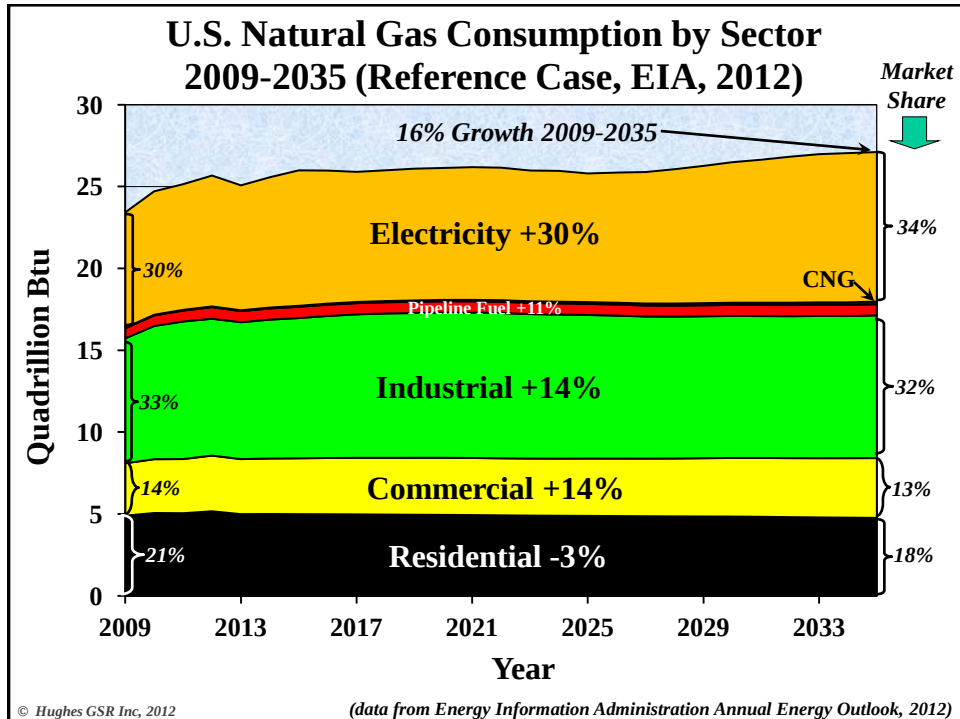


- 53 pads on 18,076 acres, 30 square miles
- Each red dot is a pad
- Each red line is a well
- Almost complete coverage
- Patchwork, mostly ideal units
- One developer

⁵⁷
(Thanks to Anthony R. Ingraffea, 2012)

The Optimism on Shale Gas

- *There is so much natural gas that there is enough available, according to one researcher, "to displace half of the coal burning power plants [in the United States] by 2020" (Pickens Plan, 2012)*
- *"We have the domestic natural gas necessary to fuel our trucks and fleet vehicles..." (Pickens Plan, 2012)*
- *Studies from prestigious energy research firms and universities have affirmed that the dream of clean, abundant, home grown energy is now reality, with the help of shale gas. (ANGA, 2012).*
- *"I believe U.S. natural gas producers can increase supplies by 5% per year for at least the next decade and that assumes there is no more access to public lands and waters than there is today." (Testimony to Congress, Aubrey McClendon, July 30, 2008). [63% compounded]*



**Arthur Berman on Shale Gas
(ASPO meeting in Washington DC, October, 2010)**

“Shale plays are marginally commercial at best.”

*“The plays have consistently contracted to a core area that represents 10-20% of the resource that was initially claimed.
The manufacturing model has failed.”*

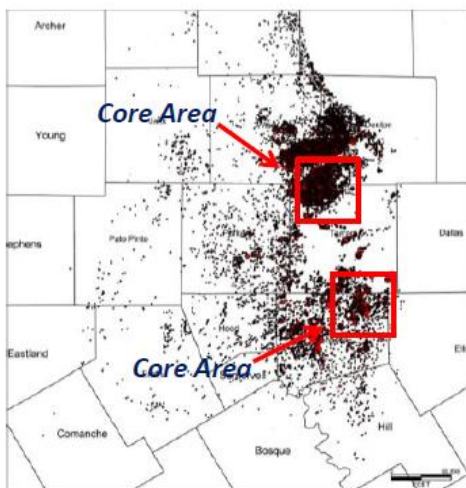
“These are not low-cost plays: the marginal cost of production for most companies is \$7.50/Mcf based on SEC 10-K filings over the past 5 years.”

“Reserves have been greatly over-stated and 80% of booked reserves are undeveloped.”

(from Art Berman's ASPO-USA presentation in October 2010)

Shale Plays inevitably contract to core areas with higher productivity and the “rest”

The Barnett Shale core areas

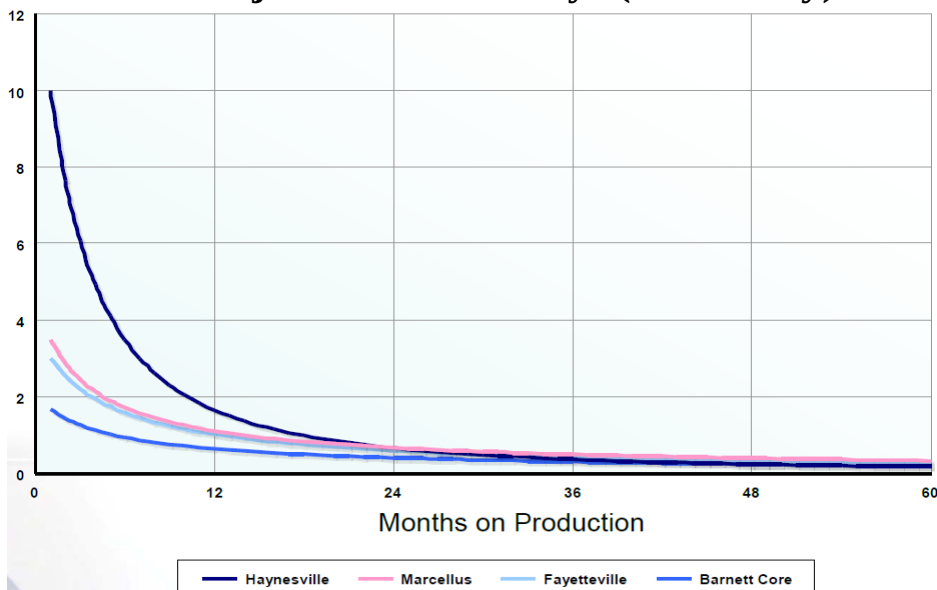


"There was a time you all were told that any of the 17 counties in the Barnett Shale play would be just as good as any other county," McClendon said. "We found out there are about two or two and a half counties where you really want to be."

--Bloomberg News October 14, 2009

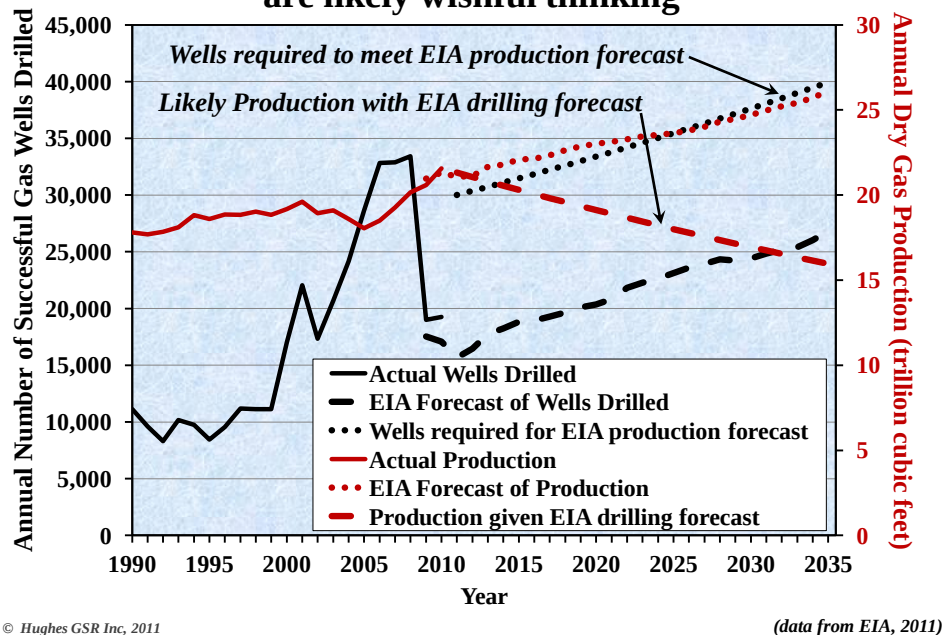
(from Art Berman's ASPO-USA presentation in October 2010)

Theoretical Production Profiles for Major Shale Gas Plays (MMcf/day)

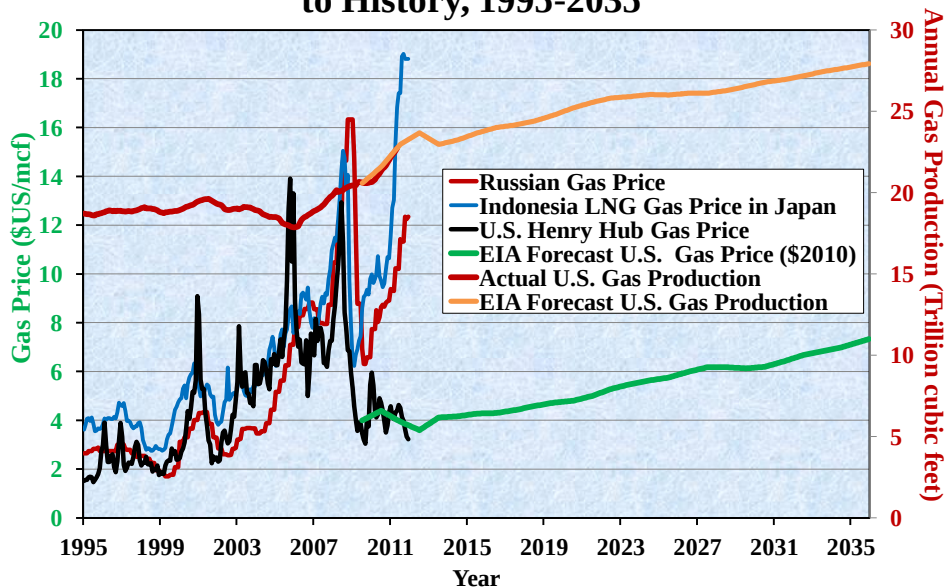


(data from Moorman, Southwest Energy, November, 2009)

