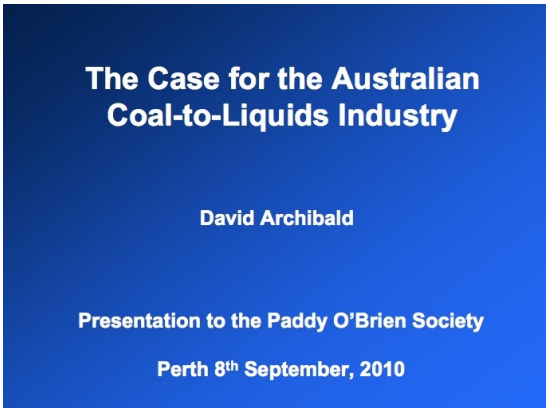
The Oil Drum
DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ENERGY AND OUR FUTURE

The Case for the Australian Coal-to-Liquids Industry

Posted by Gail the Actuary on September 30, 2010 - 9:22am
Topic: Alternative energy
Tags: coal, coal-to-liquids [list all tags]

This is a guest post by David Archibald, of Perth Australia. He has a degree in geology from Queensland University, and has worked in a number of fields, including oil exploration. He also makes a hobby of studying climate change. (I have removed the climate change slides from this presentation, however.)

Below the fold is a presentation he made regarding why he thinks Australia should consider coal to liquids technology. It can also be found on the website of the Australia Coal-to-Liquids Association, or directly, at this link.



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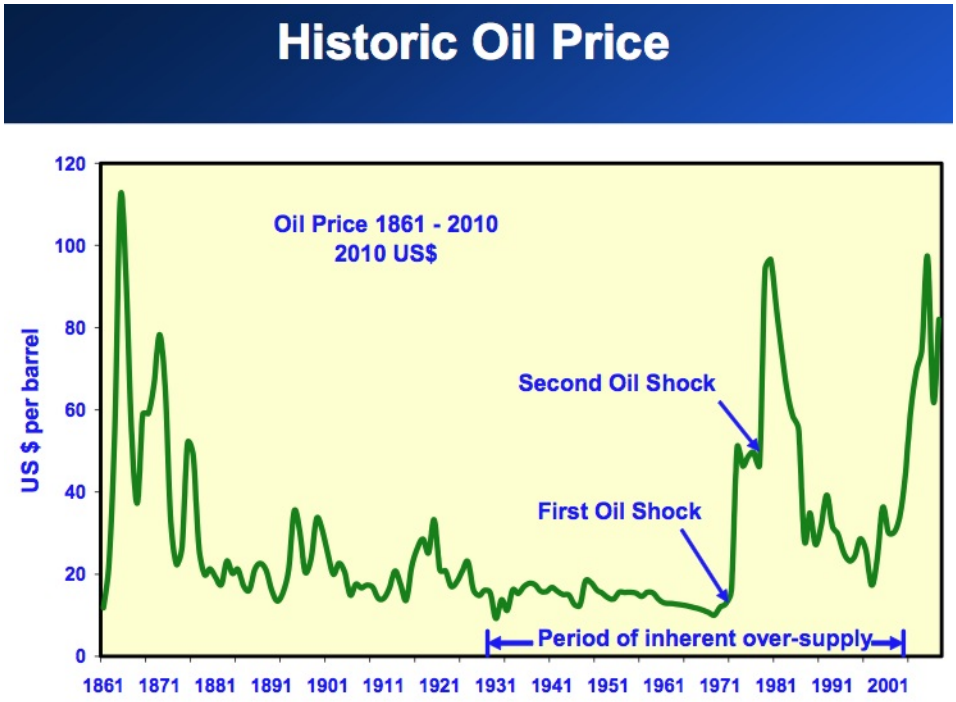

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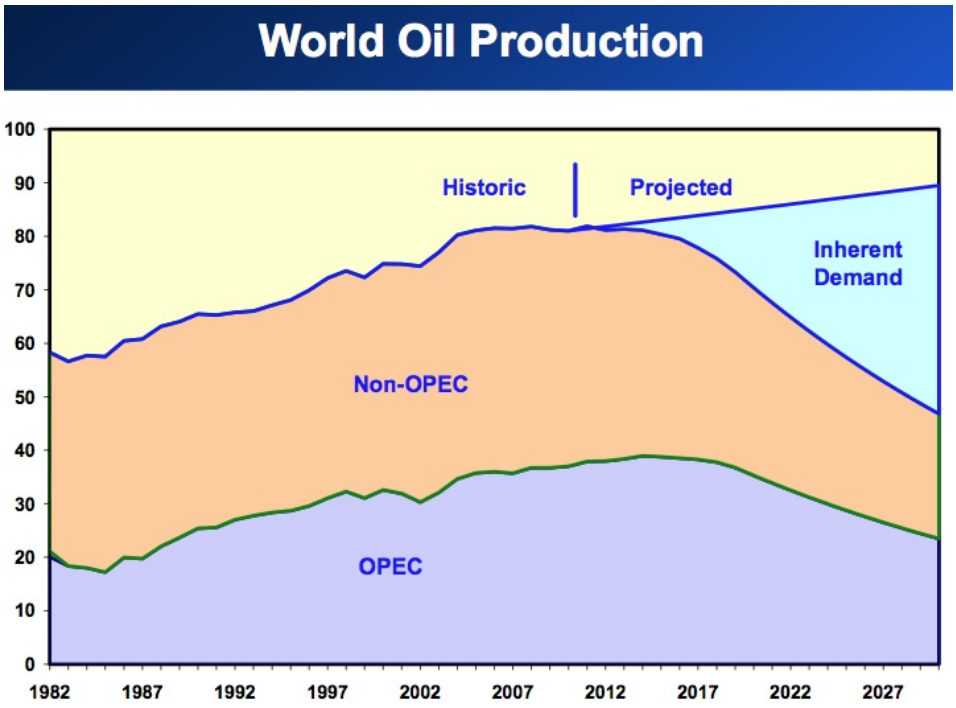

