

# The Future of Ground Transportation is Electric

Martin Eberhard  
Founder, 1<sup>st</sup> CEO, Tesla



# Agenda

- Cars
  - Well-to-Wheel efficiency and footprint comparison
  - A bit about hydrogen fuel cells
  - Historical EV failures
  - What Tesla did differently
- Long-haul freight: trucks and trains
- Delivery trucks

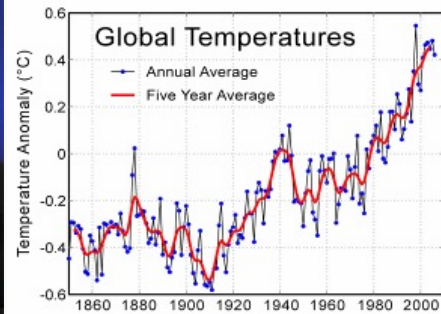
## Not on the Agenda

- “Autonomous” driving, FSD, etc.
- Flying cars (or any other aircraft)
- Hyperloop or any other hype

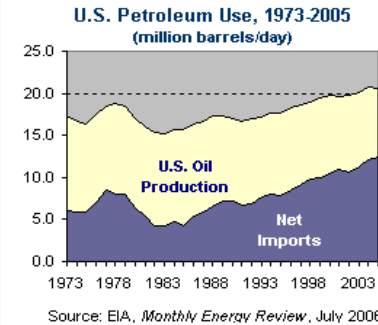
A slide from my 2005  
Tesla pitch deck

# 2005 Oil Consumption:

a concern for both ends of the political spectrum



Global Warming



National Security





# The Problem



950 Million cars in 2002

2.4 **Billion** cars by 2050

We can not power them all with oil



# If not Oil, Then What?



Metrics: What is the resource consumption per kilometer?  
What is the well-to-wheel carbon footprint per km?

Conclusion: Electric cars are by far the best choice

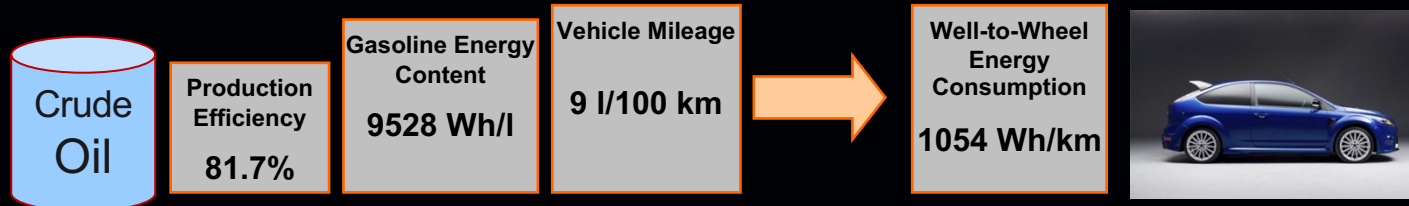
- Battery-electric
- Biodiesel
- Clean diesel
- Compressed natural gas
- Ethanol
- Hydrogen ICE
- Hydrogen fuel cells
- Methanol
- Plug-in hybrid



Are Electric Vehicles Really Better?

# Well-to-Wheel Energy Consumption

## Pretty Good Gasoline Car: 9 l/100 km



## Best Case Gasoline Car: 5.7 l/100 km



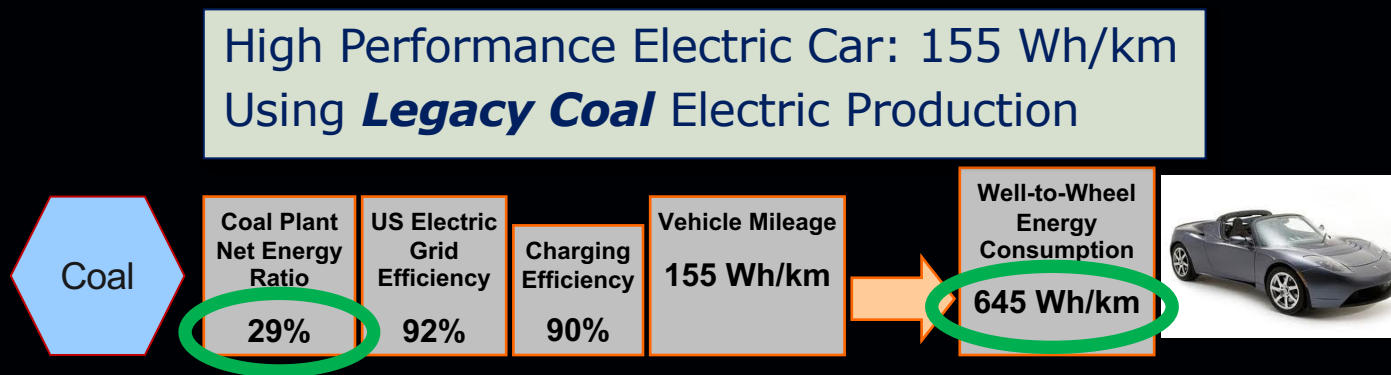
Fuel energy content: *Well-to-Wheel Studies, Heating Values, and the Energy Conservation Principle*, 29 October 2003, Ulf Bossel

Vehicle mileage: US EPA [www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov)