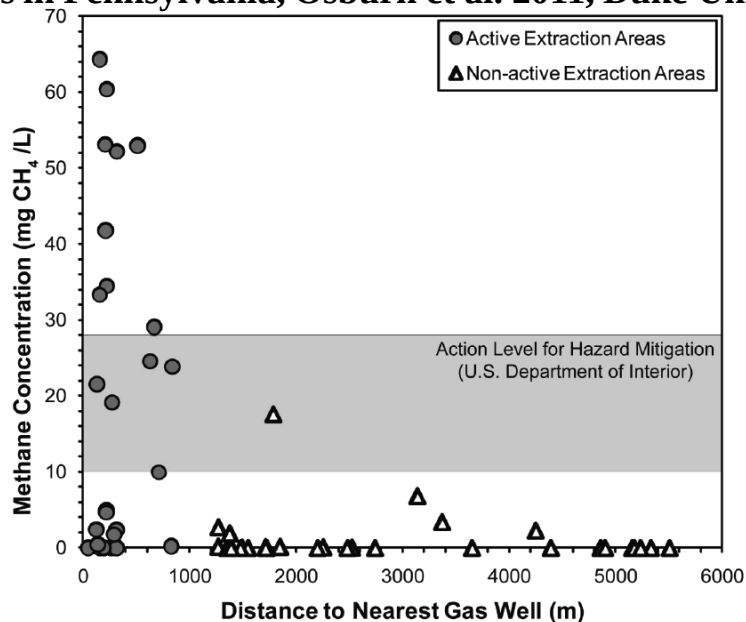
The EIA's forecast of low drilling rates and high production are likely wishful thinking



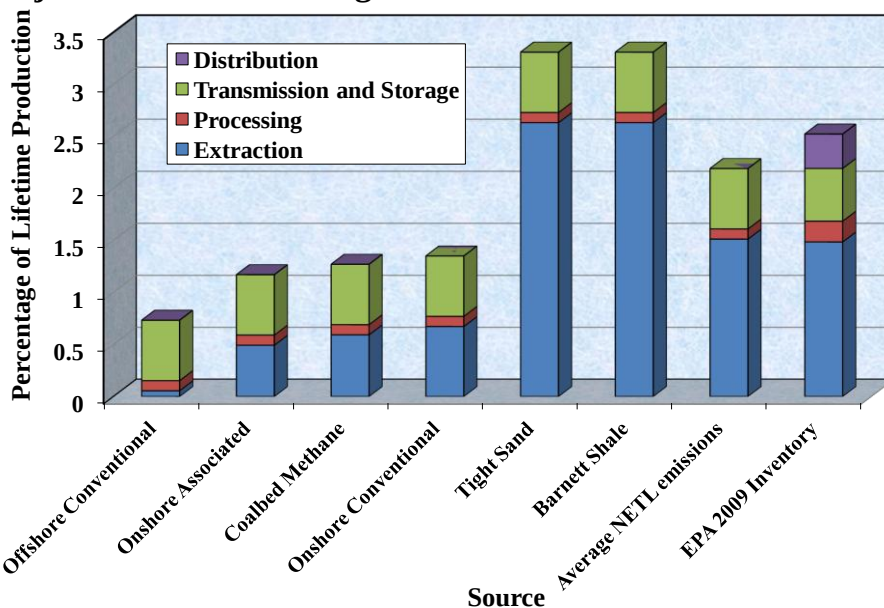
EIA projections of Gas Price and Production Compared to History, 1995-2035



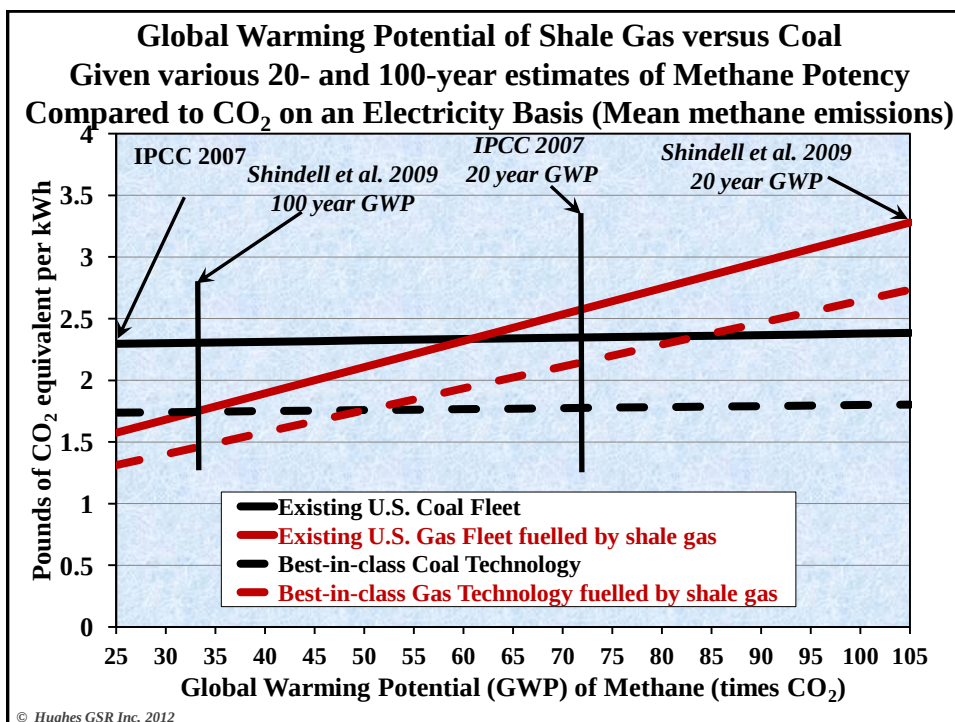
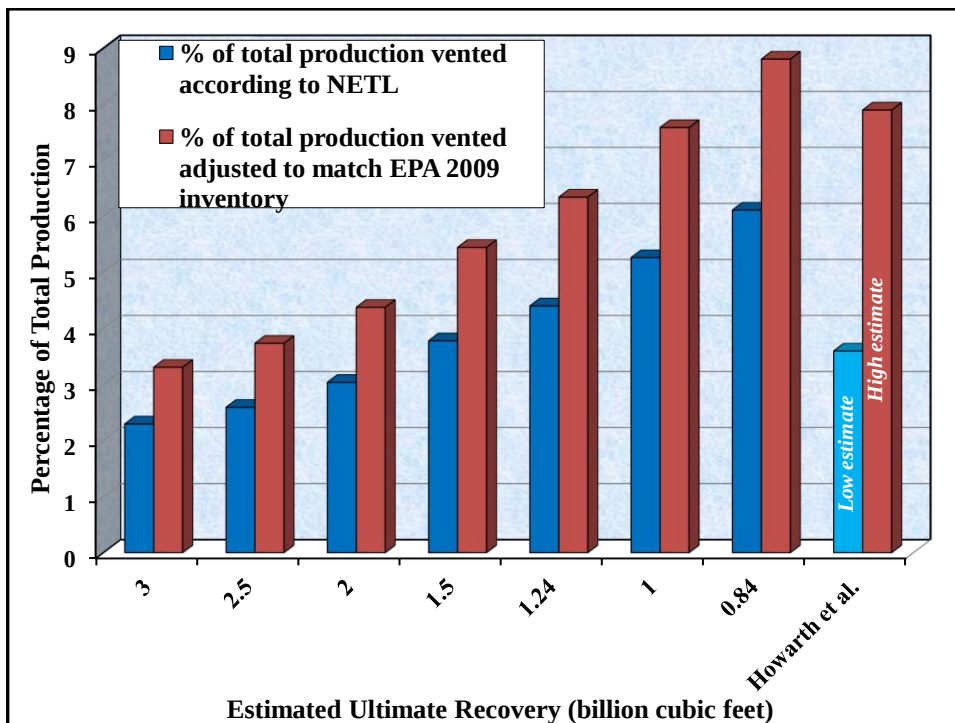
Methane Contamination within 1000 metres of Active Wells in Pennsylvania, Osburn et al. 2011, Duke University

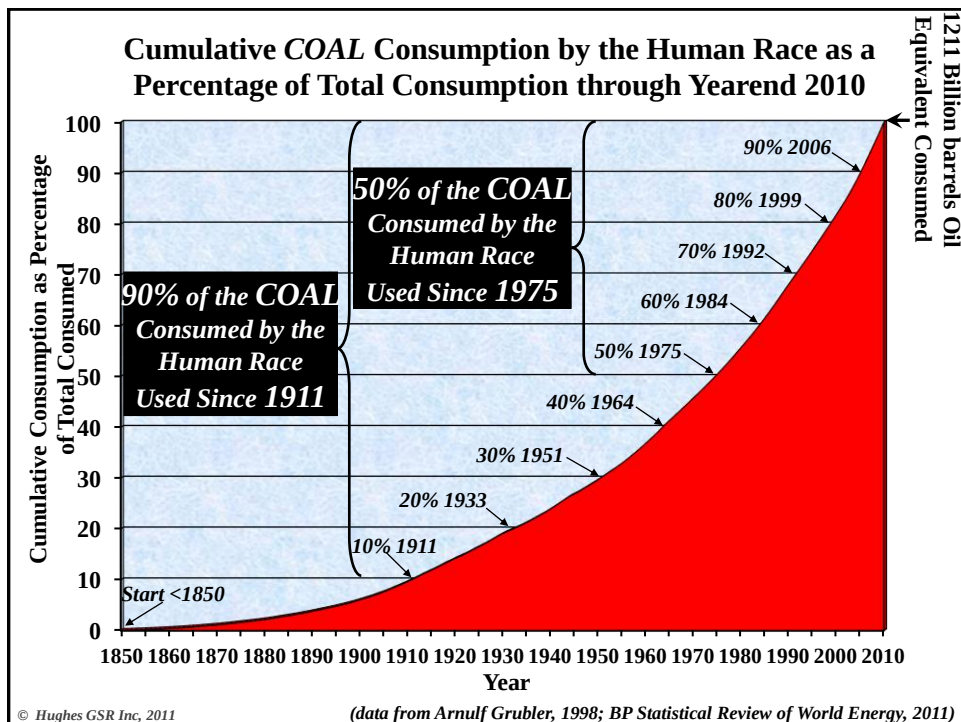
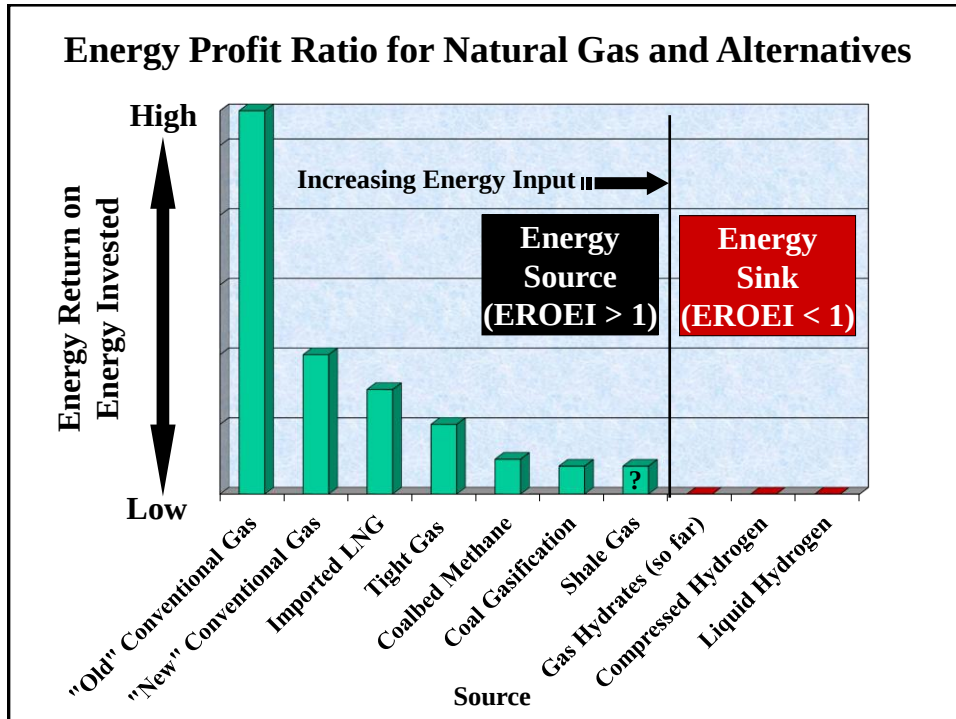