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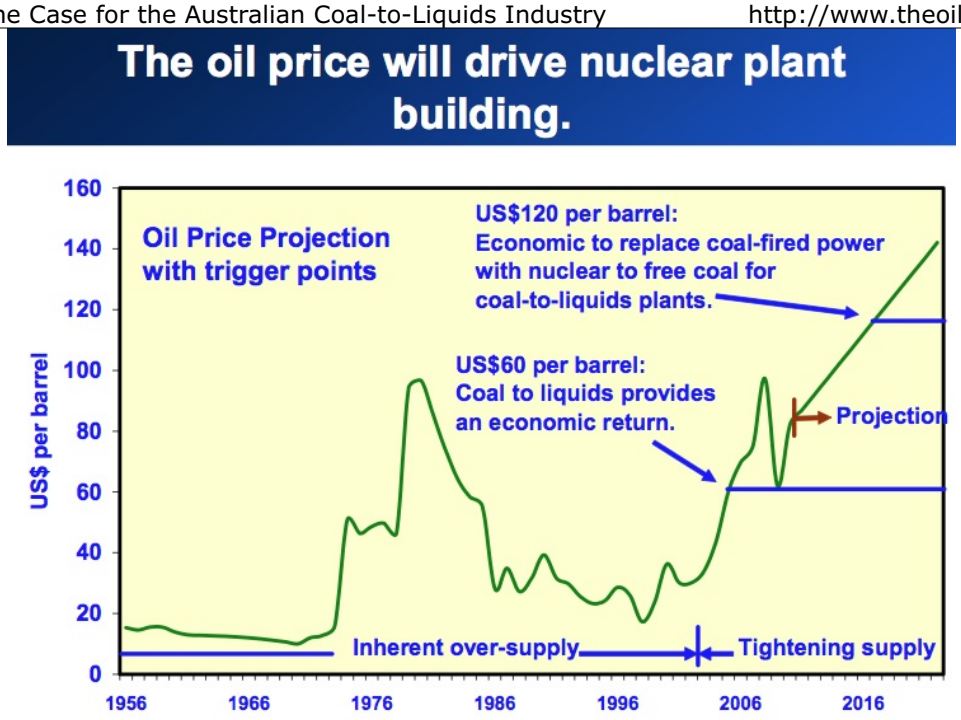

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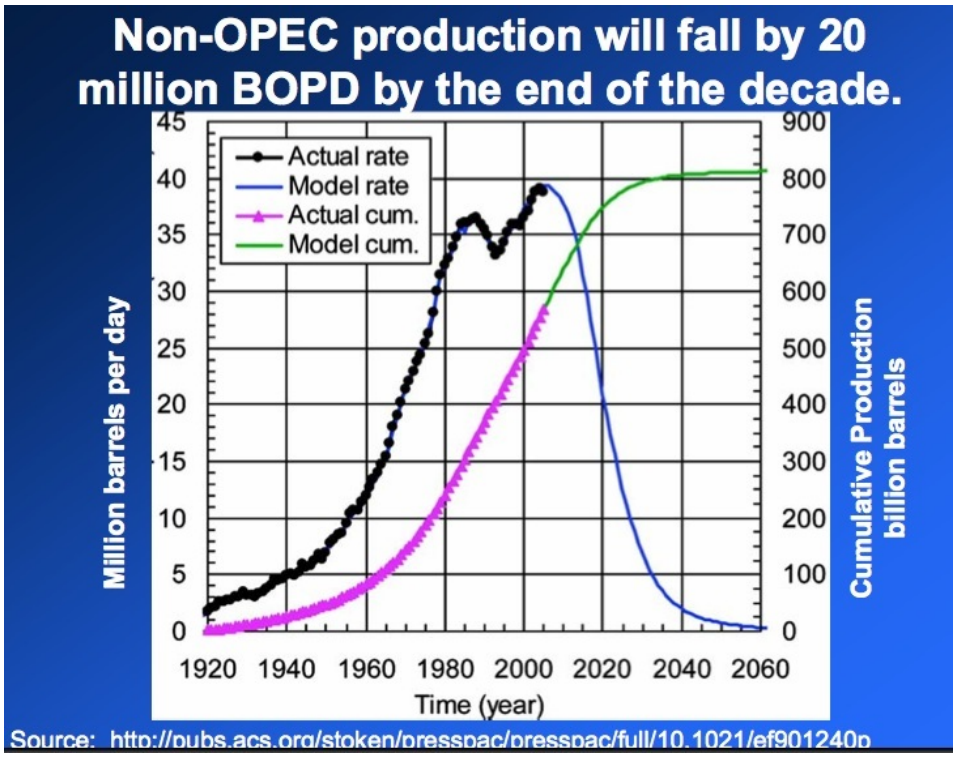

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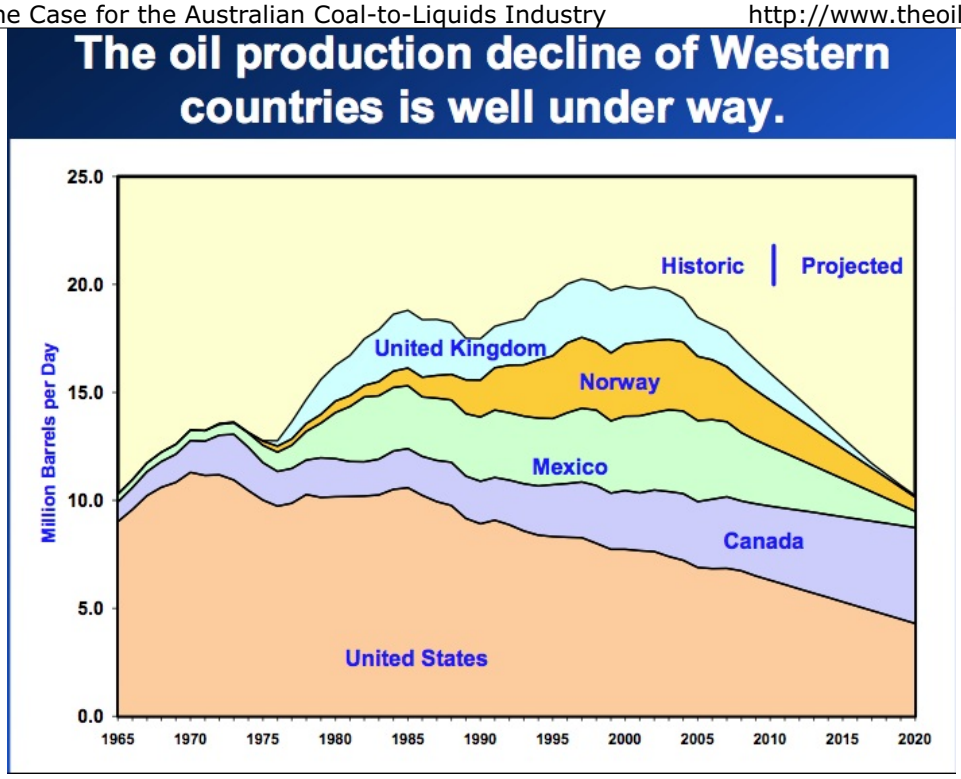