Production Efficiency: *Well-to-Tank Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Transportation Fuels – North American Analysis*, June 2001, by General Motors Corporation, Argonne National Laboratory, BP, ExxonMobil, and Shell

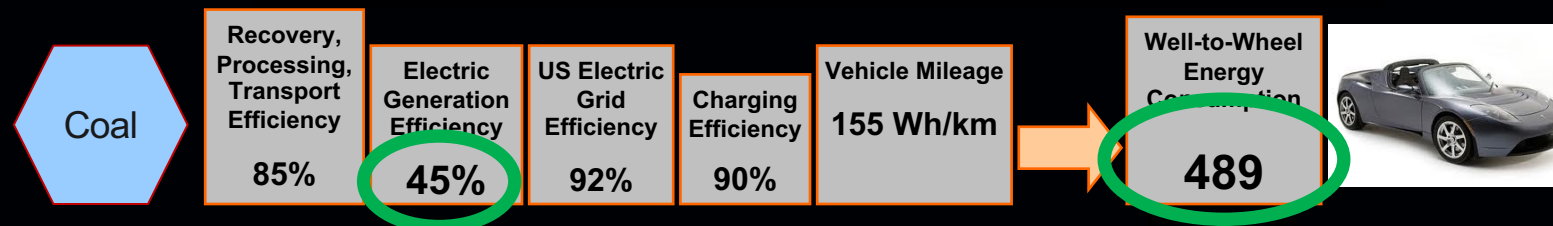


# Well-to-Wheel Energy Consumption



# Well-to-Wheel Energy Consumption

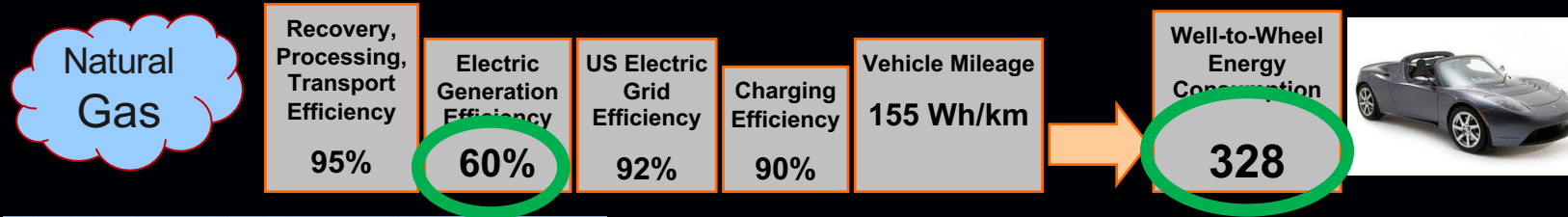
High Performance Electric Car: 155 Wh/km  
using ***State-of-the-Art Coal*** Electric Production



Isogo Power Plant in Japan

# Well-to-Wheel Energy Consumption

High Performance Electric Car: 155 Wh/km  
using ***State-of-the-Art Natural Gas*** Electric Production



