

# Preparing for Peak Oil – an Austin Perspective

June 7, 2007  
Austin City Council Meeting

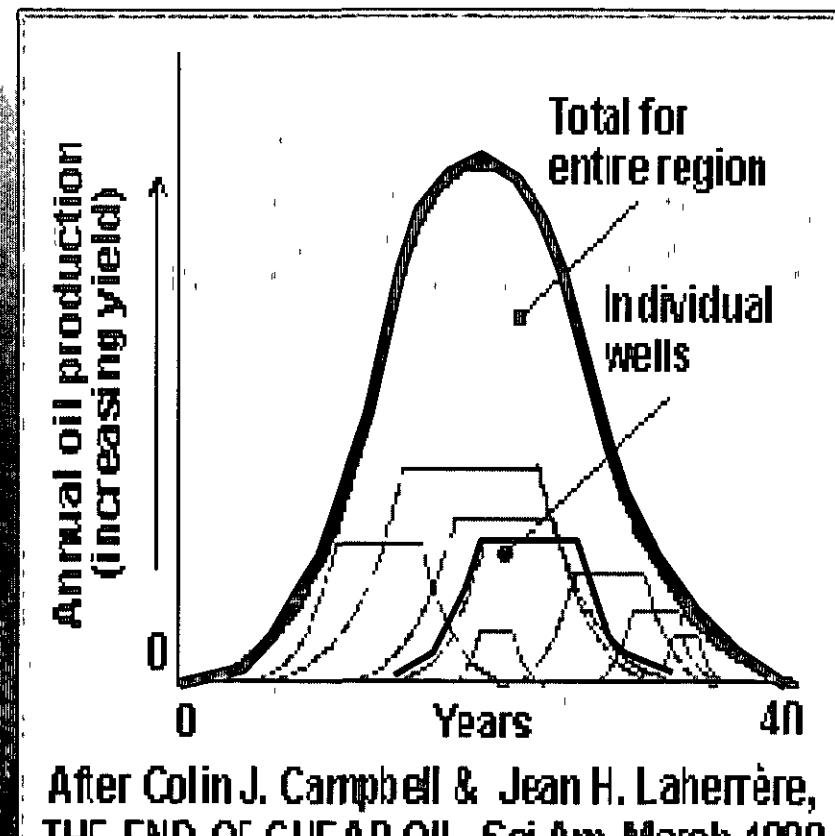
Presented by  
Roger Duncan  
Deputy General Manager  
Austin Energy

**Maximum oil production (PEAK) occurs when roughly half the recoverable oil is still in the ground.**

Oil production rates depend on geology, hydrology, economics, quantity/quality of oil, etc.