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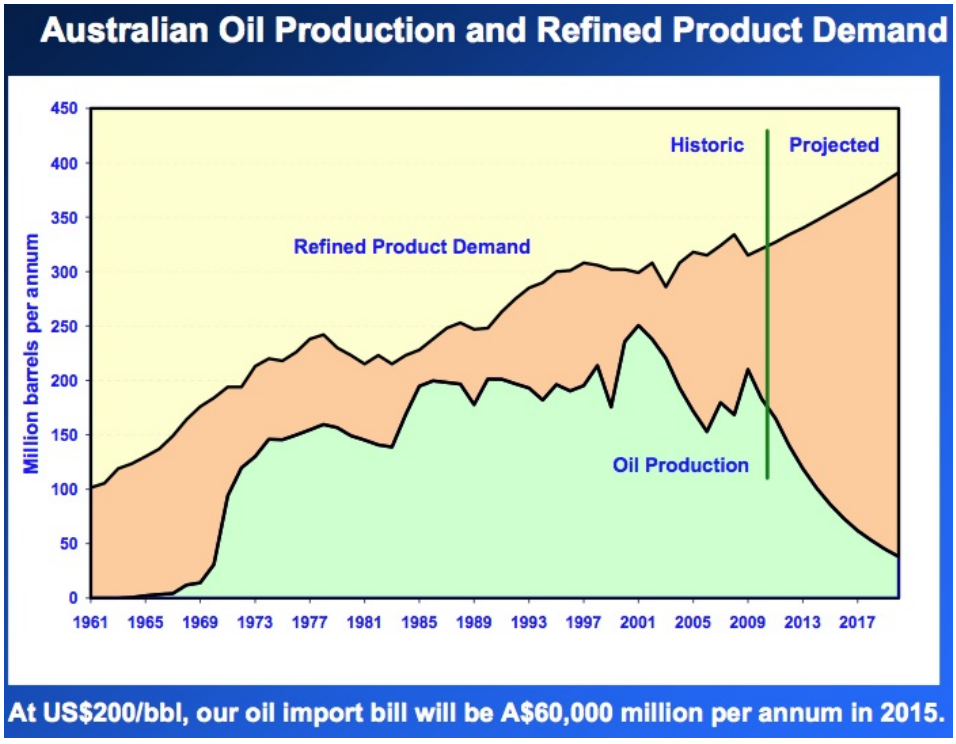

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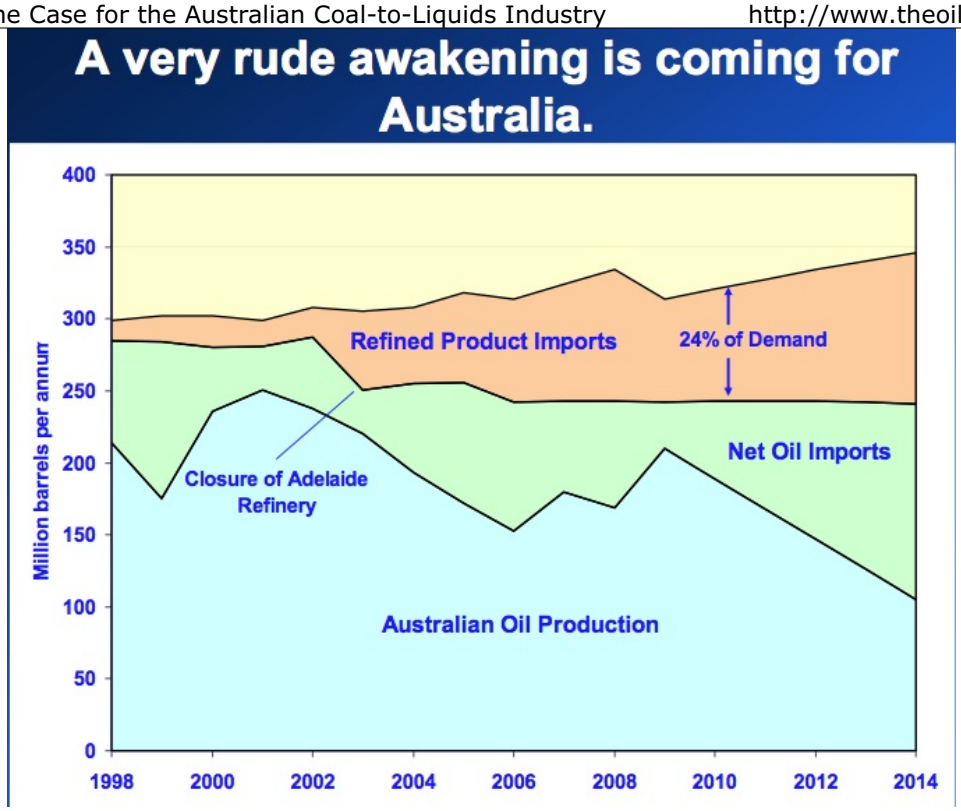

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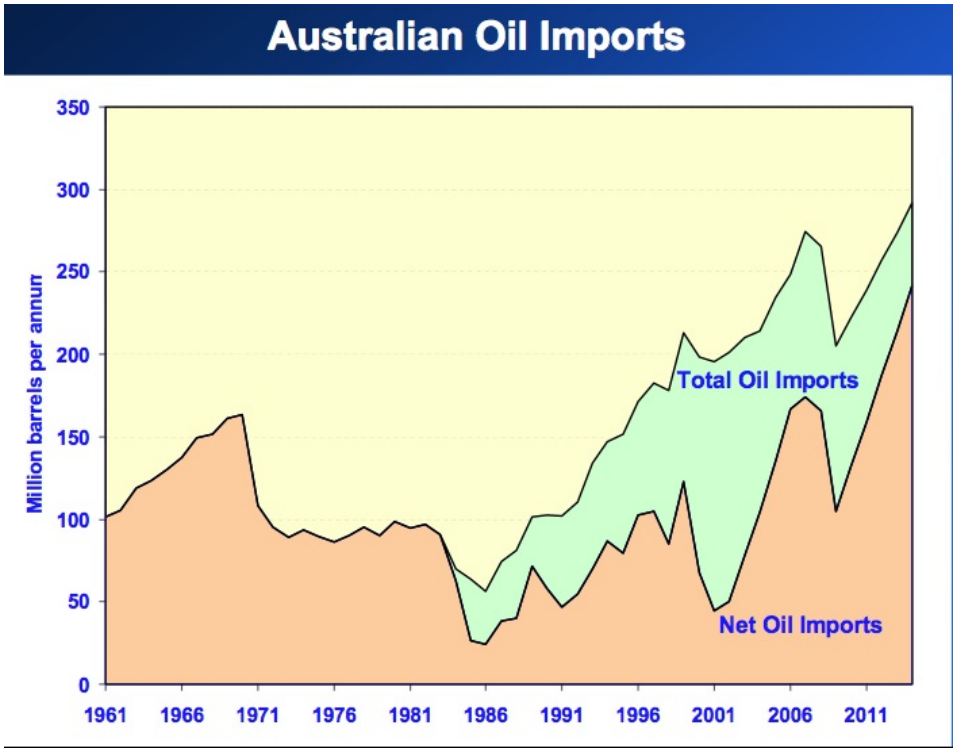