Baglan Bay Power Plant, Wales



# Well-to-Wheel Energy Consumption

Note: you don't need fossil fuels for EVs

**Best  
Natural Gas**



**328 Wh/km**

**Best Coal**



**489 Wh/km**

**Legacy Coal**



**645 Wh/km**

**Best  
Gasoline**



**669 Wh/km**

**Pretty Good  
Gasoline**

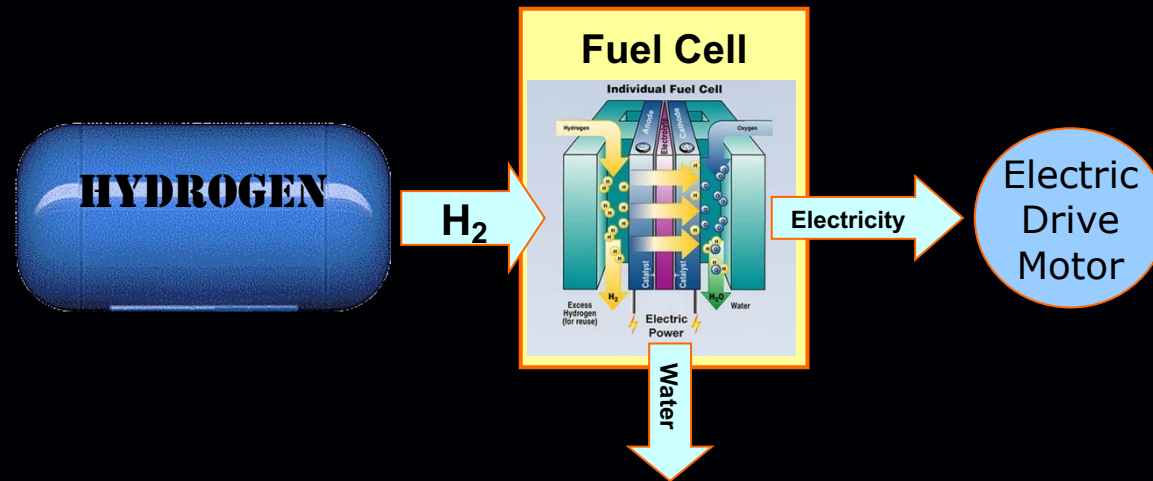


**1055 Wh/km**

My House  
5.2 kW  
1 fast car



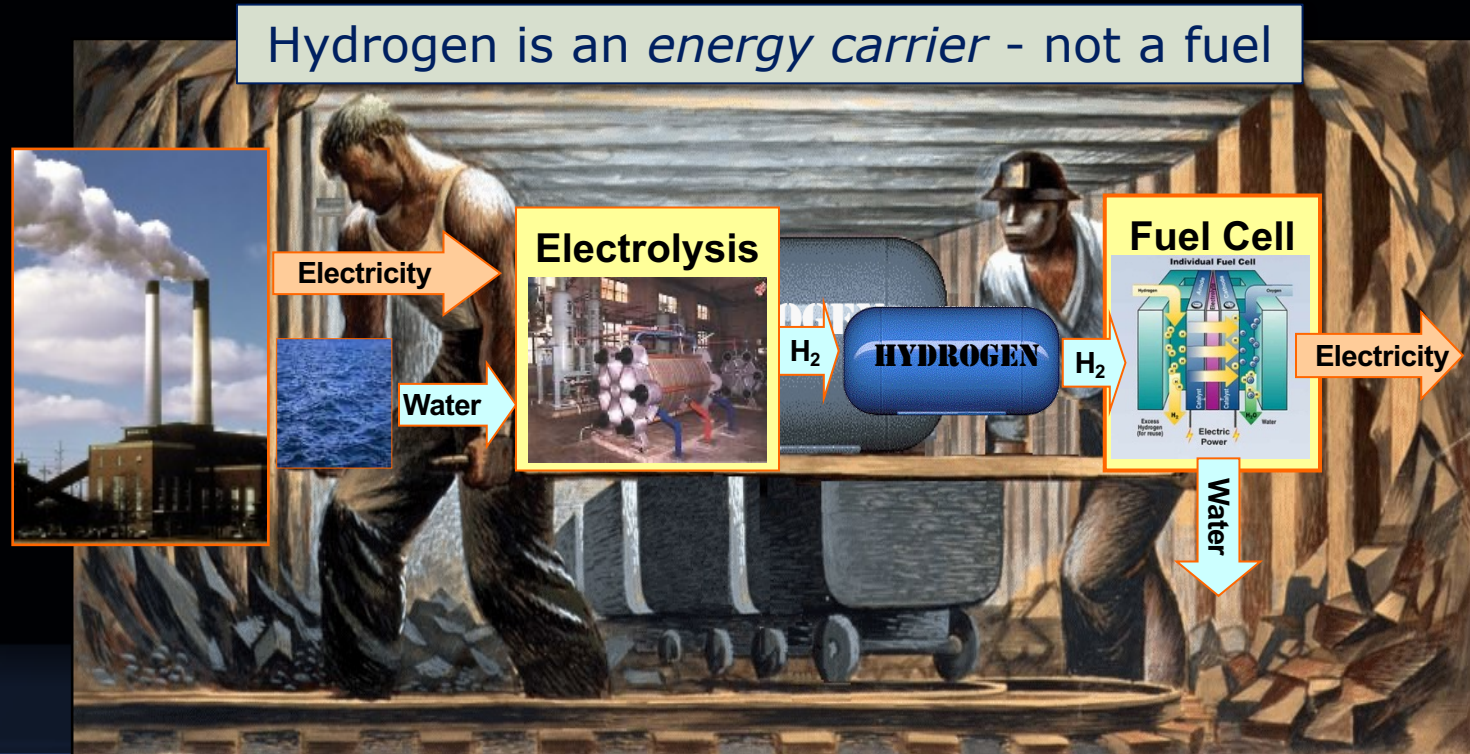
# What About Hydrogen Fuel Cells?





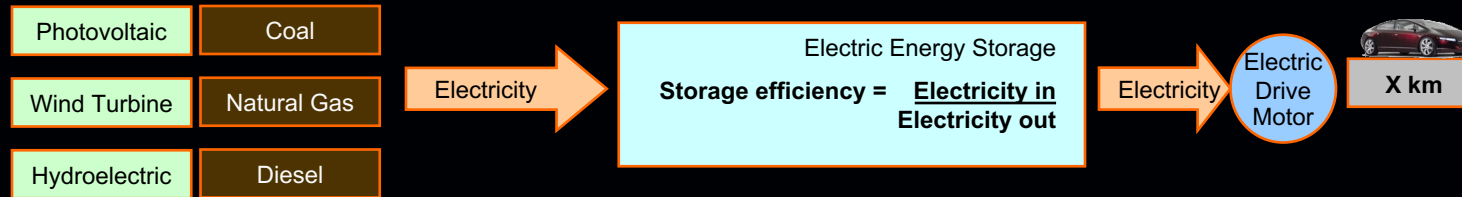
# What About Hydrogen Fuel Cells?