NETL (Skone, 2011) Methane Emissions by Gas Source adjusted to match average emissions of the 2009 EPA inventory

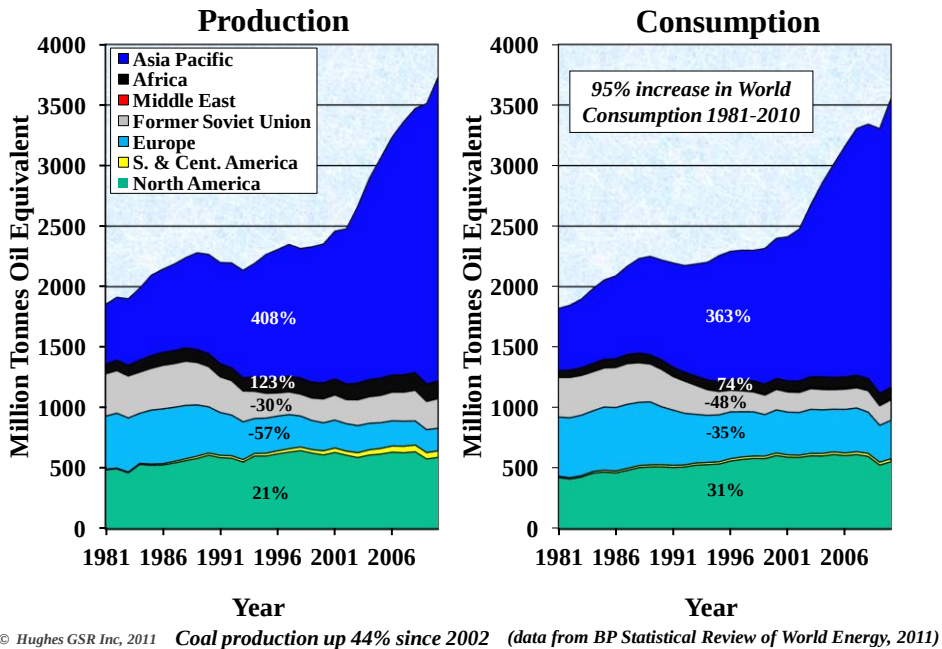


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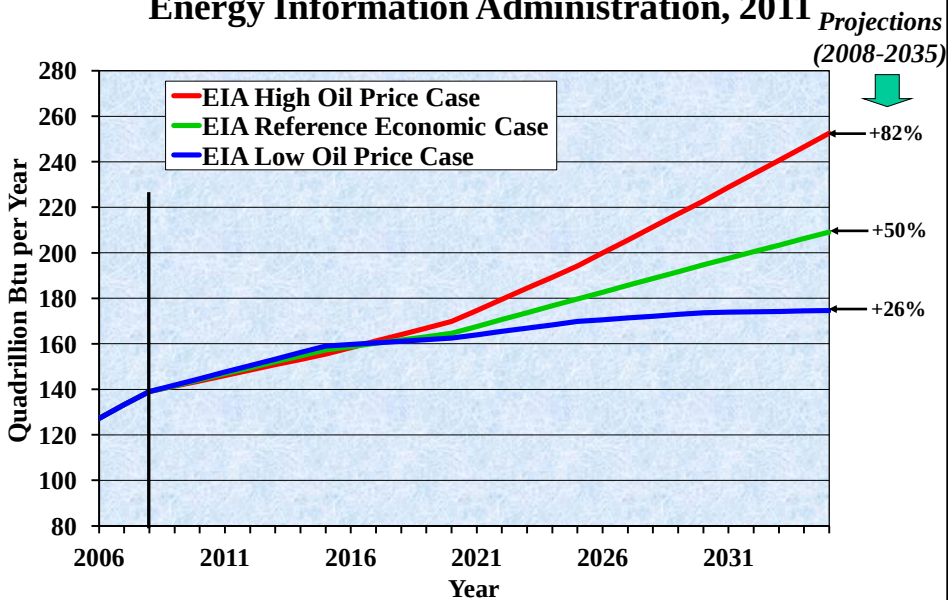


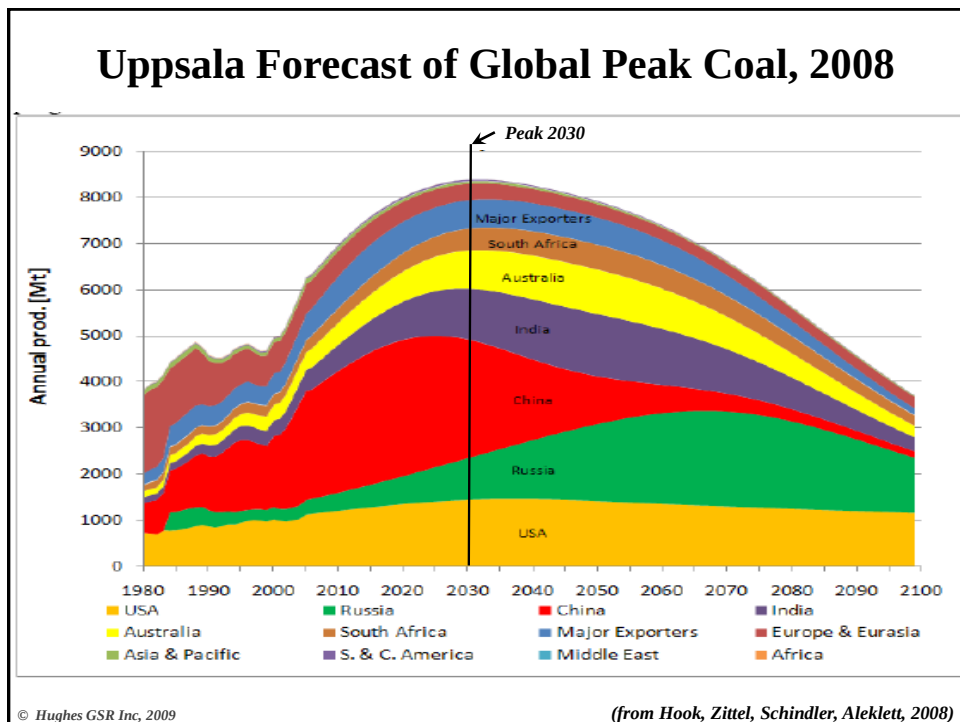
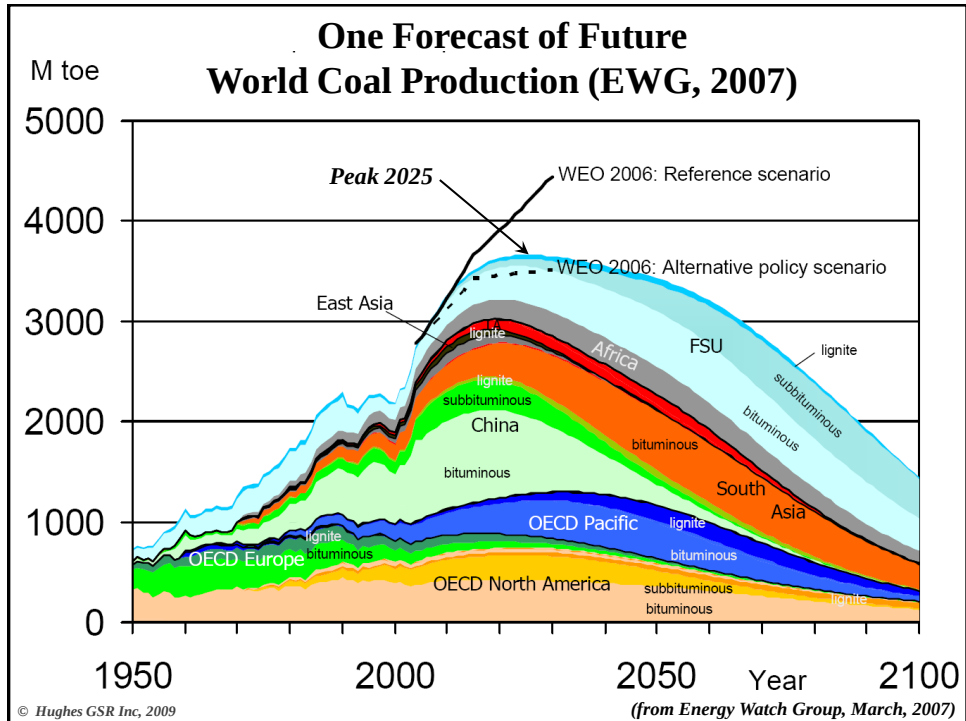


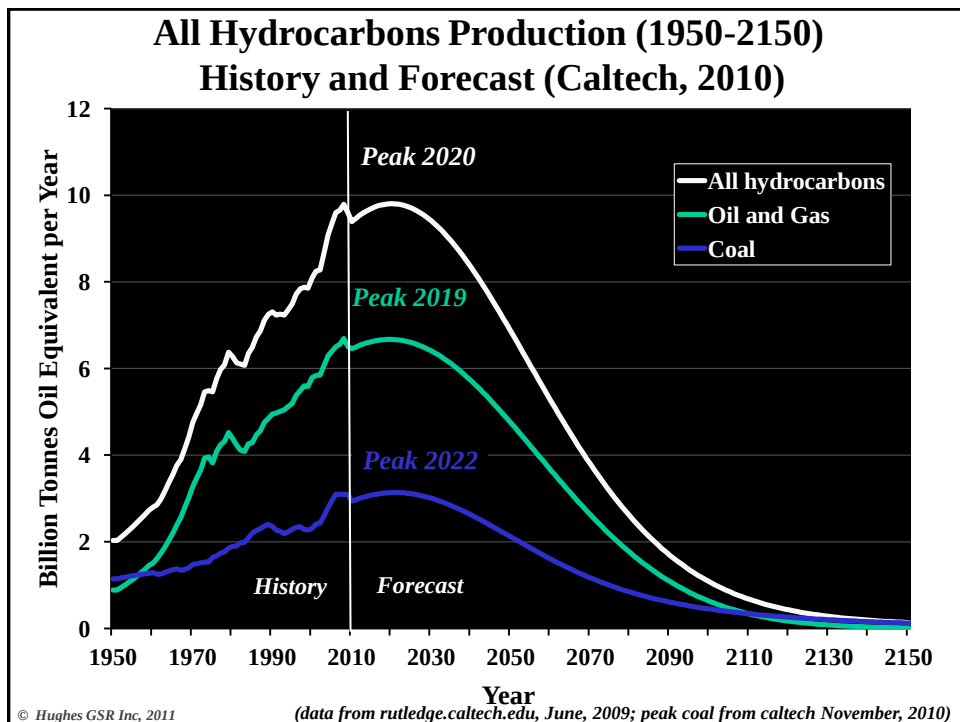
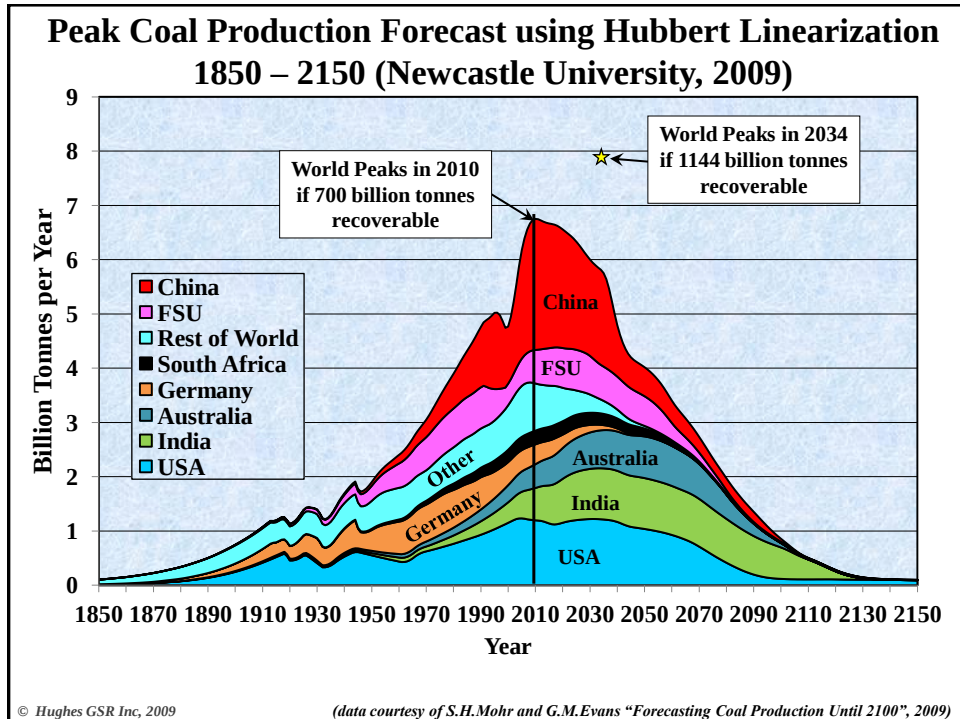
World Coal Production and Consumption: 1981-2010