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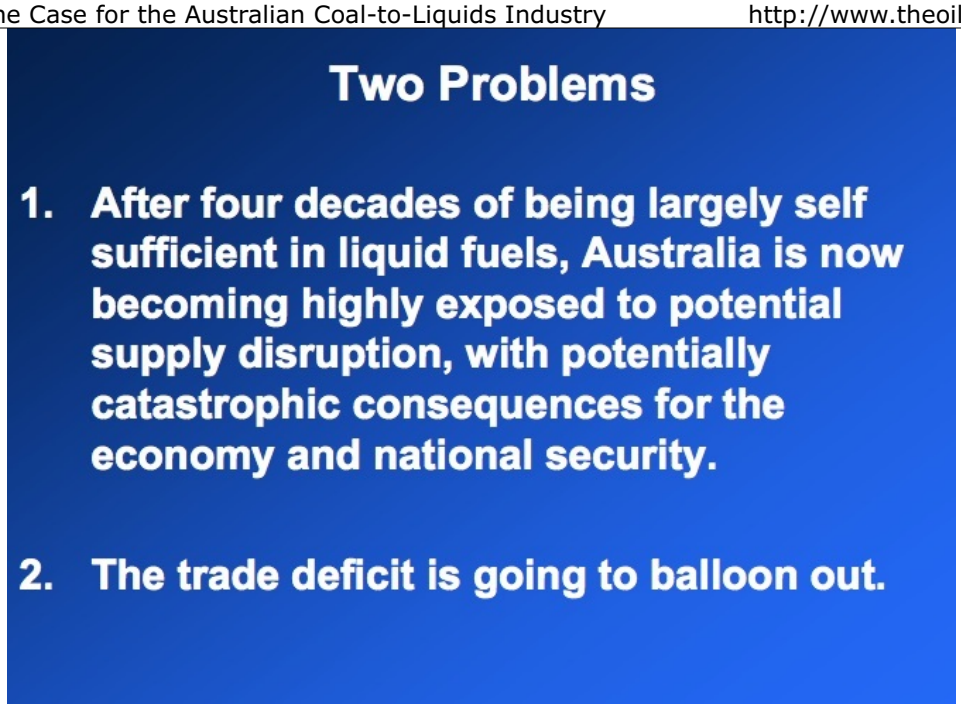

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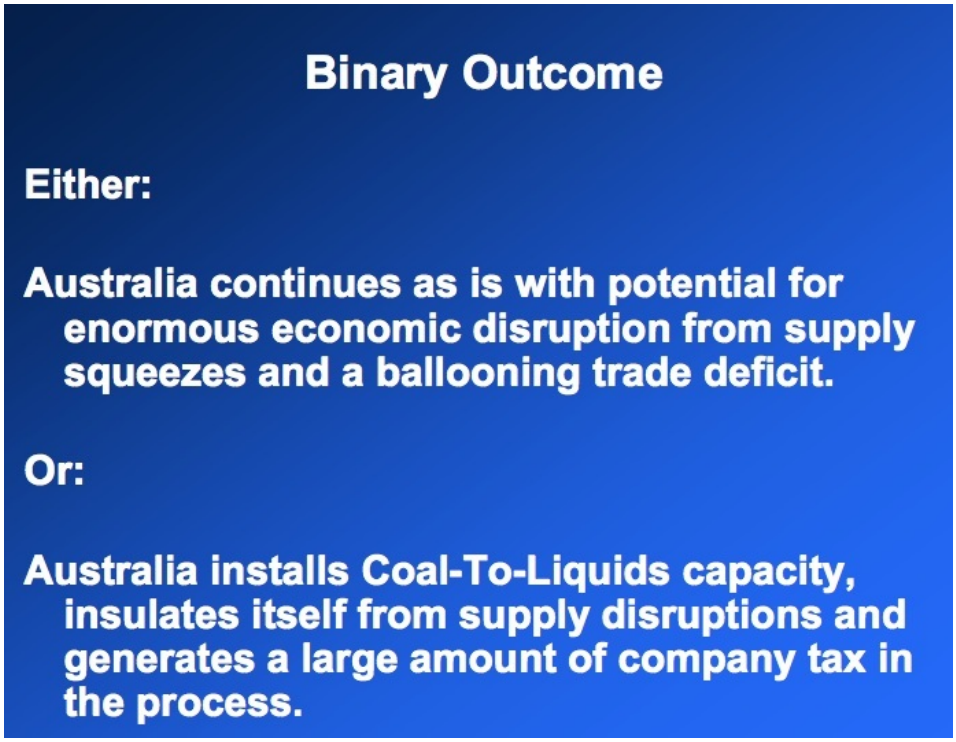

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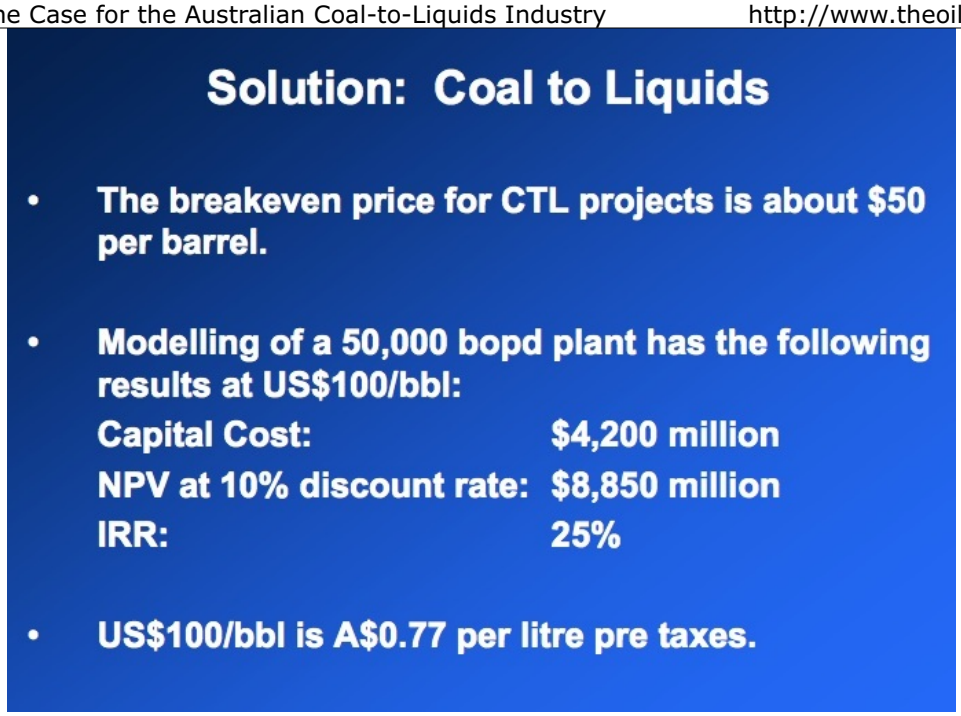