You Must Ask: *Where does hydrogen come from?*



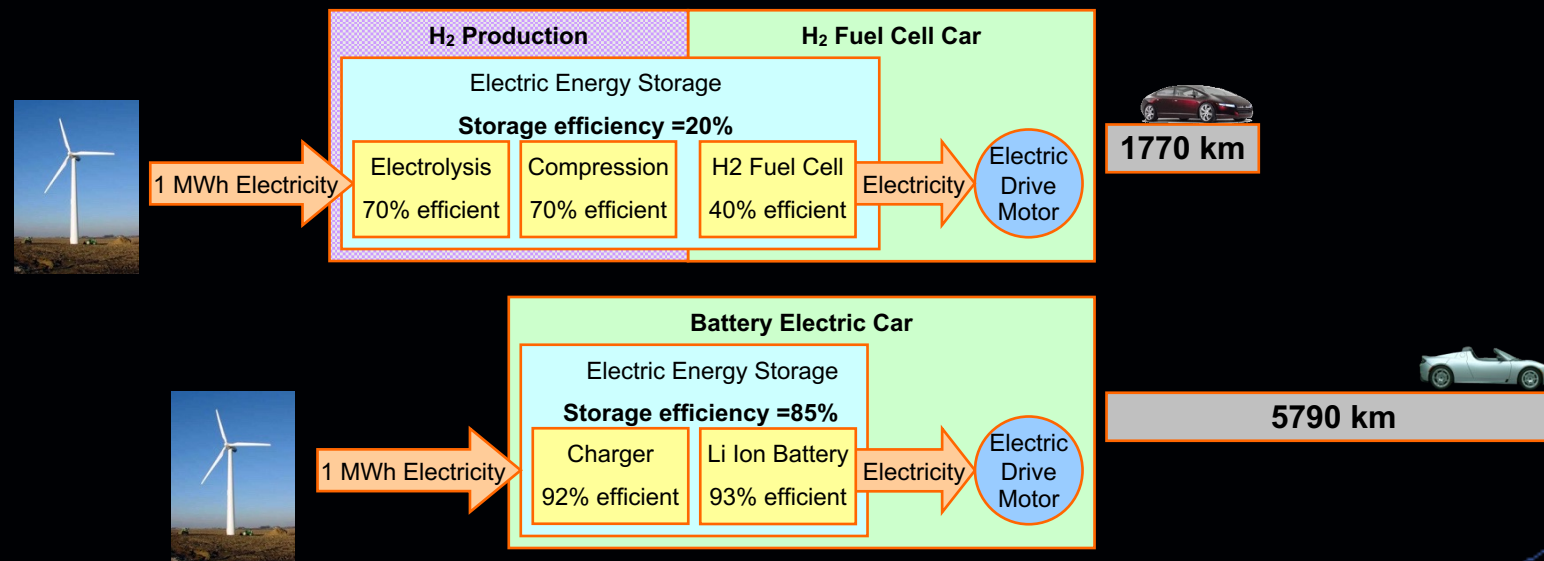
# What About Hydrogen Fuel Cells?

## Efficiency Matters



# What About Hydrogen Fuel Cells?

**Q:** How far will one MWh of electricity power a car?

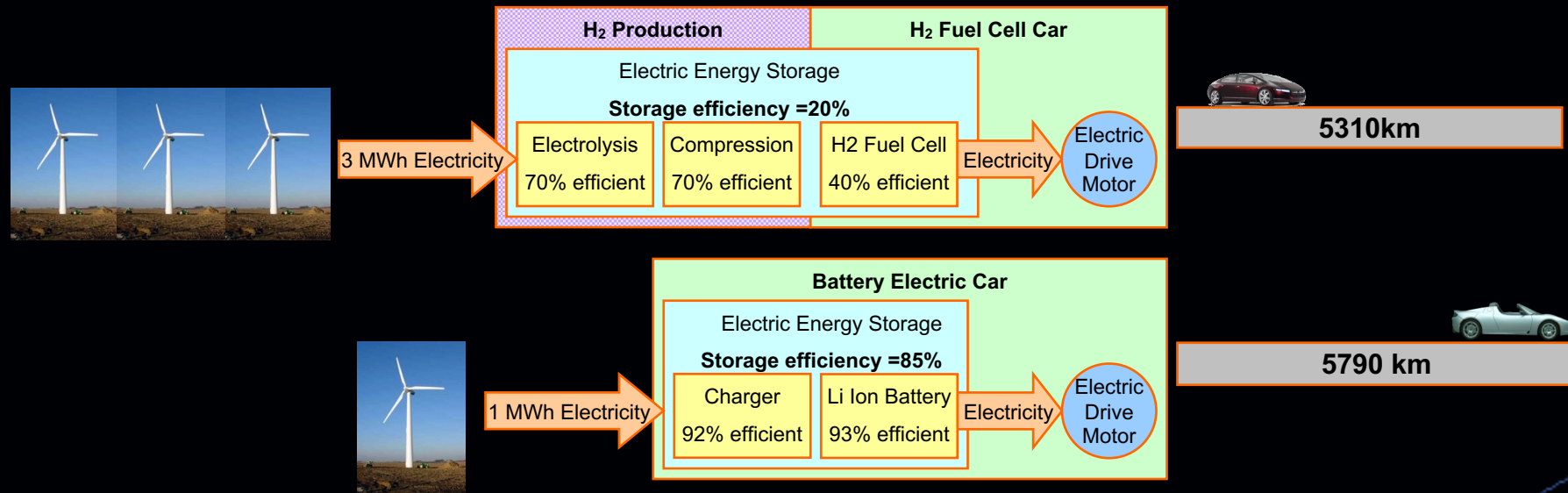


**A:** An electric car will go 3 times as far as a fuel cell car



# What About Hydrogen Fuel Cells?

**Q:** How far will one MWh of electricity power a car?



**A:** An electric car will go 3 times as far as a fuel cell car

Or you would need 3 times the generating capacity

# Real World Example

## 2015 Hyundai Fuel Cell

Driving Range: 426 km  
H<sub>2</sub> Tank Capacity: 5.64 kg  
Tank pressure: 690 bar