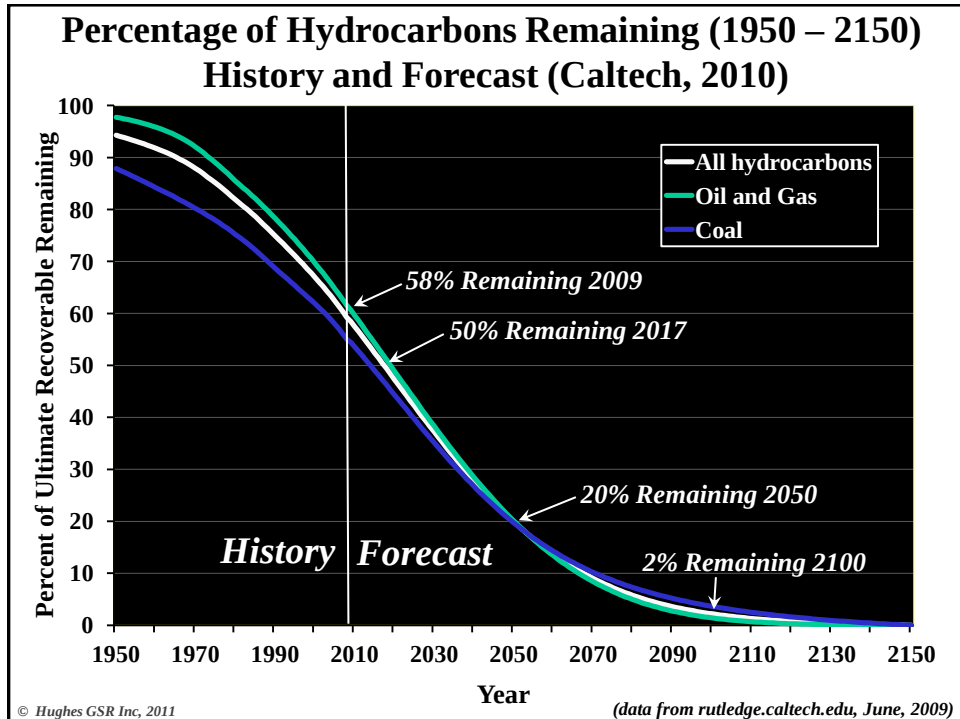


World Coal Consumption Forecasts 2006-2035, Energy Information Administration, 2011



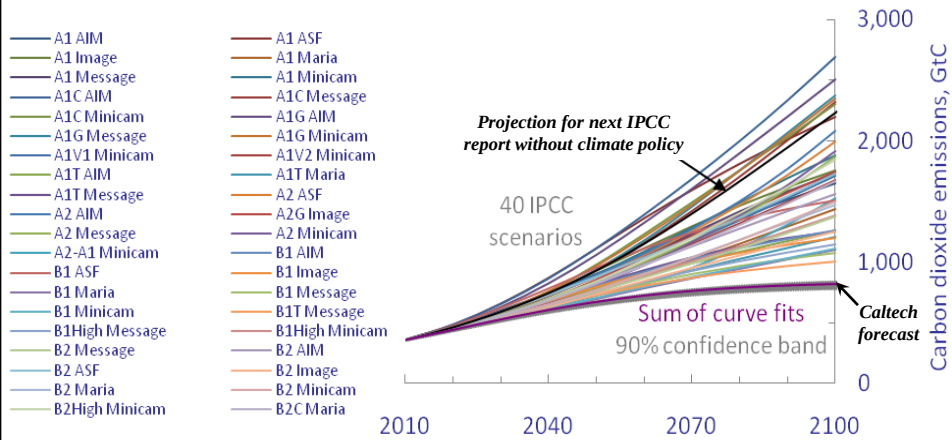






***Each Windmill requires 260 tonnes of steel
made from 170 tonnes of coking coal and 300 tonnes
of iron ore, all mined and transported by hydrocarbons***

Cumulative CO₂ Emissions Caltech (2010) compared to UN IPCC Scenarios

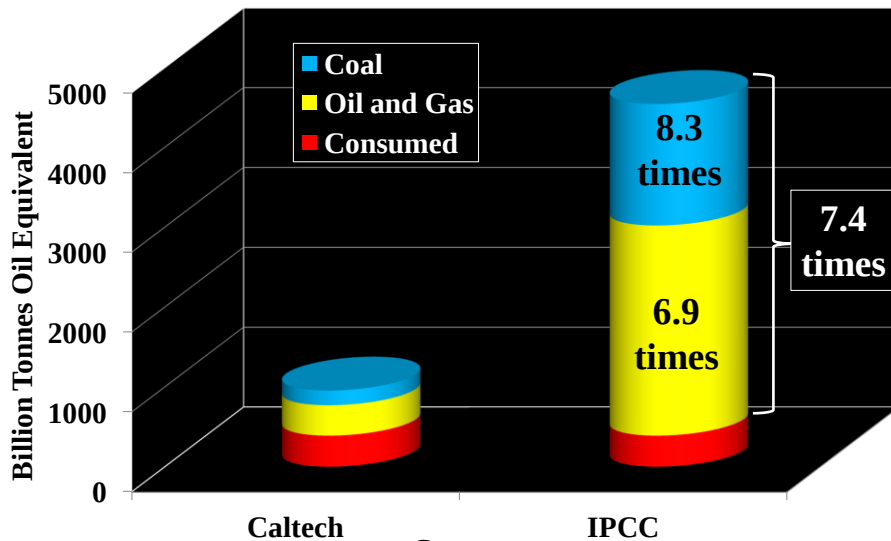


- Caltech's production constrained projection has lower emissions than any of the 40 IPCC scenarios
- Jean Laherrere was the first to call attention to this situation

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(from rutledge.caltech.edu, November, 2010)

Consumed and Remaining Recoverable Hydrocarbons Caltech (2009) vs IPCC

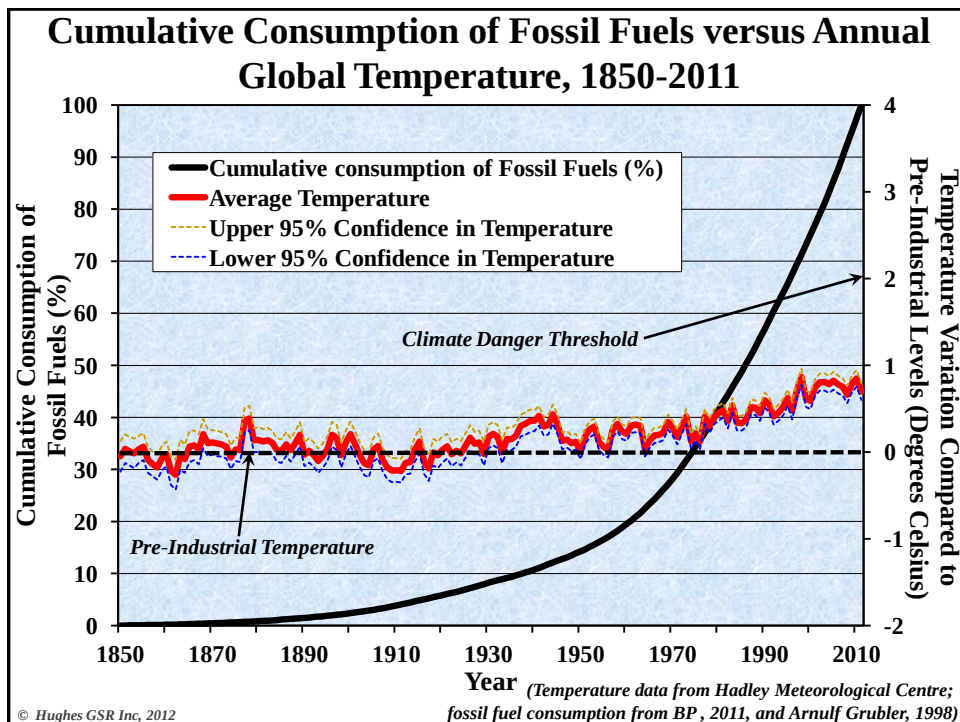
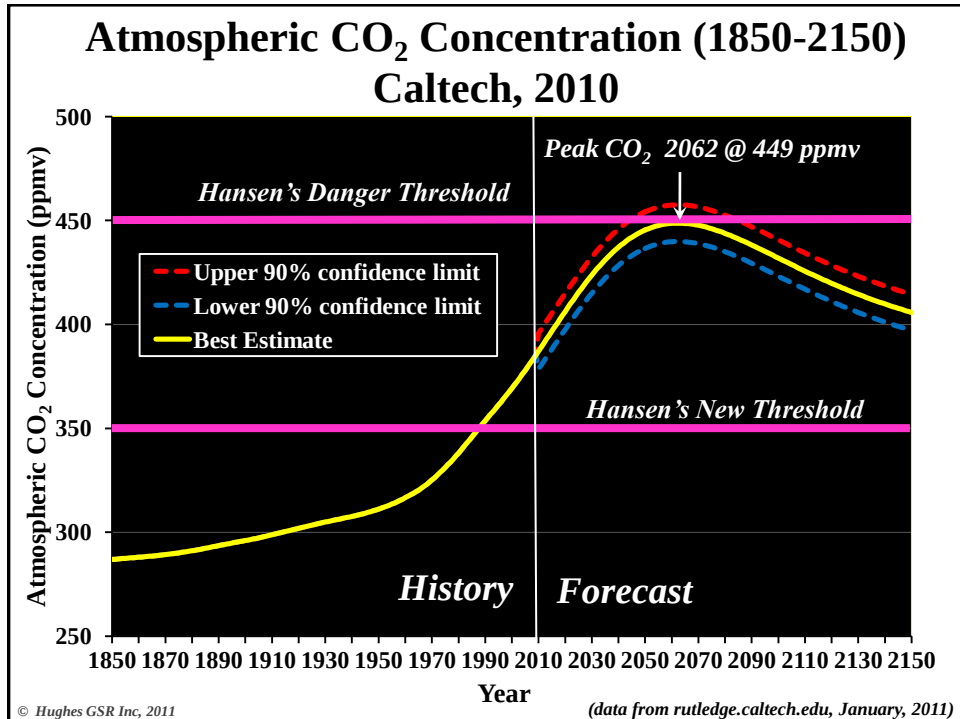