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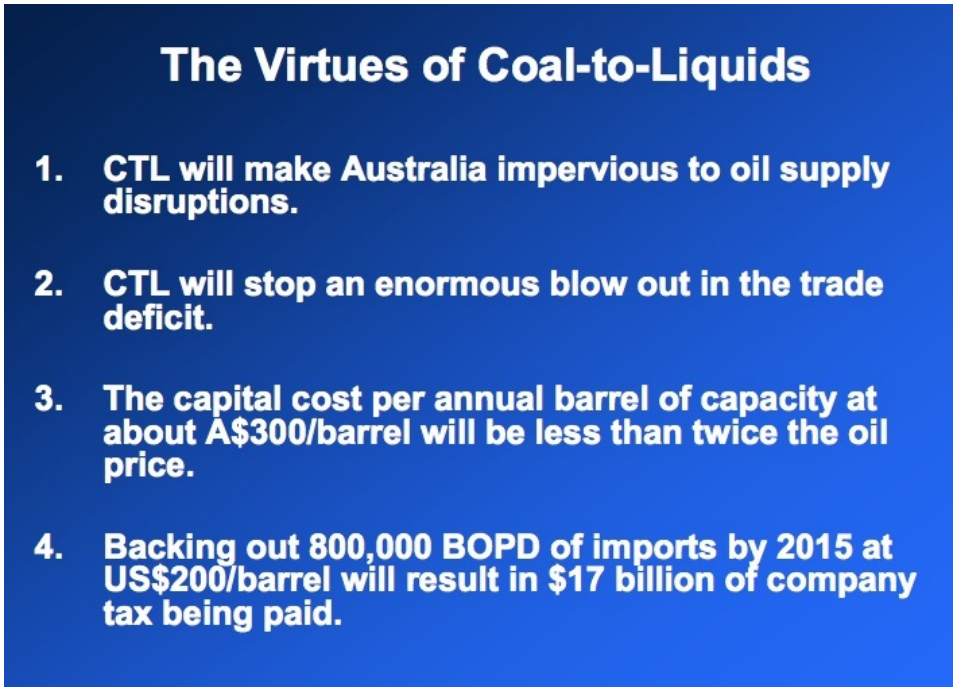

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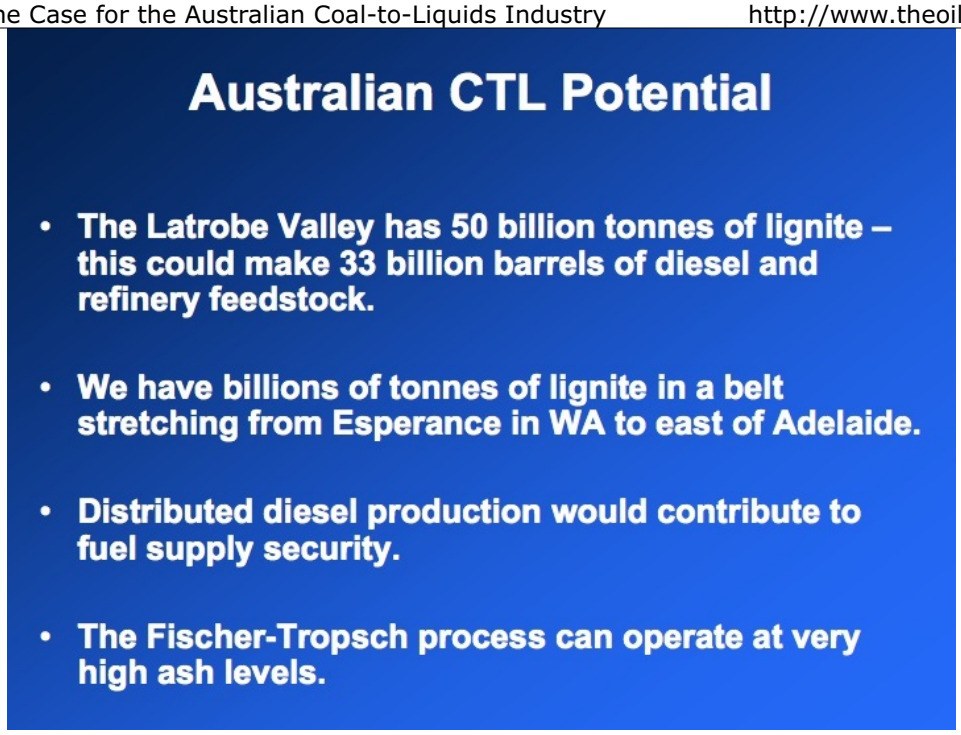

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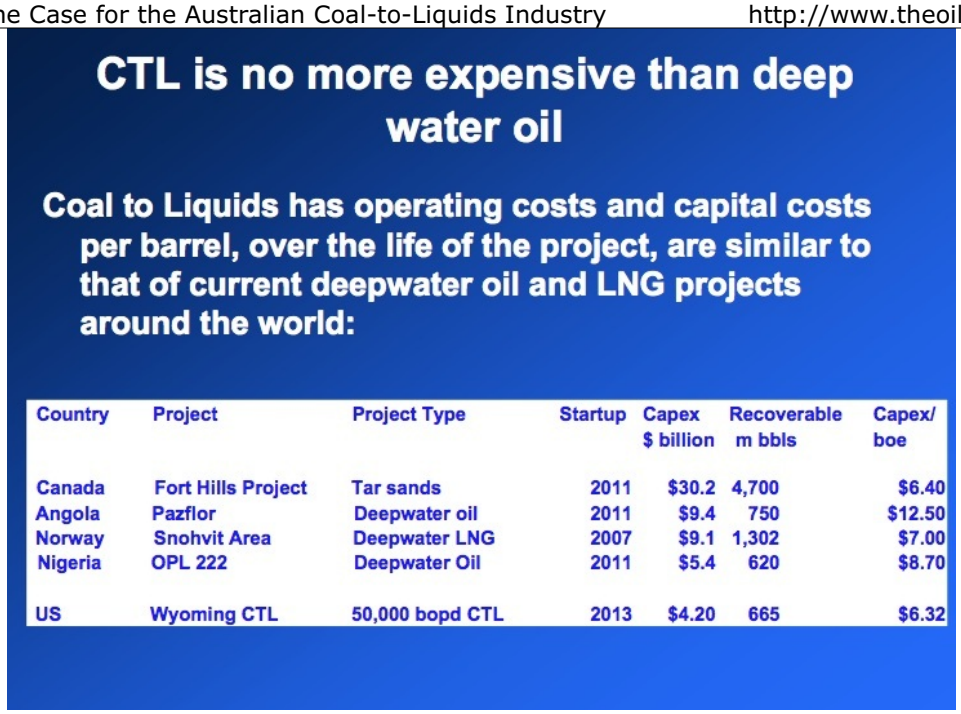
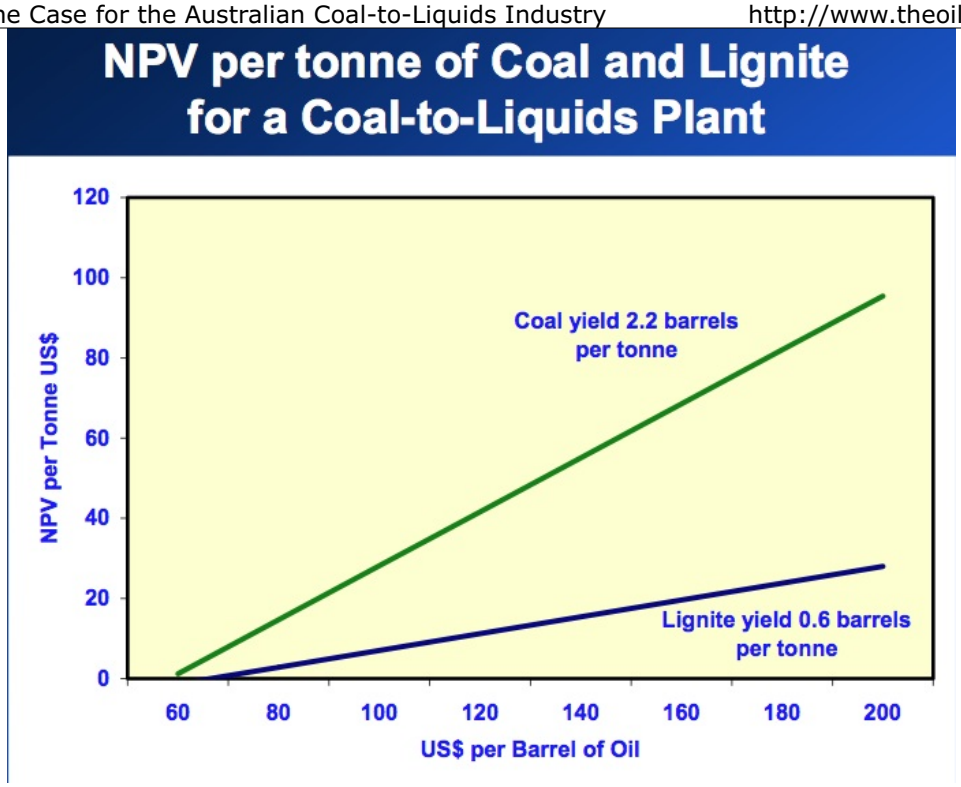