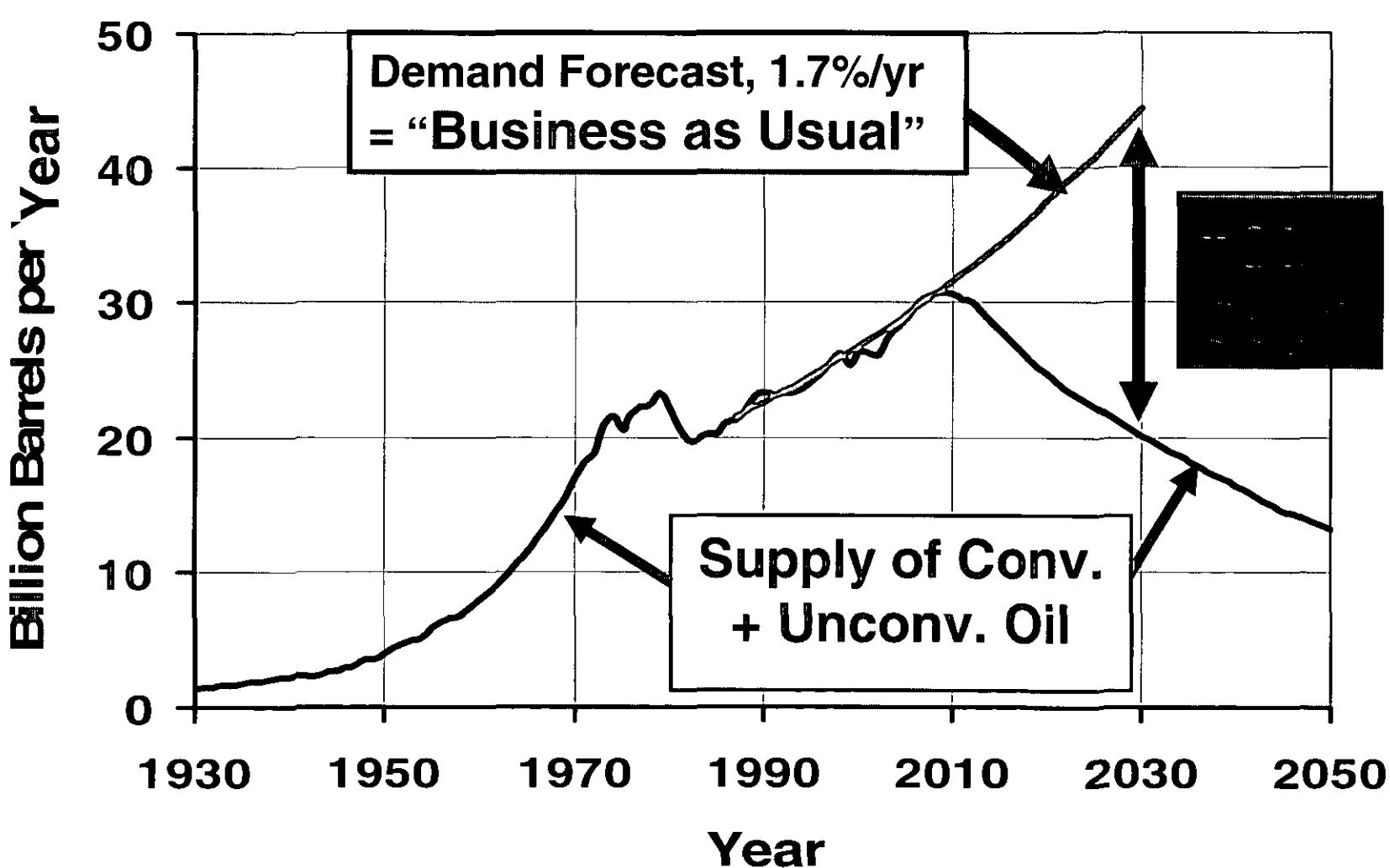
However, annual production of an oil field can be modeled as a bell-shaped curve, based on:

- Discovery history
- Well start times
- Well production rates
- Well production durations



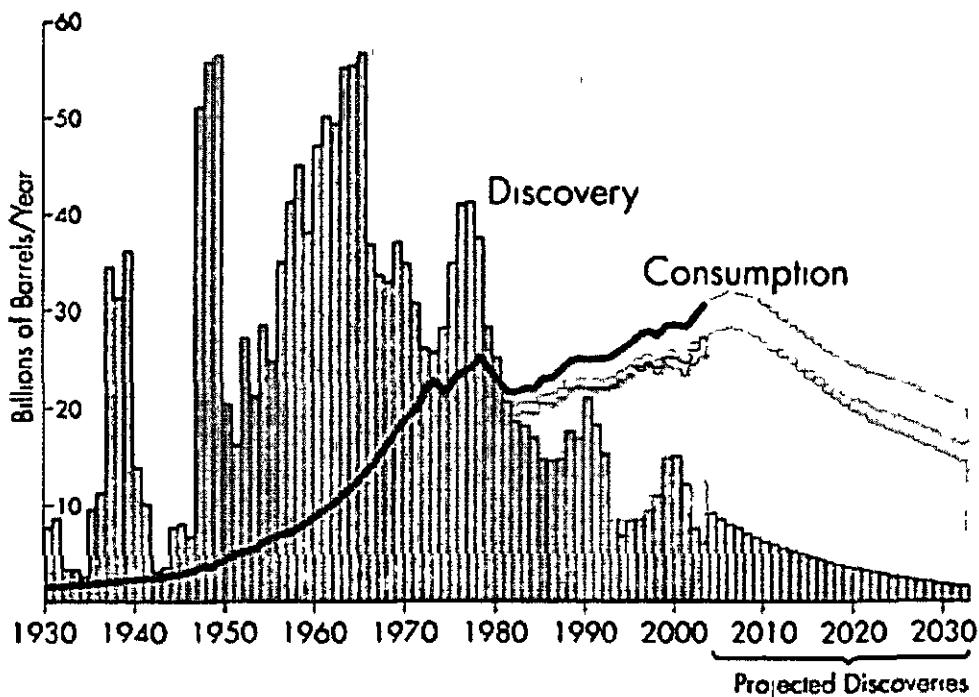
After Colin J. Campbell & Jean H. Laherrère,  
THE END OF CHEAP OIL, Sci Am, March 1998