Caltech includes 174 Billion Barrels of Oil Sands

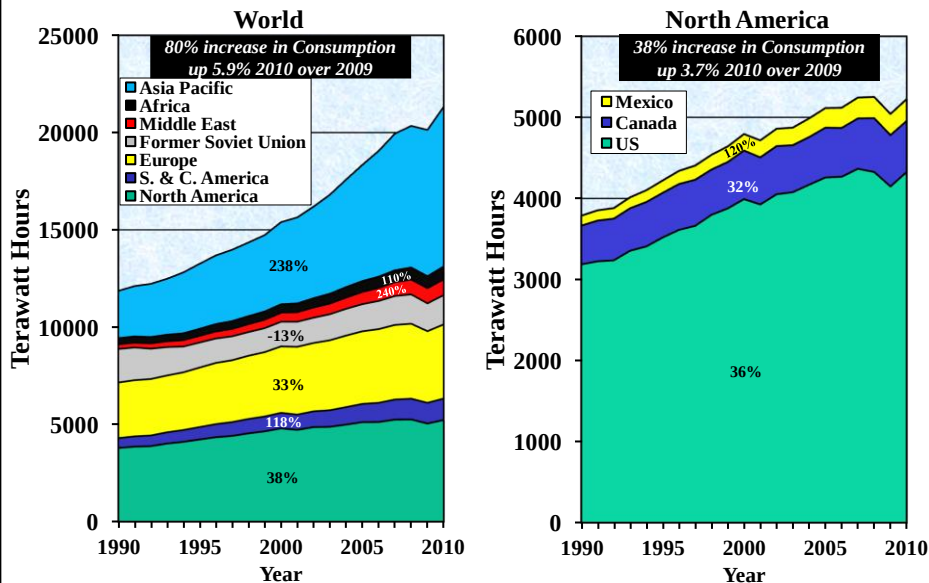
IPCC includes only maximum consumption to 2100, ultimate recoverable would be higher

© Hughes GSR Inc, 2009

(data from rutledge.caltech.edu, June, 2009)



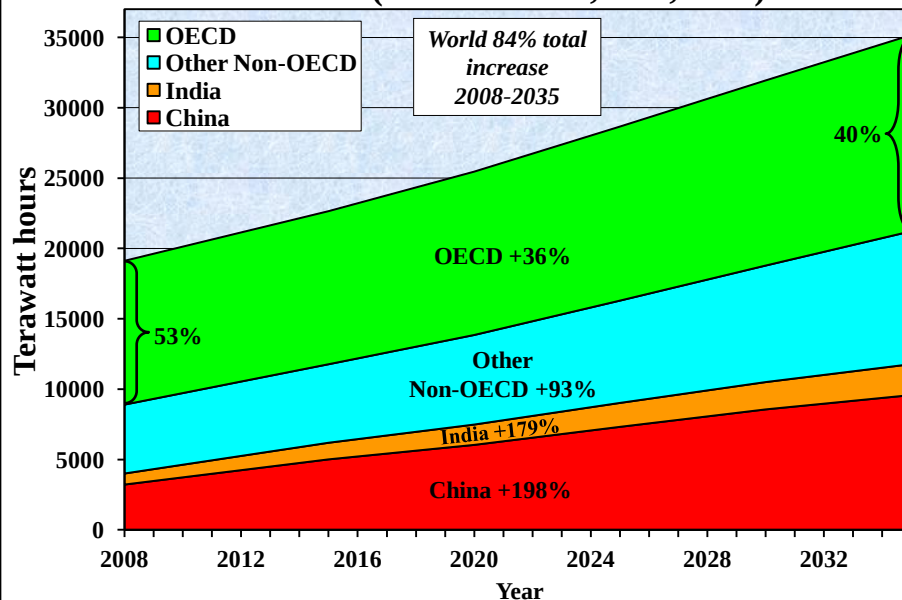
Generation of Electricity: 1990-2010



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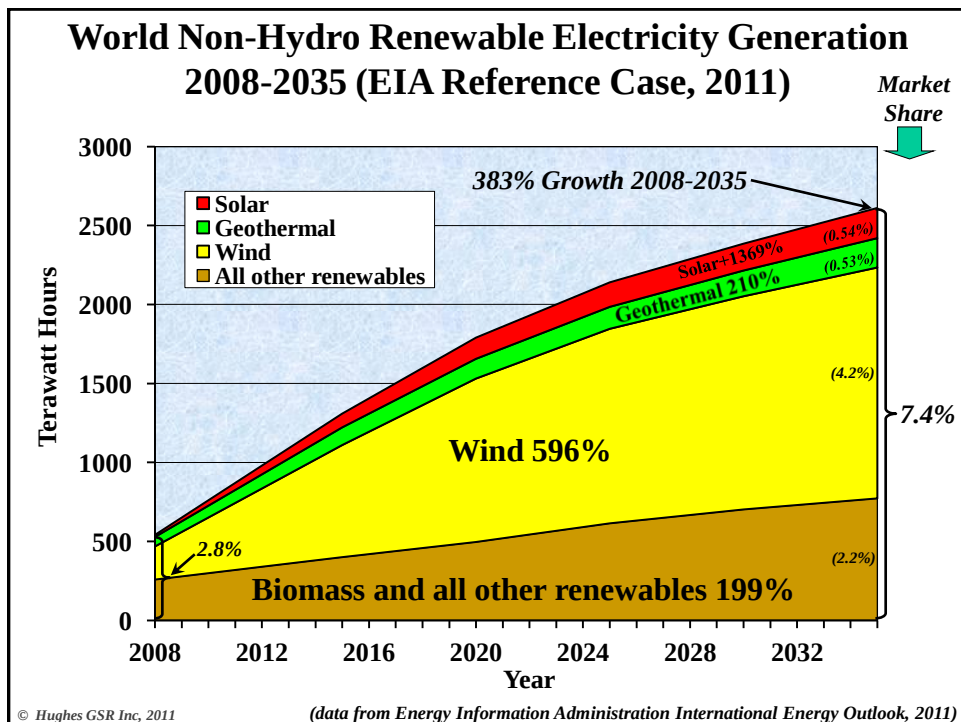
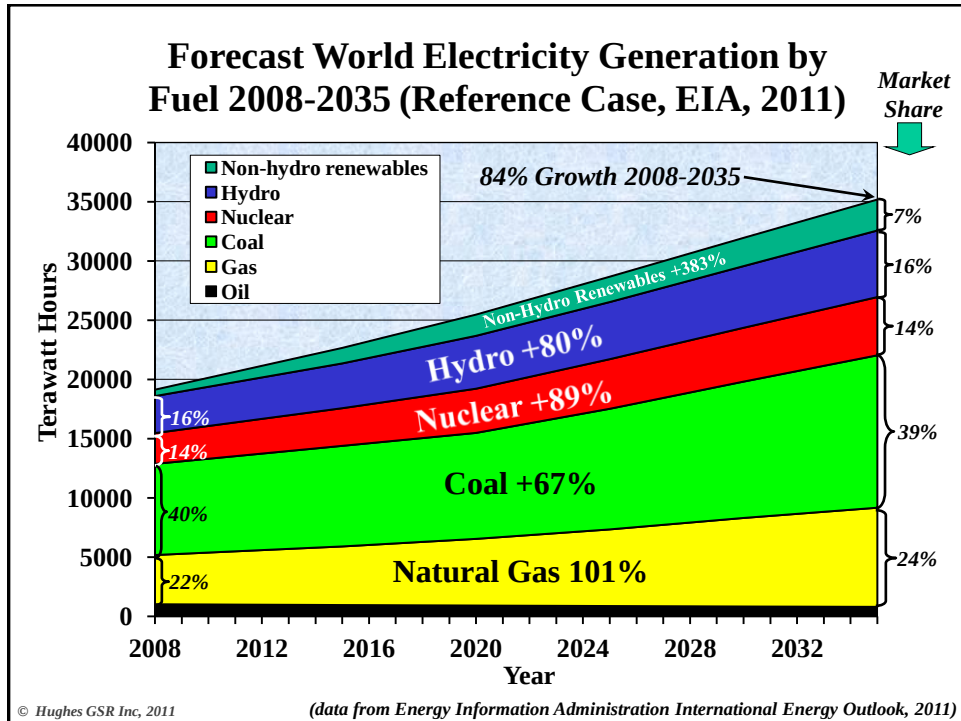
(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