Slide 17

David Archibald provides the following additional information about costs:

> The cost of CTL is about $45 per bbl (opex and depreciation) at zero feedstock cost. That is based on the CCT process which saves on capital cost by not reforming the tail gas. The depreciation charge in that $45 is $14 per bbl. It could be $28 per bbl.
>
> Assuming 2 bbls per tonne of coal, the coal cost component per bbl is half the cost of coal per tonne. So $40 per tonne coal would take it to $65 per bbl.



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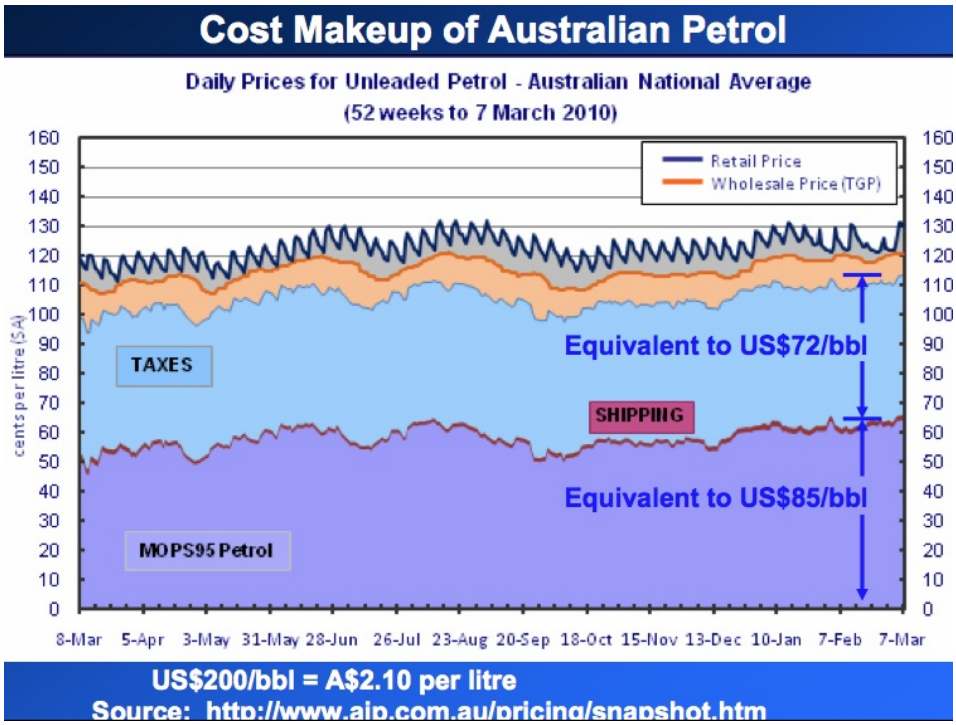

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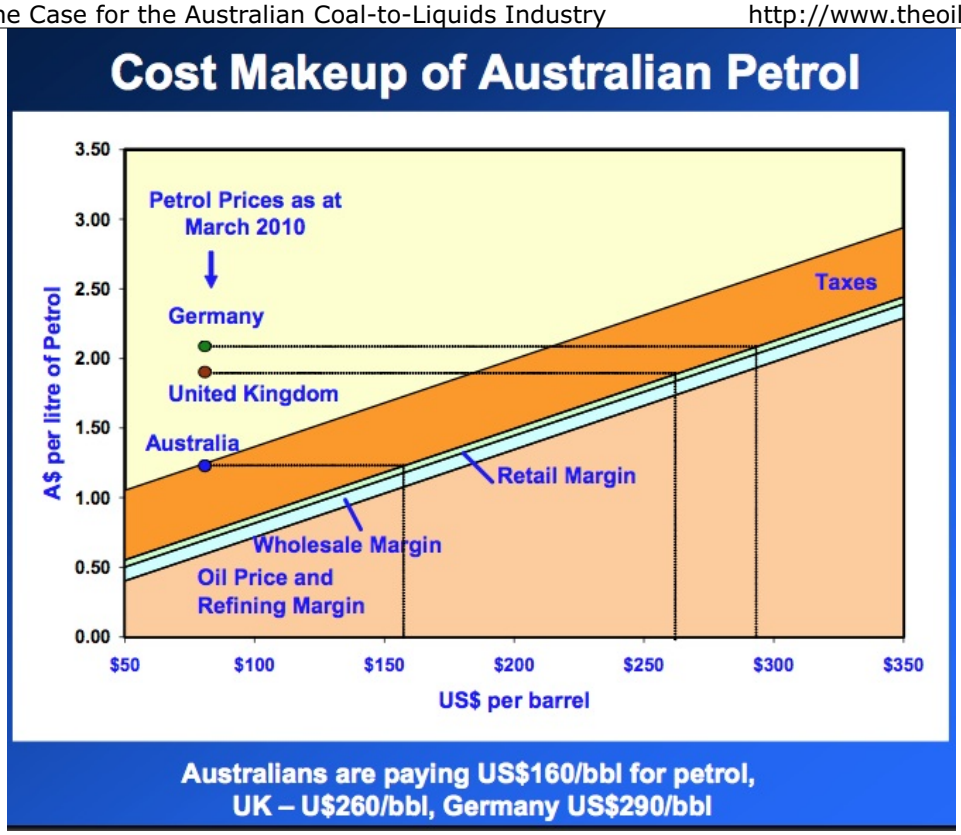