Natural gas to produce H<sub>2</sub>: 24.5 kg  
Natural gas to compress H<sub>2</sub>: 1.8 kg  
Total natural gas to fill tank: 26.3 kg

Natural gas mileage  
 $426 / 26.3 = 16 \text{ km per kg}$



# Real World Example

## 2015 Tesla Model S

Driving Range: 425 km  
Battery Capacity: 85 kWh  
Charging efficiency: 85%

Electricity to charge battery: 100 kWh  
Natural gas to produce electricity: 11 kg  
(assuming GE H-System Generator)

Natural gas mileage:  
 $426/10 = 39 \text{ km per kg}$



# Real World Example

## FCEV vs. BEV with the Same Fuel Source



Tesla Model S EV  
Natural gas mileage  
**39 km/kg Nat. Gas**



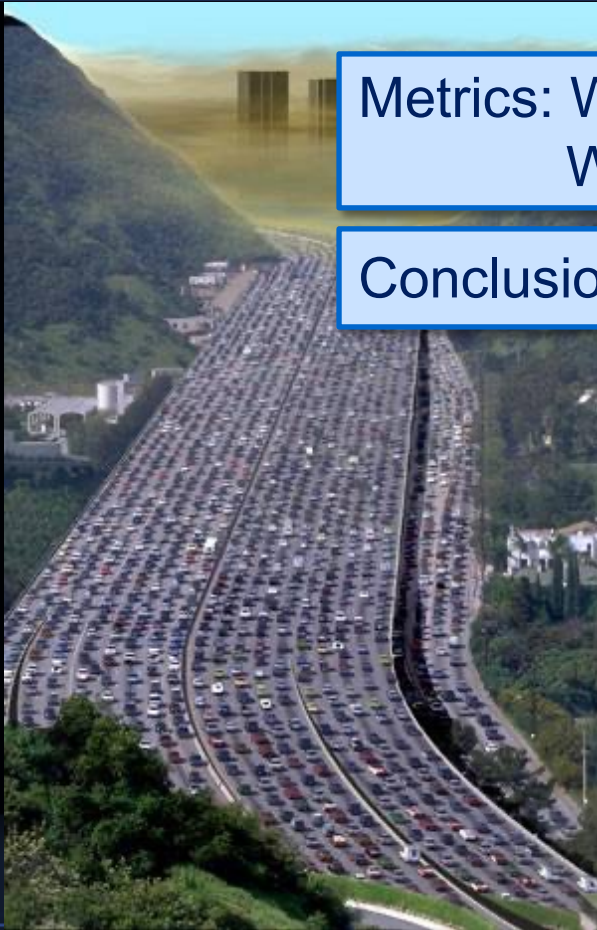
Hyundai Ioniq EV  
Natural gas mileage  
**44 km/kg Nat. Gas**



Hyundai FCEV  
Natural gas mileage  
**16 km/kg Nat. Gas**



# If not Oil, Then What?

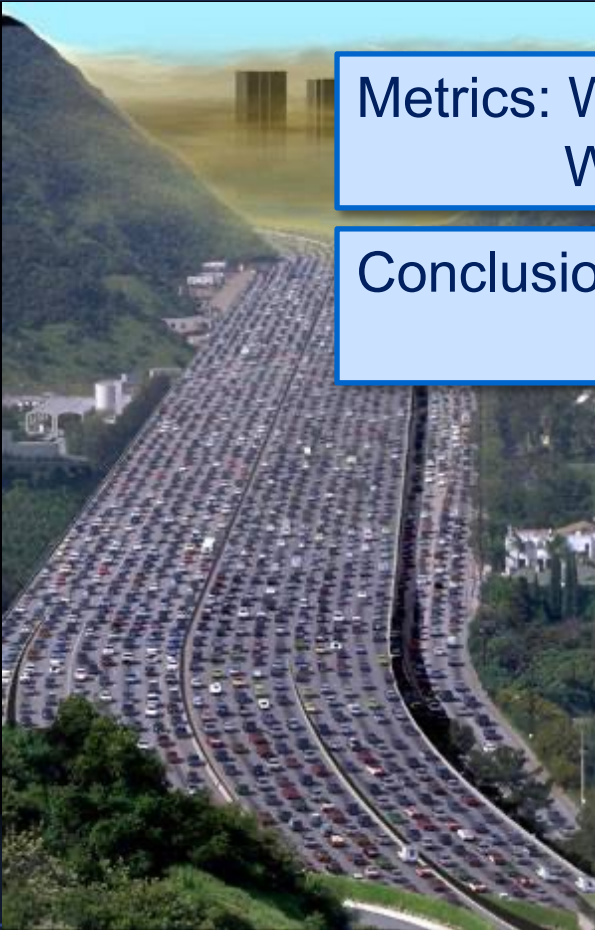


Metrics: What is the resource consumption per kilometer?  
What is the well-to-wheel carbon footprint per km?

Conclusion: Electric cars are by far the best choice

- Battery-electric
- Biodiesel
- Clean diesel
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- Ethanol
- Hydrogen ICE
- Hydrogen fuel cells
- Methanol
- Plug-in hybrid

# If not Oil, Then What?



Metrics: What is the resource consumption per kilometer?  
What is the well-to-wheel carbon footprint per km?