We're not in danger of "running out" of oil anytime soon.



*80% of all the world's oil comes from a few remaining large fields discovered more than 35 years ago*

### Peak Oil - The Growing Gap



- Kuwait's Bergan field Peaked 2006
- Mexico's Cantarell field Peaked 2006
- North Sea Peaked 2005
- North Slope (Alaska) Peaked 1998
- Russia Peaked 2004
- Saudi Arabia ???

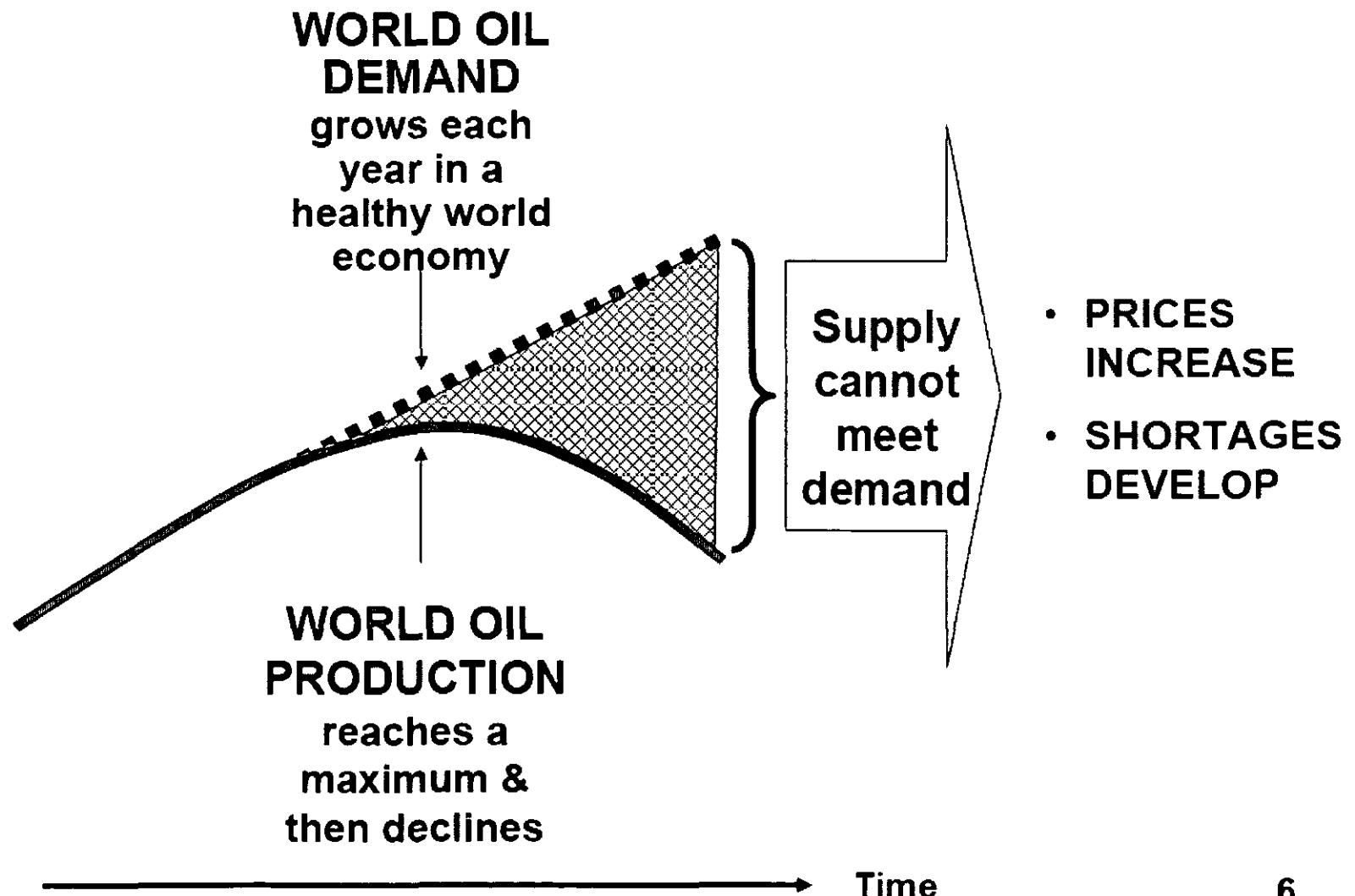
**NO OTHER SUPER GIANT FIELDS  
IN THE WORLD**