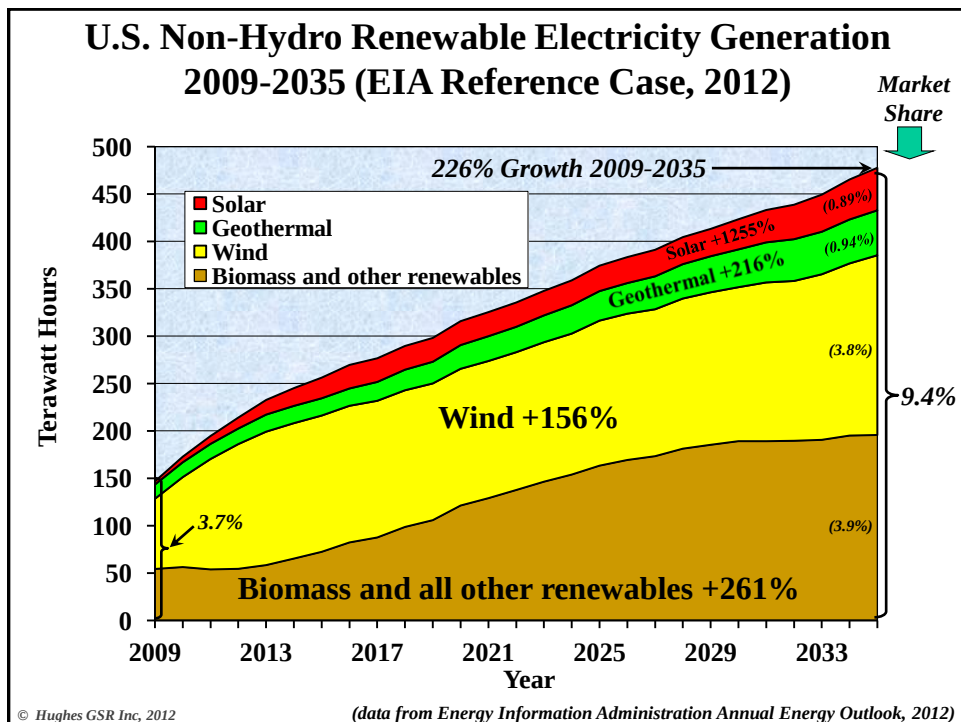
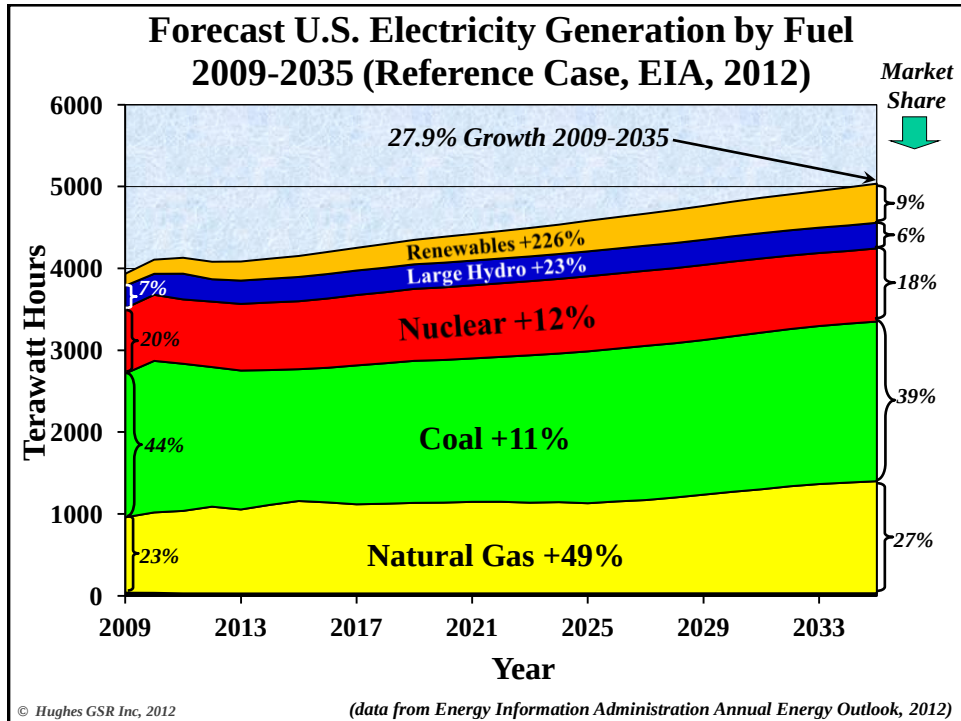
Forecast World Net Electricity Generation by Region 2008-2035 (reference case, EIA, 2011)



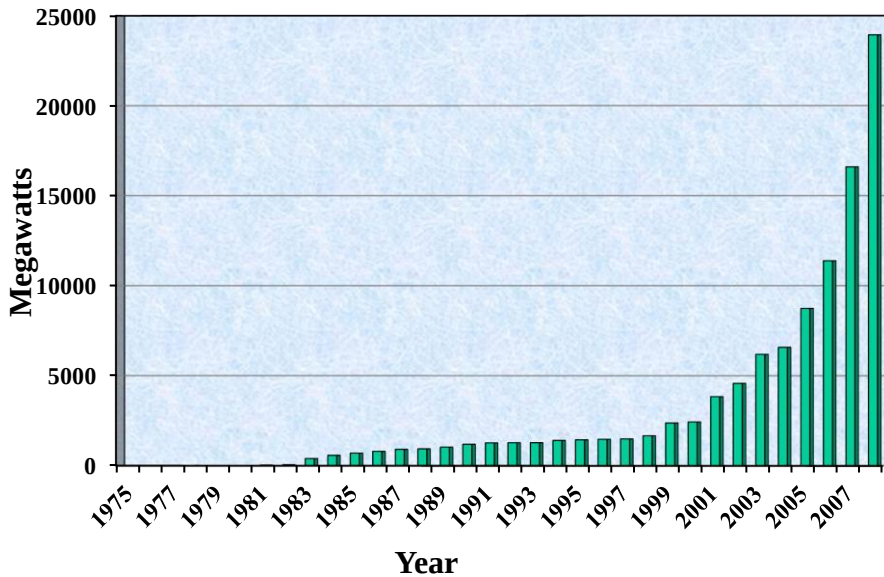
© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

(data from Energy Information Administration International Energy Outlook, 2011)





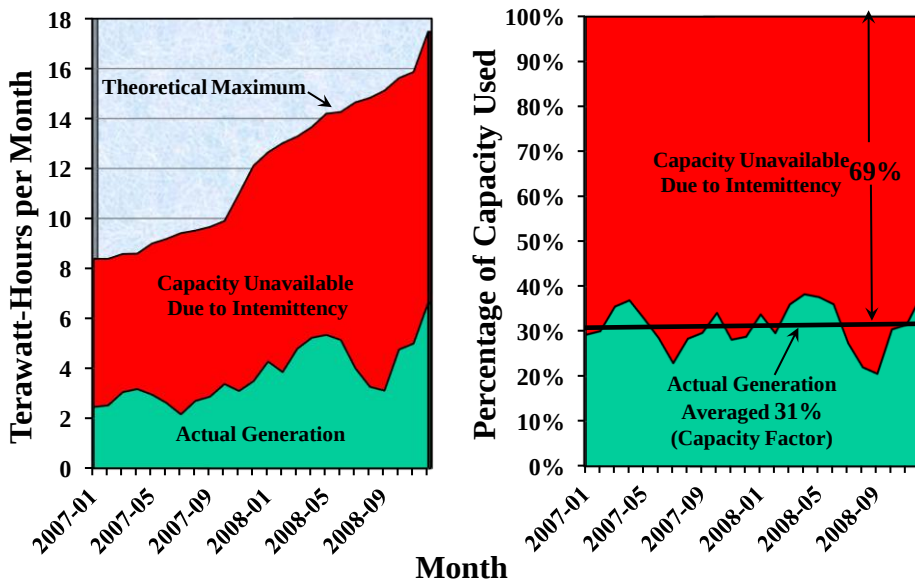
Total U.S. Wind Generation Nameplate Capacity 1975-2008



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2010

(data from Energy Information Administration, 2010)

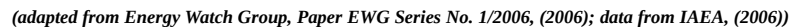
Actual Wind Generation in the U.S. Compared to Nameplate Capacity, 2007-2008



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2010

(data from Energy Information Administration, 2010)

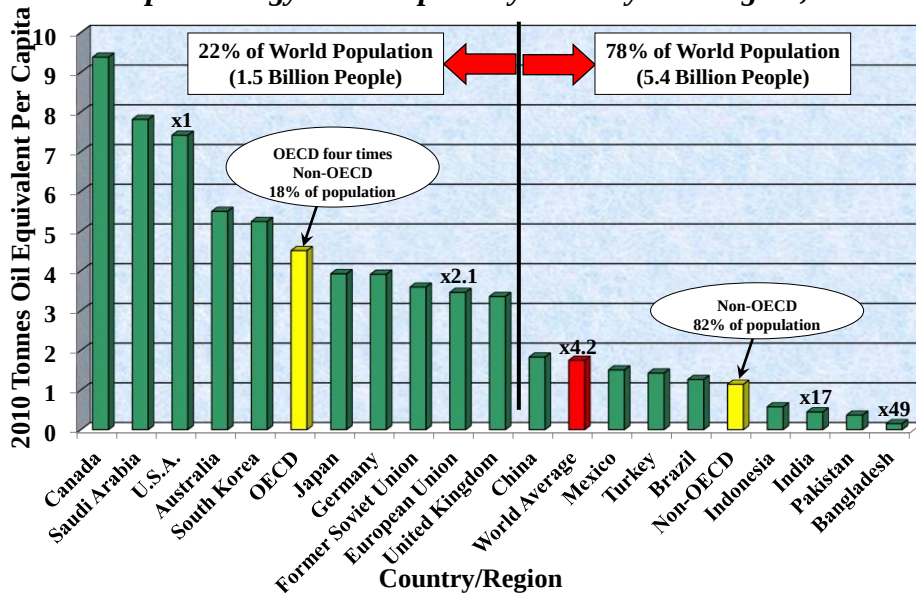
Generation Capacity at Current Construction Levels and Levels Required to Maintain and/or Increase Nuclear Capacity by 2025



POPULATION GROWTH and ASPIRATIONS OF GROWTH IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

There is a Great Inequity in Energy Consumption Worldwide

Per Capita Energy Consumption by Country and Region, 2010

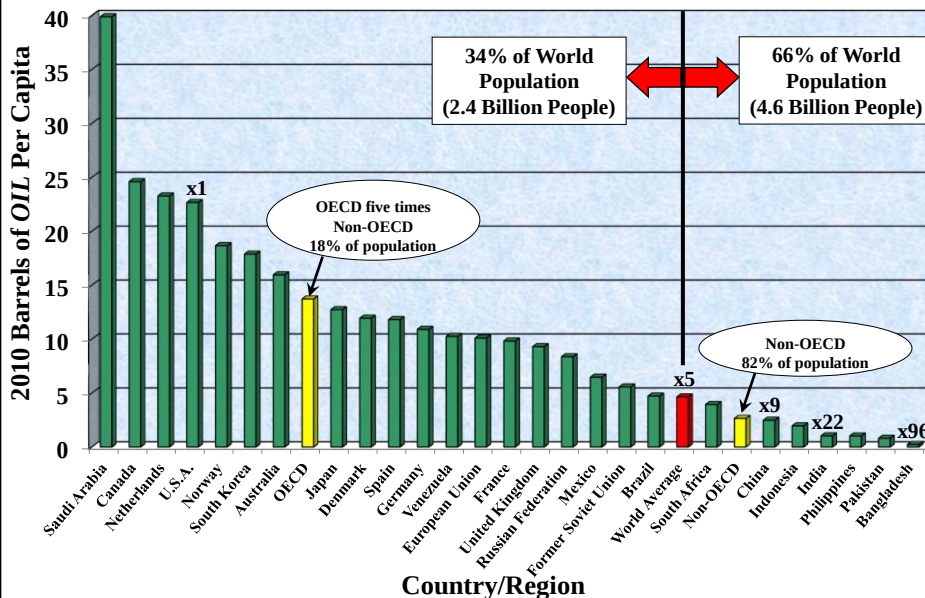


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(B.P. Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011; U.S. Census Bureau, 2011)

