

A CRUDE SITUATION

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At some intuitive level, many people know that Americans are addicted to oil and that this non-renewable source of energy will someday run out. It is a fact. We will run out! The only question is when. The estimates run from five to forty years. How serious is it? The United States currently consumes 20.7 million barrels of oil each day. China is the world's second largest consumer, using about 6.9 million barrels a day. Unfortunately, the demand for oil is increasing. In China, it is increasing very rapidly. In terms of production, the United States is the third leading oil producer in the world. Saudi Arabia produces the most and Russia is second. However, the United States consumes far more oil than it produces. At this time, the total known U.S. reserves are about 21 billion barrels. Good grief! If you do the math, you discover that if we use all of our own oil, it will only last about three years! The United States has such a huge appetite for oil that it must import almost unbelievable quantities. To make matters worse, we import from countries that use their oil for political purposes, and many of these purposes are not in our best interests. To some extent, we are actually financing the terrorists who attack us.

We must decrease our dependence on foreign oil. We must conserve and we must use alternative energy such as water, wind, solar, and biofuels. As a nation, our progress is much too slow. As individuals, let us begin to lead the way. I urge the American farmer to begin growing crops specifically intended for the production of vegetable oil. With this oil, we can produce biodiesel at the local level and make our farms energy independent. We can easily cold press canola and sunflower seeds and get a yield about three times greater than pressing soybeans. In addition, these seeds do not have the toxin trypsin, so the residual cake can be fed to livestock without heat treatment. Many **FuelMeister** dealers are now selling cold presses for a complete solution. It is our business, and it is our passion. The American farmer is the vital key. Let this nation GROW renewable energy.

Chuck Cole
Doctor Diesel
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