**LAST GIANT/SUPER-GIANT  
DISCOVERY - 1969**

# When will worldwide oil production peak?

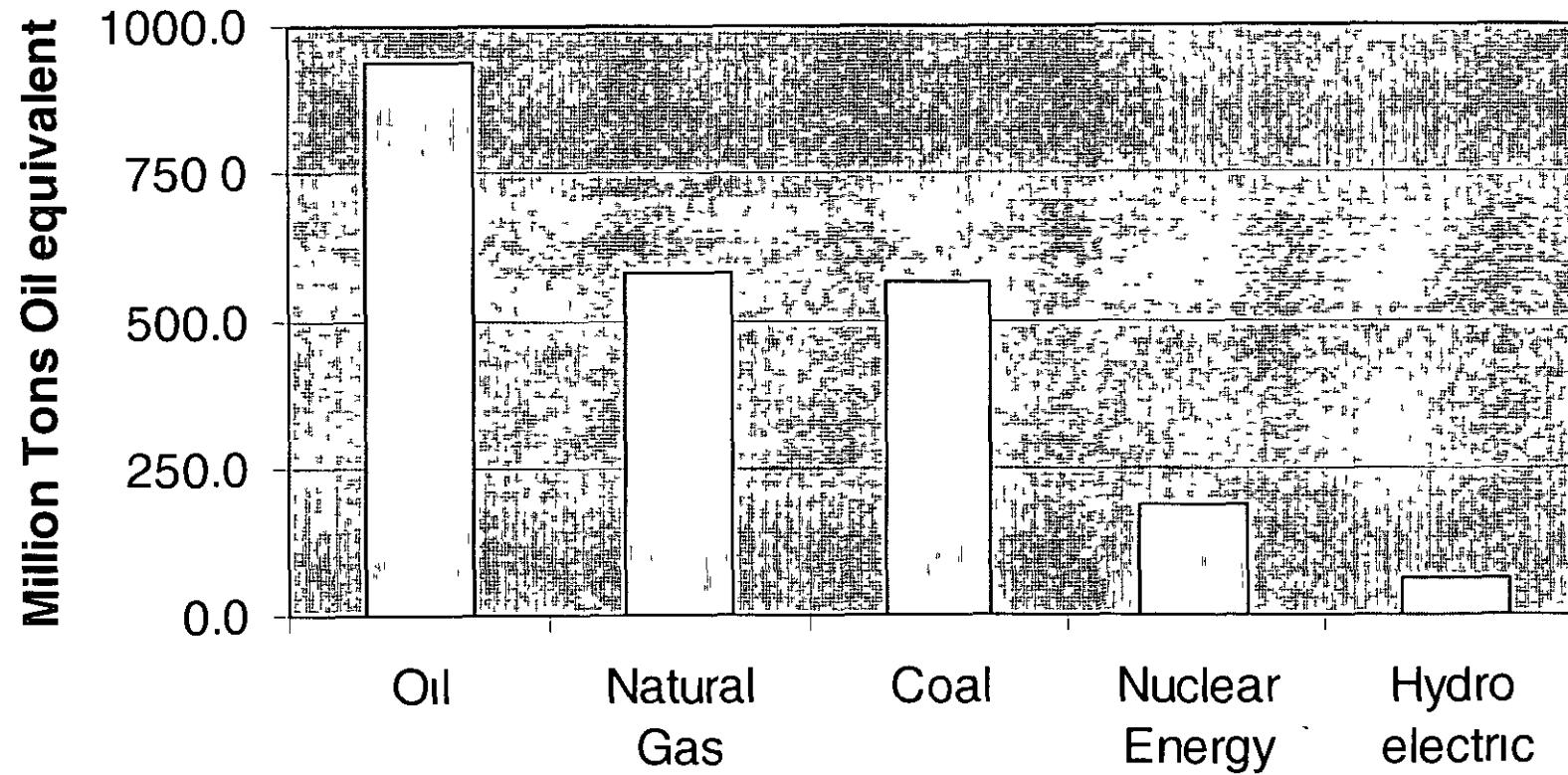
<u>Forecast</u>	<u>Source</u>	
December 2005	Deffeyes (U.S.)	<b>Already</b>
2006-2007	Bakhitari (Iran)	
2006-2007	Simmons (U.S.)	
2009 - 2010	Skrebowski (U.K.)	
2010	Campbell (Ireland)	<b>5 years</b>
Before 2010	Goodstein (U.S.)	
After 2010	World Energy Council	
2012	Weng (China)	
2016	Doug-Westwood (U.K.)	<b>5-15 years</b>
After 2020	CERA (U.S.)	
2030 or later	EIA (U.S) / Exxon Mobil	<b>&gt; 20 years</b>