Conclusion: Electric cars are by far the best choice  
(At least where cars make sense at all...)

- Battery electric
- Biodiesel
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## The Electric Car in 2003



# The Electric Car in 2003



swedespeed

Volvo Electric Cars

© Volvo Car Corporation 2003



## The Electric Car in 2003



## The Electric Car in 2003



"It attracted a lot of attention at Slamdance," Rohal says of the car he found in a parking lot and drove across the country.

(Photo by Courtney Koestler)

## The Electric Car in 2003



## The Electric Car in 2003





## The Electric Car in 2003





Electric Vehicles did not appeal to car buyers

## Appealing Cars in 2003



## Appealing Cars in 2003





## Appealing Cars in 2003



## Appealing Cars in 2003



## Appealing Cars in 2003





## Appealing Cars in 2003





Obvious Conclusion:  
EVs were not Sexy



# Radical Idea #1

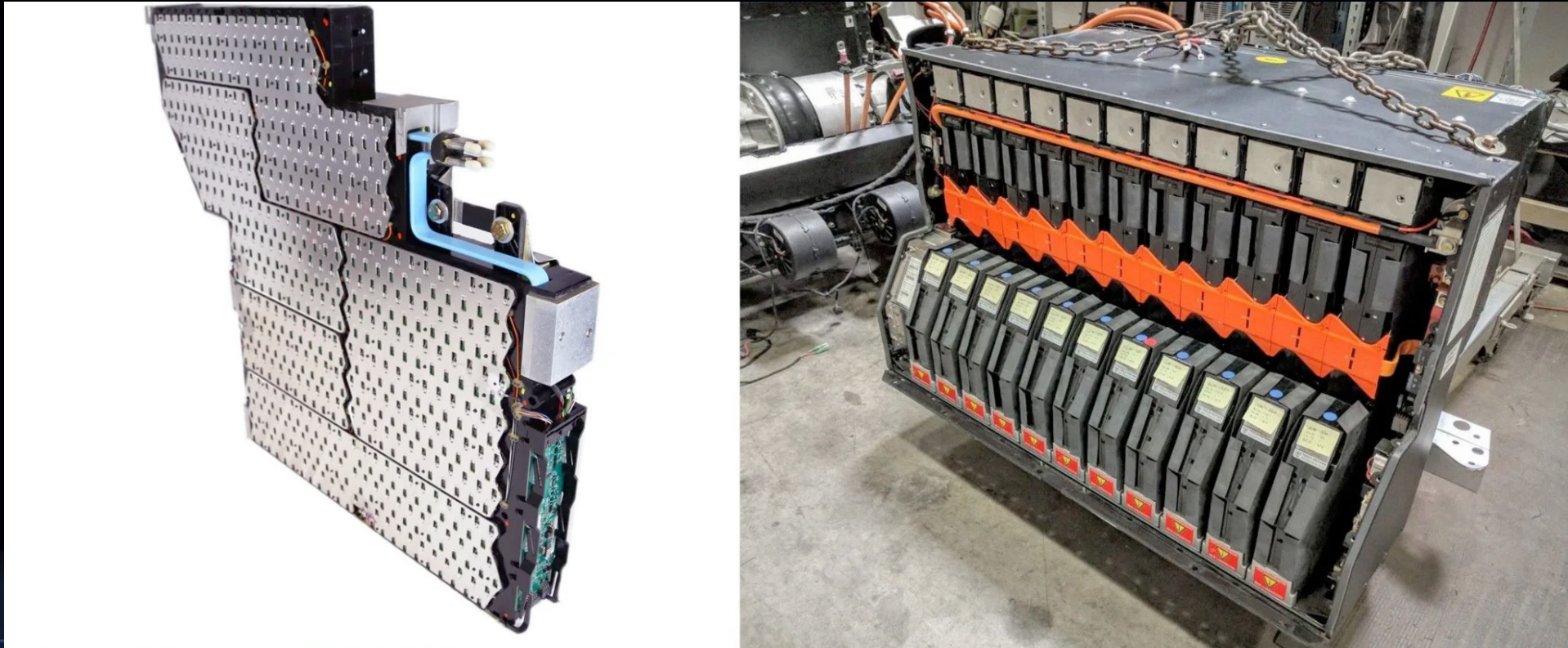
## Revive the EV by making a sexy electric sportscar





## Radical Idea #2

### Fix the range problem with Lithium Ion batteries



# (Somewhat) Radical Idea #3

## Develop our own induction machines, eliminating magnets (Hence the name 'Tesla')





And it worked: 2008 Tesla Roadster  
0-60 MPH: 3.9 Sec. Range: 225 Miles

~2500 cars sold

Launched the first successful new American car company in a century





2003: The Electric Car Declared Dead.

2003: Tesla Founded to Revive the Electric Car.



