The Changing Energy Landscape: Oil & Gas



Introduction to GIS WebTech



 Atlanta-based company focused exclusively on technology for economic development

• Fastest-growing provider with the only technology built natively on Esri's ArcGIS platform

 Serve economic development organizations of all sizes, in all regions of the country

• Hope to see everyone in Atlanta this fall!



A Quick Review of Oil & Gas



- **1.** Peak Oil: Are We Running Out?
- 2. Shale Gas, Shale Oil and Fracking: What Exactly Are They?
- **3.** Energy Independence: Is It Feasible?
- 4. And What Does All This Mean for Economic Development, Anyway?



Peak Oil

Wikipedia Definition: the theorized point in time when the maximum rate of extraction of petroleum is reached, after which it is expected to enter terminal decline

Intuitive....Makes Sense...



- > Oil is a finite resource
- > So the amount available ("Supply") must be fixed
- Consumption ("Demand") will eventually use it up
- With demand growing every year the day of reckoning gets closer every year and we will eventually run out
- And when demand begins to seriously outrun supply prices will skyrocket, creating scarcity and maybe even societal collapse (e.g. Mad Max)



First Problem: Peak Oil is a Recurring Prediction



1880s: no oil outside Appalachians

1950s: megafields harder to find

2008: oil hits \$100/bbl

1859: First oil well drilled



NOT THERE YET Notable past predictions of peak oil that didn't turn out

"Within the next two to five years, the oil fields of this country will reach their maximum production, and from that time on we will face an ever-increasing decline."

Van H. Manning, director of the U.S. Bureau of Mines

> By the late 1920s, the market will be awash in oil, and the discovery of the giant East Texas oil field in 1931 will create a glut.

Photo: Corbis



1970s: oil crisis

Spot the pattern? Peak oil theories get popularized about every generation



Second Problem: Peak Oil Never Actually Occurs

World Oil Production 1930 - 2012



- Growth in oil production is occasionally interrupted but never stops
- Interruptions in growth are caused by recessions (which cause demand to drop) and, rarely, political events
- But there is no peak...
- ...why not?



Sales Gas, Shale Oil & Fracking

Bertasi Definition of Shale: fine-grained mud compacted into a porous, but impermeable, rock

- Geologists have known for over 100 years that shale contains a lot of oil and gas
- But it was never economic to recover because of the rock's impermeability





- Stated another way, you could not get the oil or gas to flow out of the rock into a conventional well
- The oil and gas were, effectively, locked up



Sales Gas, Shale Oil & Fracking

Technological change, in this case fracking, changed the game by opening up massive new supplies



Source: Energy Information Administration based on data from various published studies Updated: March 10, 2010



Result? U.S. Approaching Energy Independence



- Recently passed Saudi Arabia and Russia to become the world's largest producer of oil
- Closing in on Russia to become the largest producer of gas
- Now exporting both gas (in the form of LNG) and oil
- Expected to produce more energy than we consume, achieving energy independence, in about 5 years



So What Does This Mean for Economic Development?

- Shale oil and shale gas now have a major impact on local economies in many areas of the country
 - Upstream: Drilling and production benefit local employment and tax base
 - Midstream: Gathering, processing and transmission create construction and permanent jobs and heavy tax base
 - Downstream: Distribution brings lower energy prices, creating economic growth across the board and jobs in energy-intensive industries like chemical manufacturing, fertilizer manufacturing, etc.
 - Export: Multi-billion dollar LNG export terminals
- If your community is close to a shale resource, it could prove attractive to certain energy-intensive industries, and if it is not it is already benefiting indirectly, from lower energy prices



Contact Info

Ron Bertasi

ron@giswebtech.com

404-535-1261



Thanks From GIS WebTech!

www.giswebtech.com