

In this issue

■ US Reaches News Oil Milestone	1
■ European Utilities Ring Alarm Bells	2
■ How To Lose Half A Trillion Euros	4
■ The Gains And Pains Of Germany's Energiewende	5
■ RWE: From Volume To Value.....	7
■ IEA Bullish On Renewables	9
■ End Of Demand Growth: Coming To A Theatre Near You	12
■ Why Is UK Paying So Much For Nukes?	14
■ Korea Cuts Back Ambitious Nuclear Expansion	16
■ Arizona Decision On Solar PVs Shows Tough Choices Ahead	16
■ California Sets 1.325 GW Storage Target for 2020	18
■ Microgrids: Another Threat To Utilities?	19
■ What's Next? See-Through PV Windows?	21
■ New Book Release: <i>Evolution of Global Electricity Markets</i>	23

EEnergy Informer

December 2013
Vol. 23, No 12
ISSN: 1084-0419
<http://www.eenergyinformer.com>

Subscription prices & order form on last page
Copyright © 2013. The content of this newsletter is protected under US copyright laws. No part of this publication may be copied, reproduced or disseminated in any form without prior permission of the publisher.

US Reaches News Oil Milestone

America marching towards energy independent by 2035

In October 2013, exactly 40 years after the **1973 Arab Oil Embargo**, the **Energy Information Administration** (EIA) announced that the US produced more crude oil than it imported. According to EIA, estimated domestic crude oil output averaged 7.7 million barrels per day in October – the highest in 25 years – while oil imports were 7.6. Big deal? Perhaps not as big a deal as some news media made it, but certainly big enough to deserve a lead article in this month's newsletter.

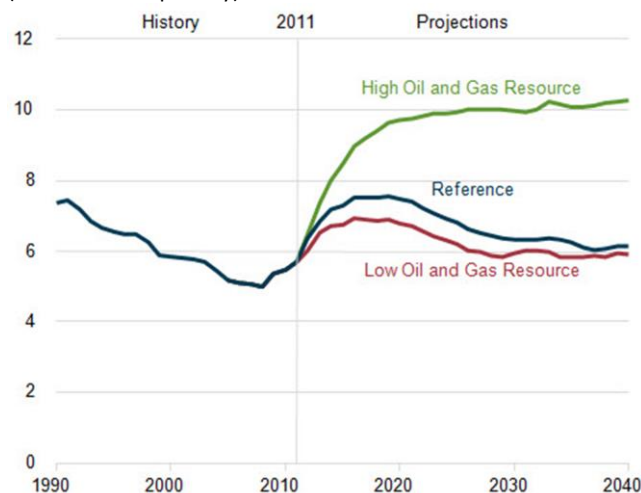
What will be a big deal indeed is that if the current production and consumption trends persist, the US will meet *all* its energy needs from domestic resources by 2035, according to the latest **World Energy Outlook** released by the **International Energy Agency** (IEA) – *energy independence* may be at hand after all these years of political rhetoric (see related article in this issue).

The Nov release of IEA's **Short Term Energy Outlook** attributed the increase in US coal consumption in 2013 to the electric power sector, which burned more coal because of higher natural gas prices. Other highlights:

- US electricity generation from non-hydro renewables now accounts for 6% of total generation, considerably higher in some states such as California where renewables including hydropower,

Marching towards self sufficiency

Total U.S. crude oil production | three resource cases, 1990-2040 (million barrels per day)



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2013
http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/aeo/source_oil_all.cfm#tghtoil