# 2017: All Major OEMs Sell Electric Cars



**ALL-ELECTRIC VEHICLE**  
No gas, 100% electric





# 2023: EVs are close to price parity





# Long-Haul Trucks





# Trucks versus Trains

- Diesel trucks: **154.1** metric tons of GHG per million ton-miles <sup>[1]</sup>
- Diesel-electric trains: **21.2** metric tons of GHG emissions per million ton-miles<sup>[1]</sup>



[1] D. Tolliver, P. Lu, and D. Benson, "Comparing Rail Fuel Efficiency With Truck and Waterway." Transp. Res. D: Transp. Environ. **24**, 69 (2013)



# Trucks vs Trains

- Diesel trucks: 154.1 metric tons of GHG per million ton-miles <sup>[1]</sup>
- Diesel-electric trains: 21.2 metric tons of GHG emissions per million ton-miles<sup>[1]</sup>
- I expect a similar emissions delta between electric trucks and electric trains



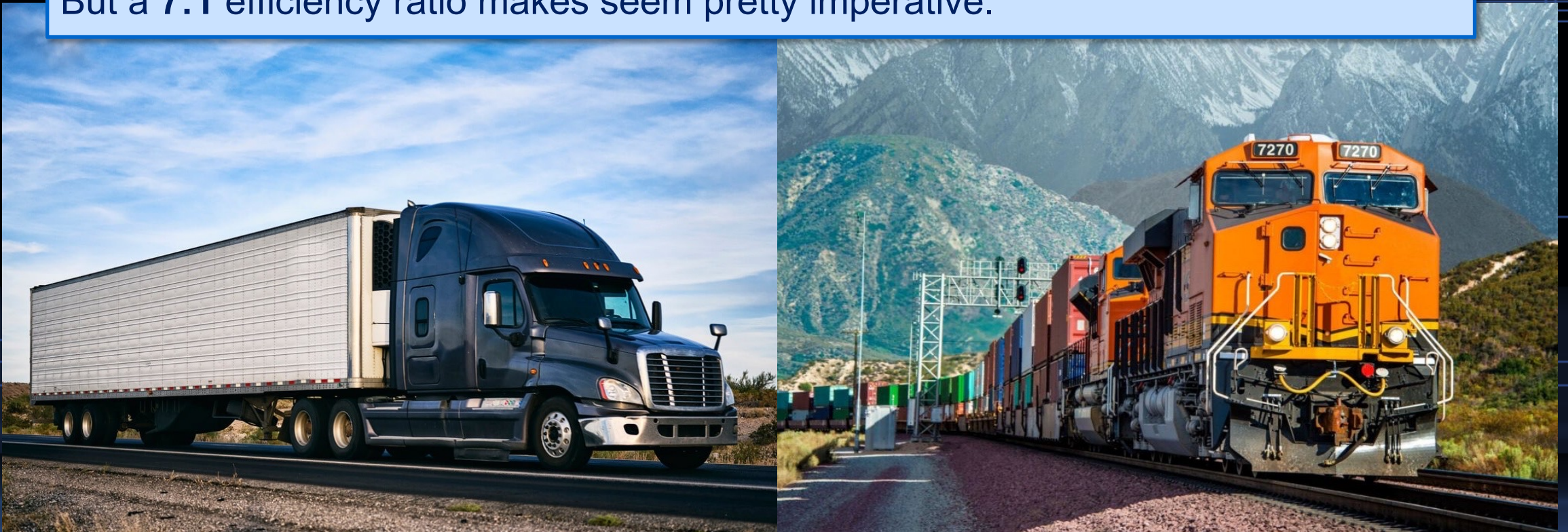


# Why is Trucking Cheaper in the USA?

- Roadways are publicly-built and tax-subsidized. Railways are not.
- As discussed in Dr. Bruce Hannon's class here at UIUC in 1980!

Yes, upgrading the USA rail infrastructure to be electric (and reliable) is a huge job!

But a **7:1** efficiency ratio makes seem pretty imperative.





# Delivery Trucks

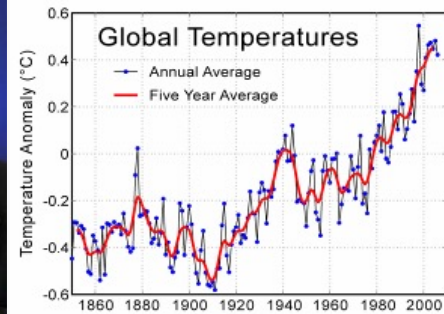
- Typically, well-known routes
- Lots of time “idling”
- Ideally suited for electrification