# What Might Happen at Peaking?



# Oil is the main form of energy used in the US

US Energy Consumption - 2004



# Austin's share

- Austin's share of US oil consumption ~52,226 barrels/day
  - In the 3 minutes of this talk, that amounts to over 100 barrels of oil
- Annual cost to Austin
  - At \$20/bbl = \$380M
  - At \$75/bbl = \$1.4B
  - At \$200/bbl = \$3.8B (~\$5,000 for every person in Austin)

# \$200 (Oil) Questions

- Effect on city policies and budgets?
- How can we protect and expand our local resources?
  - Food Production
  - Water supply
  - Local industry
- How to maintain quality of life for all Austinites?
  - Access to quality of life for all
  - Vitality of the city
    - Maintaining pride in community
    - Define progress in terms of sustainability

# Be it Resolved

1. The Austin City Council supports the undertaking of a City-wide assessment study
  - a. Inventory city activities' resource requirements
  - b. Develop a comprehensive energy depletion risk assessment/action plan
2. Establish an Energy Depletion Risks Task Force to:
  - a. Assess exposure to diminishing supplies of oil and natural gas,
  - b. Develop recommendations to address vulnerabilities

**Be it further resolved,**

**3. The Task Force shall be composed of:**

- a. representatives of City departments affected by oil and gas depletion**
- b. Community and business leaders**
- c. The City Manager shall report the makeup of the Task Force to City Council within eight weeks**

# **Be it further resolved**

- 4. The Task Force's charge shall be to:**
  - a. Acquire and study current and credible data on the issues of oil and natural gas production and depletion**
  - b. Seek community and business input on the proposed planning and response measures**
  - c. Coordinate with appropriate county, state and federal agencies**
  - d. Develop recommendations for the City Council to include in the City's long term strategic planning**
  - e. Propose methods for educating the public**
  - f. Issue its final report within nine months of the date of this resolution**

## **Be it further resolved**

- 5. The City Manager shall, after issuance of the Task Force's report:**
  - a. make recommendations to the City council regarding the necessary funding and direction to City departments for the development of a contingency plan**
- 6. The Task Force's charge shall expire after issuance of its final report to City Council.**

# **Summary**

- Worldwide conventional oil production will likely peak by 2010
- The gap between oil supply and B.A.U. demand will grow rapidly after peak
- Need to develop contingency plans now