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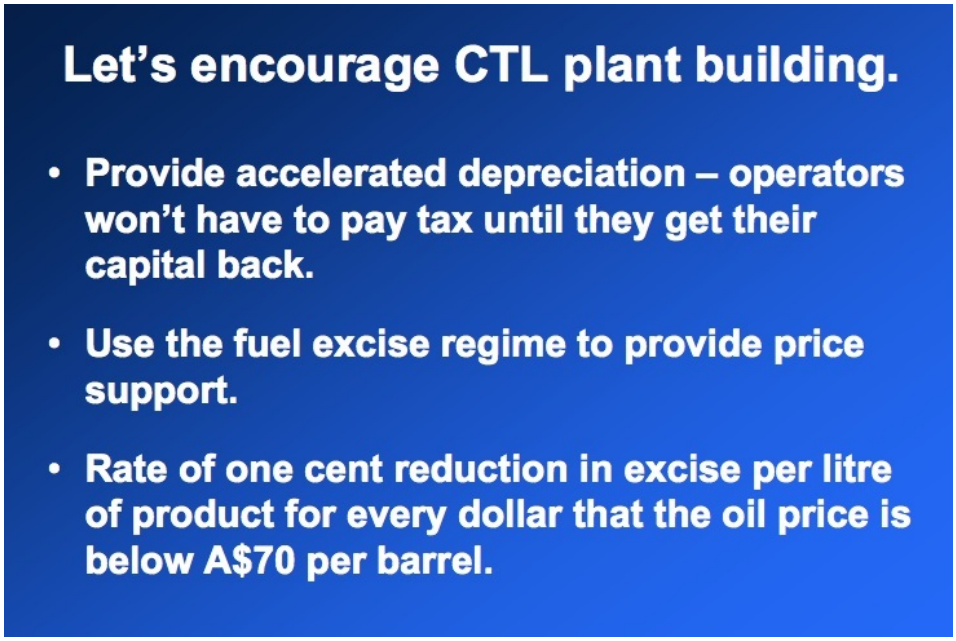

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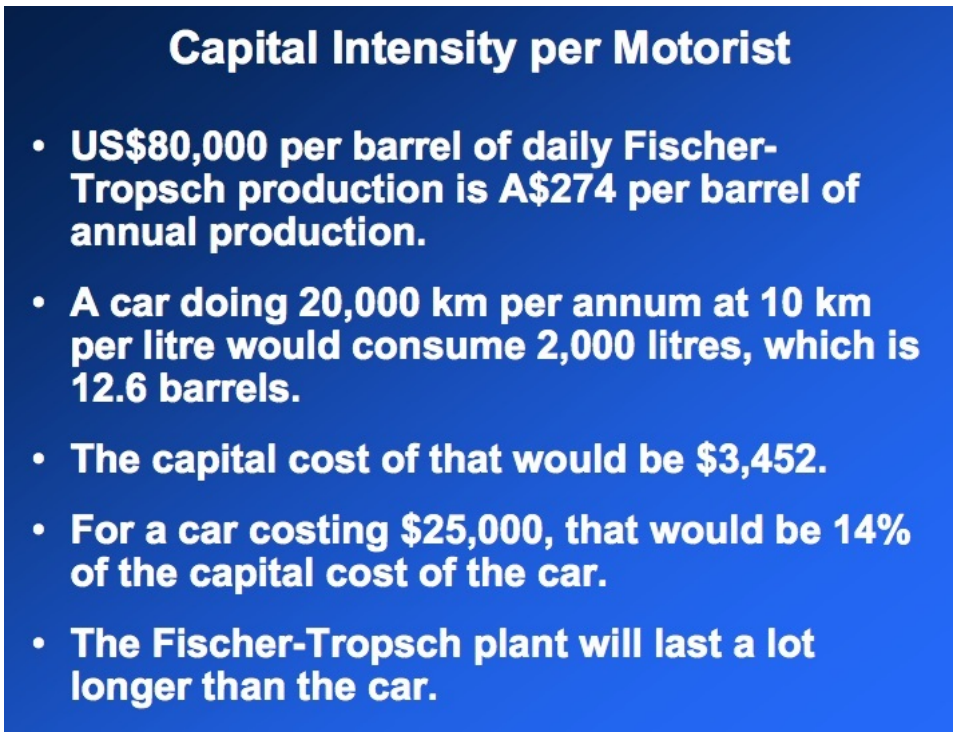

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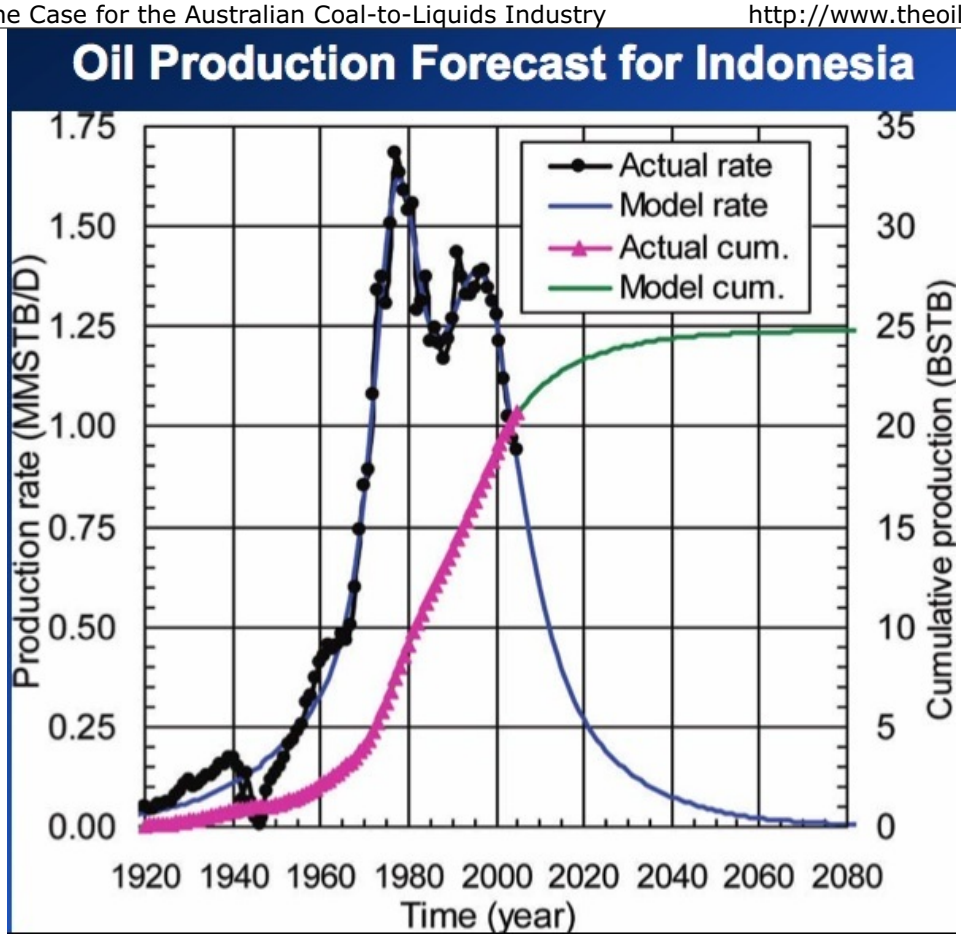