There is a Great Inequity in Energy Consumption Worldwide

Per Capita OIL Consumption by Country and Region, 2010

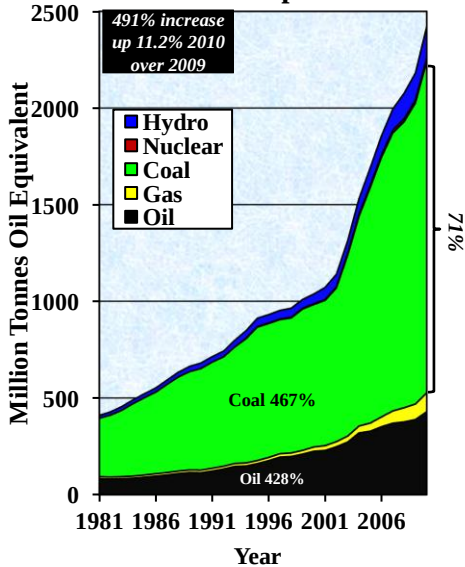
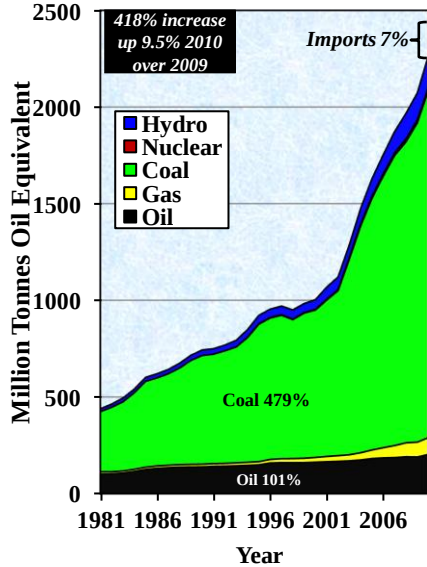


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(B.P. Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011; U.S. Census Bureau, 2011)

CHINA: The World's Number 1 Consumer of Energy

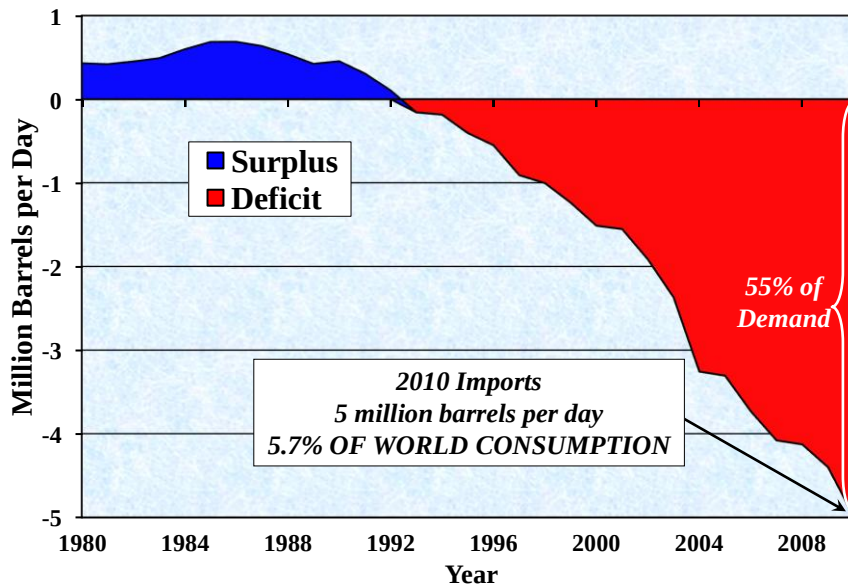
Primary Energy Production and Consumption by Fuel: 1981-2010



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(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

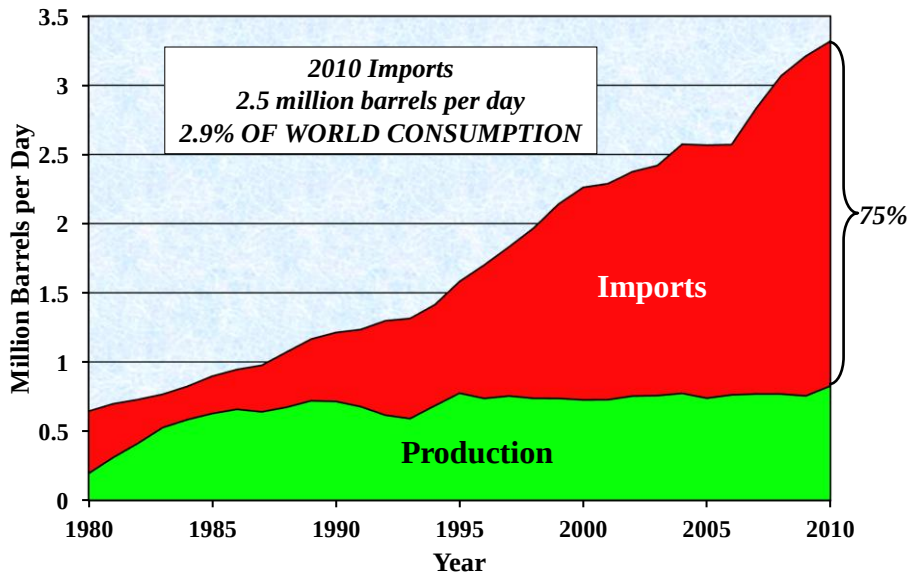
CHINA's Oil Production Surplus and Deficit 1980-2010



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(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

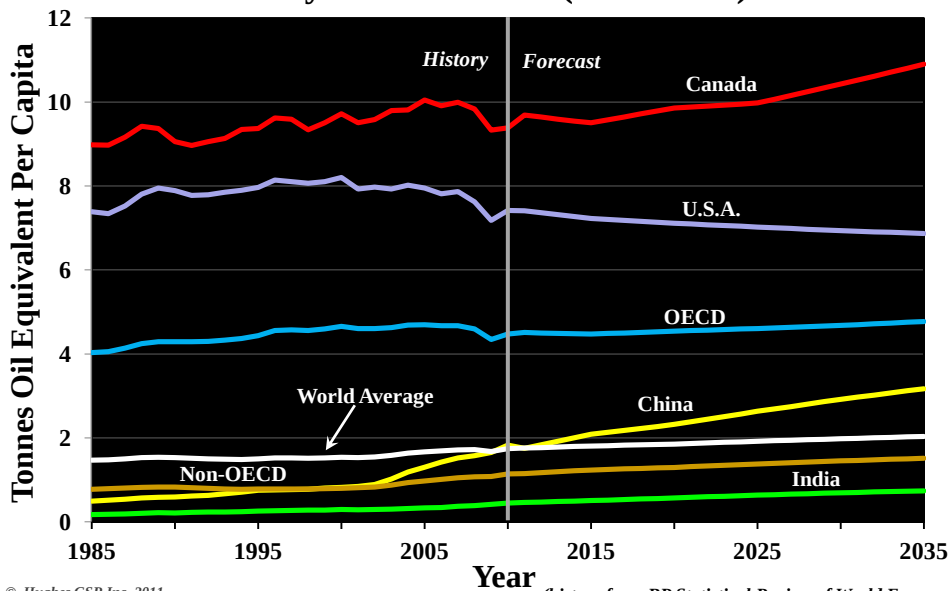
INDIA's Oil Production and Imports 1980-2010



© Hughes GSR Inc, 2011

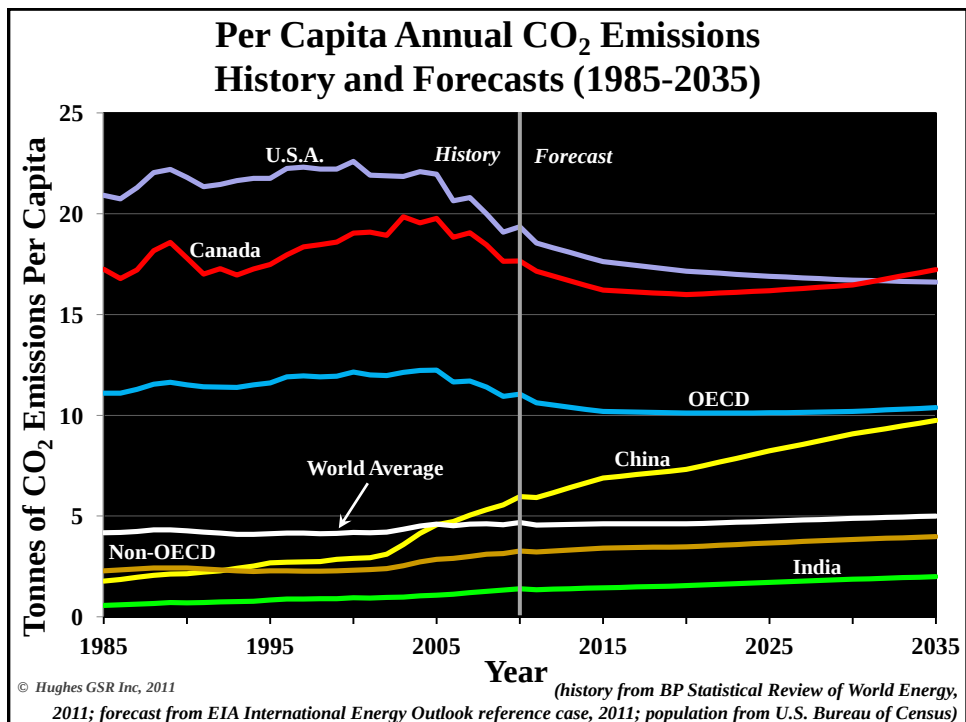
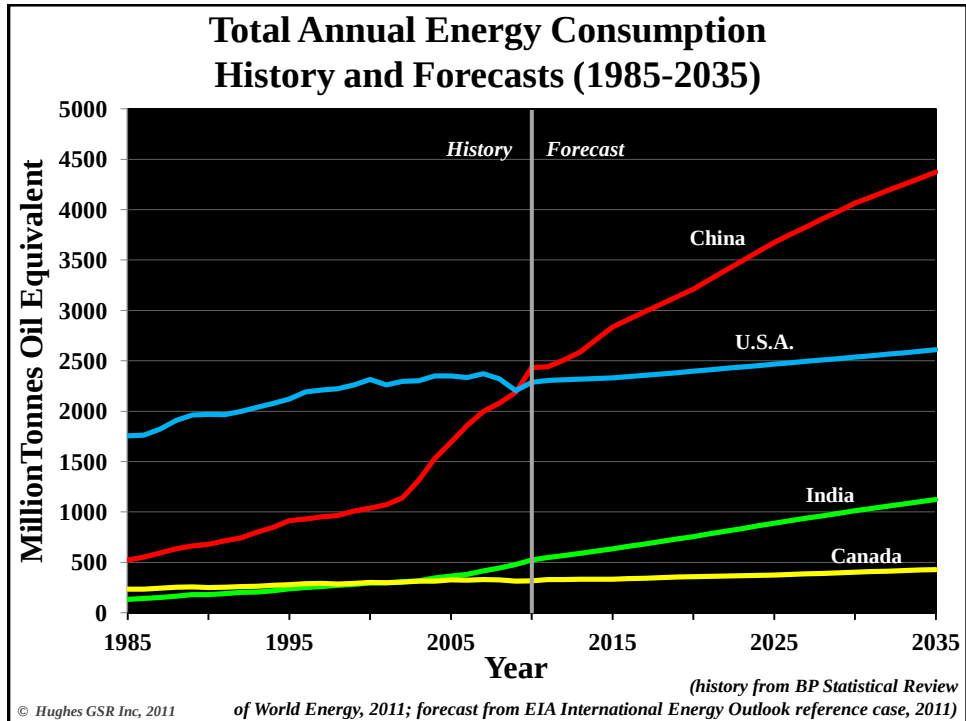
(data from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011)