Finally, several credible electric delivery trucks

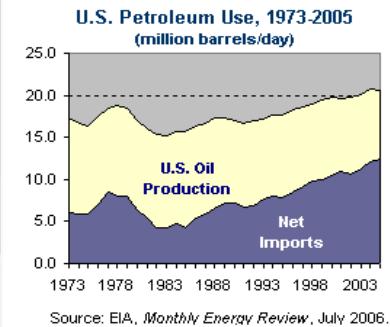


# 2005 Oil Consumption:

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Global Warming



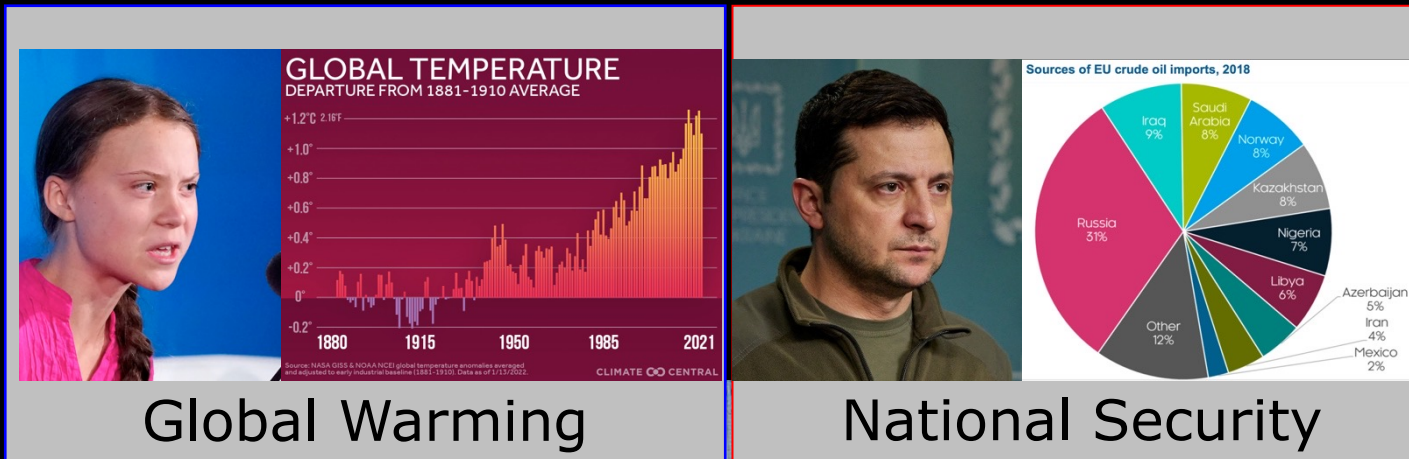
National Security

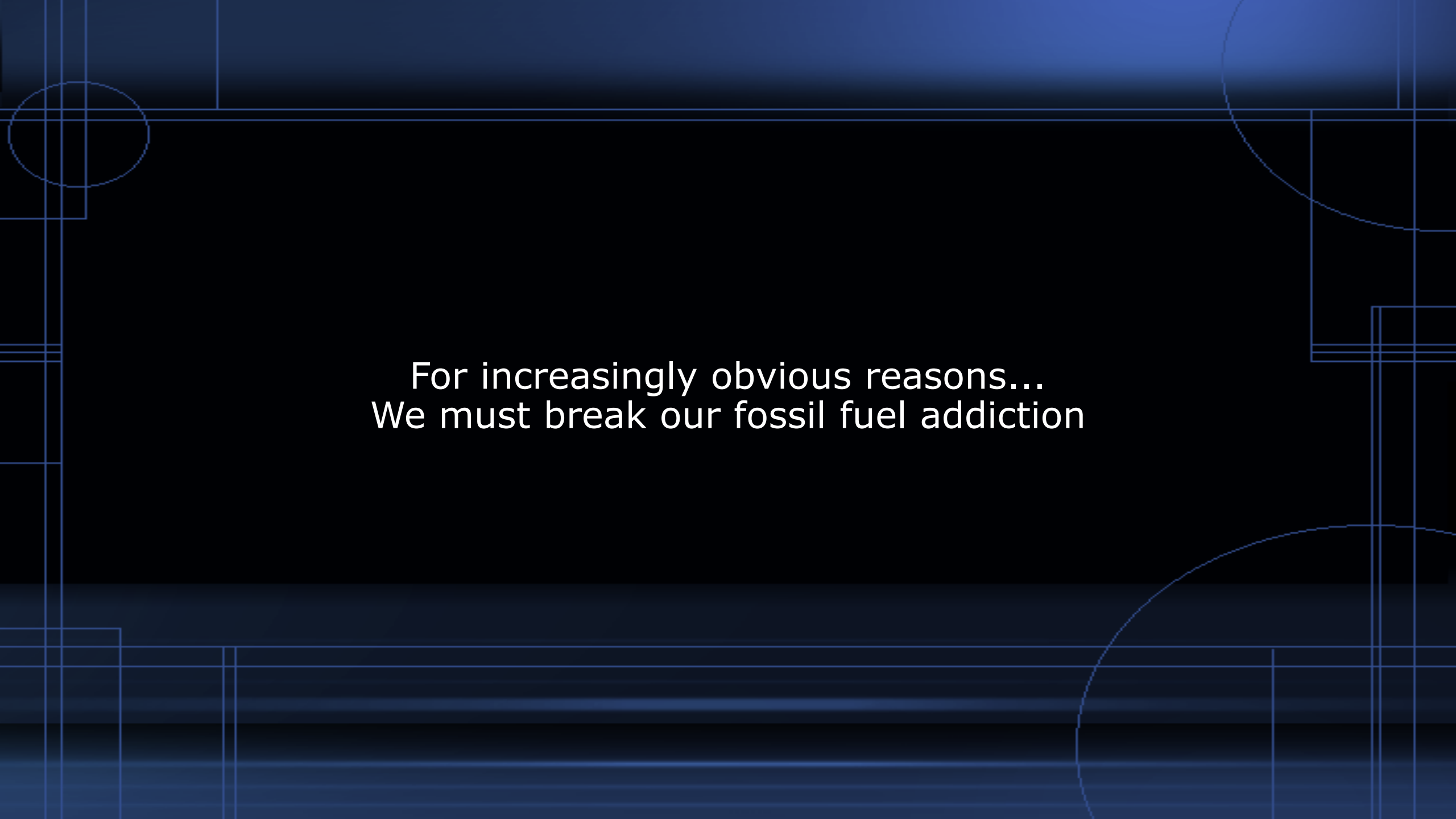




# 2023 Oil Consumption:

## Same Slide, Different Pictures





For increasingly obvious reasons...  
We must break our fossil fuel addiction



Thank You