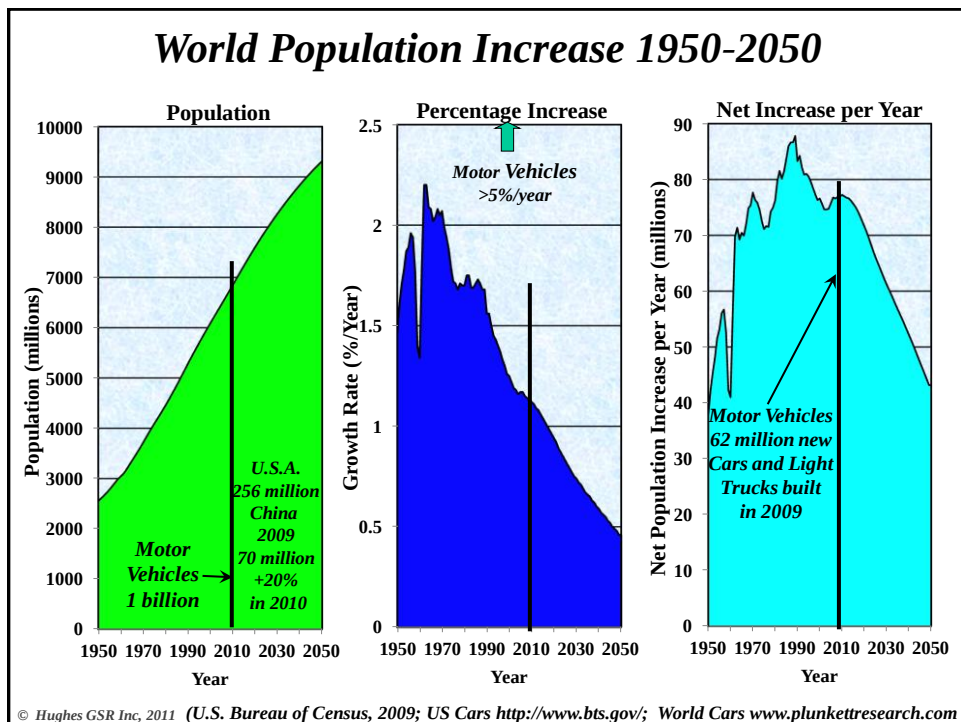
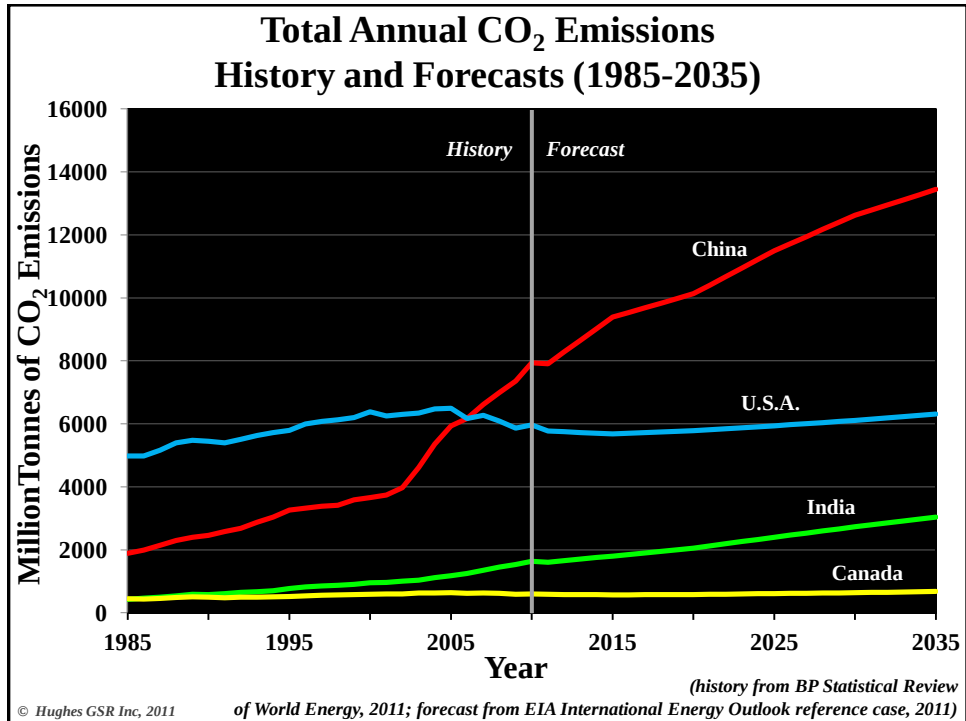
Per Capita Annual Energy Consumption History and Forecasts (1985-2035)



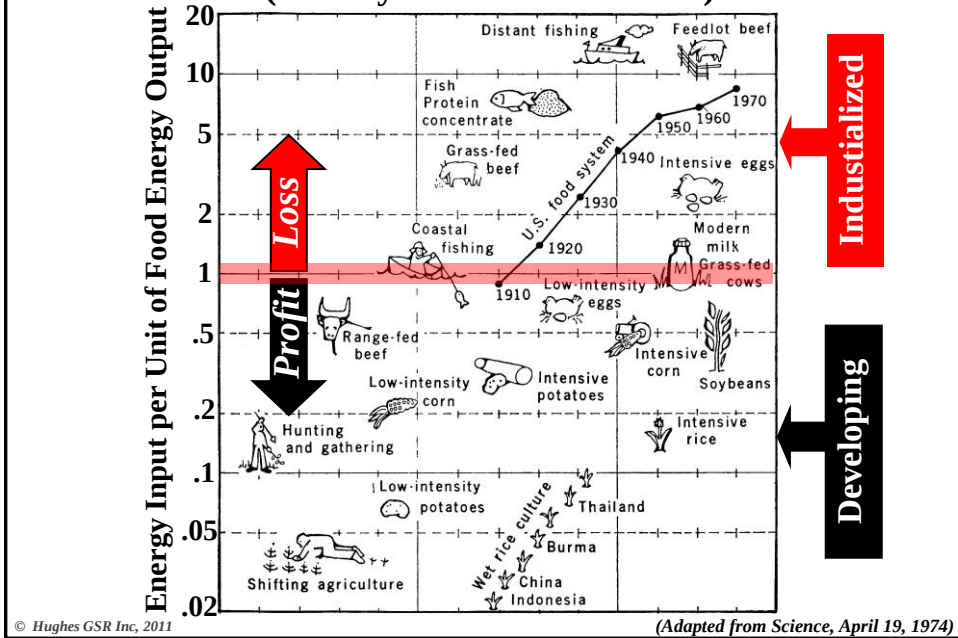
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(history from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2011; forecast from EIA International Energy Outlook reference case, 2011; population from U.S. Bureau of Census)

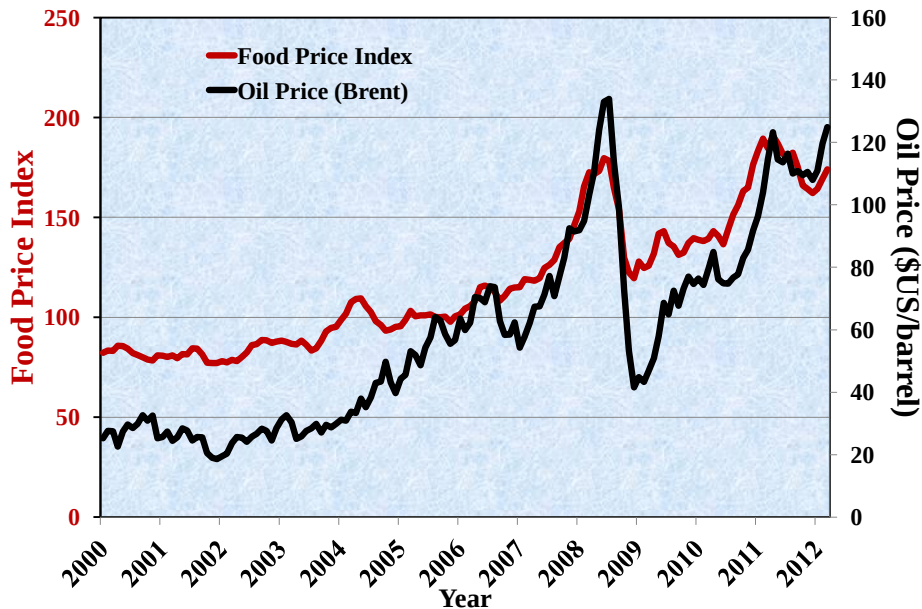




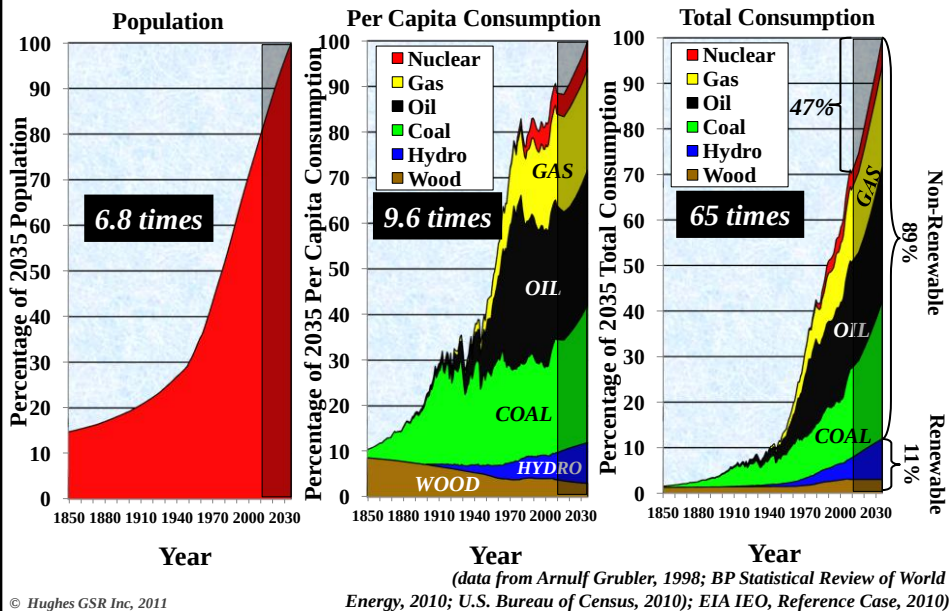
Trends in Energy Investment for Food Production (The Hydrocarbons We Eat)



Food Commodity Price Index vs Oil Price



World Population, Per Capita and Primary Energy Consumption, 1850-2035, as a Percentage of 2035 Levels



“Anyone who believes *EXPONENTIAL GROWTH* can go on forever in a finite world is either a madman or an economist”
(Economist Kenneth Boulding, early '70's)

**“The term
‘*SUSTAINABLE GROWTH*’
is an Oxymoron”**
(Albert A. Bartlett, 2000)

Summary and Implications

- Achieving a sustainable energy system is likely to be the defining issue of our time as the economic growth paradigm abuts physical limits to growth.
- In an era of constrained energy the correlation of economic growth with energy supply and price will set the stage for economic and geopolitical volatility and intense competition for energy resources.
- The Climate Change dialogue for the most part excludes any consideration of resource limitations on growth, and hence leads us down some counter productive pathways, although initiatives on conservation, efficiency and renewables fortuitiously also address the energy question.
- Hydrocarbons represent an extremely convenient, dense form of non-renewable energy for which there are NO SCALABLE ALTERNATIVES. They will be needed for the development of infrastructure for the next paradigm of more sustainable human development.
- A sustainable energy future is not out of reach but will be hugely challenging – the U.S. and Canada have no real energy strategy – this must be a high priority for the future.



Thank you

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