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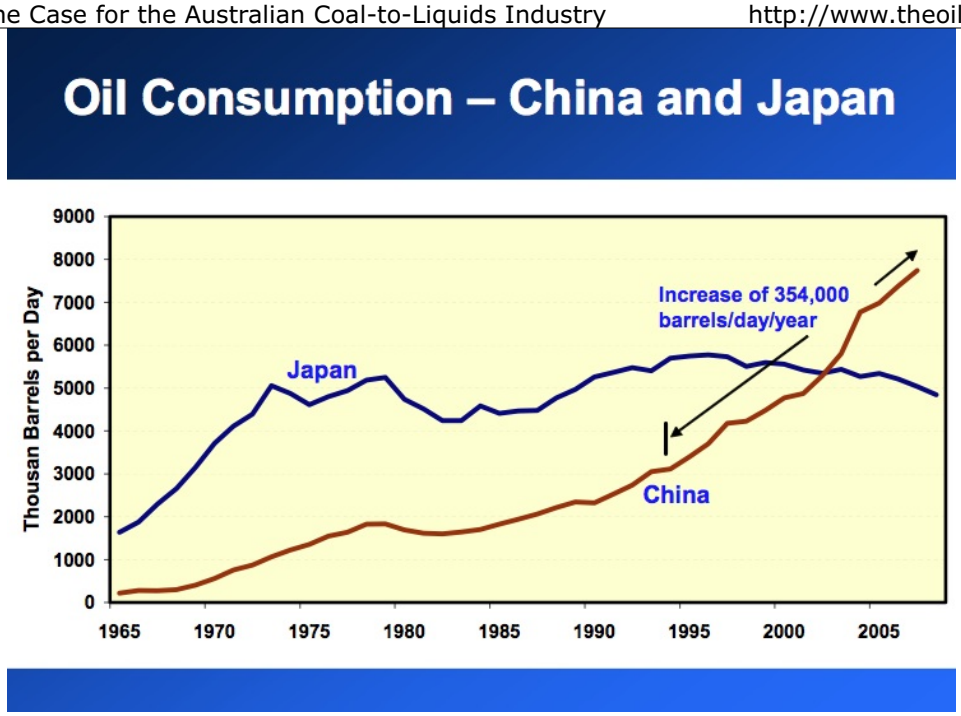

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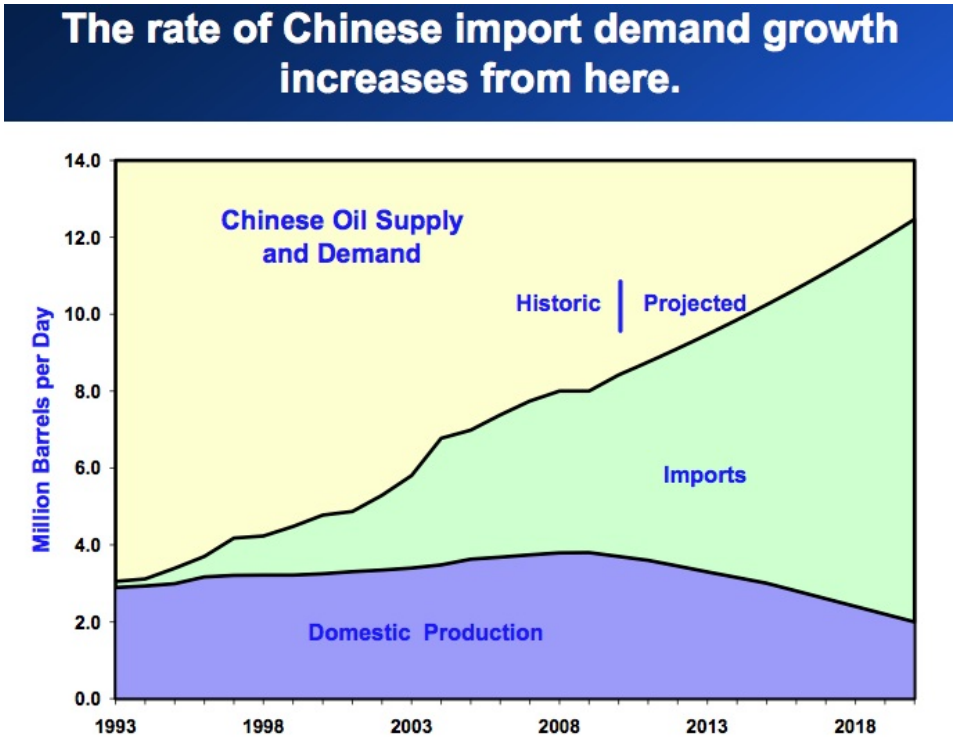

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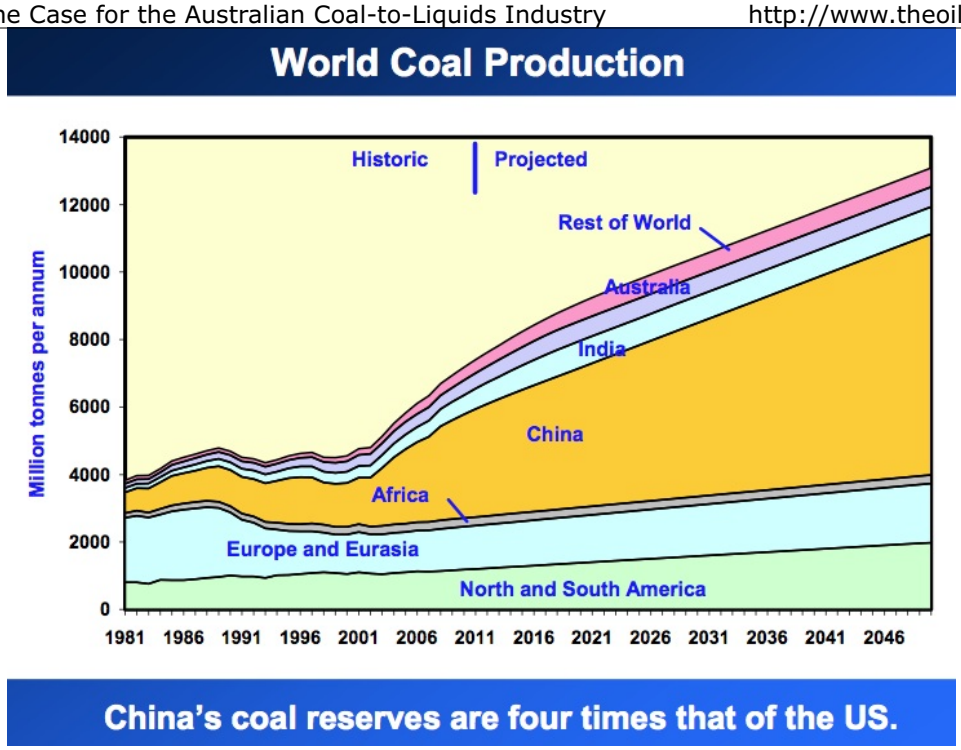
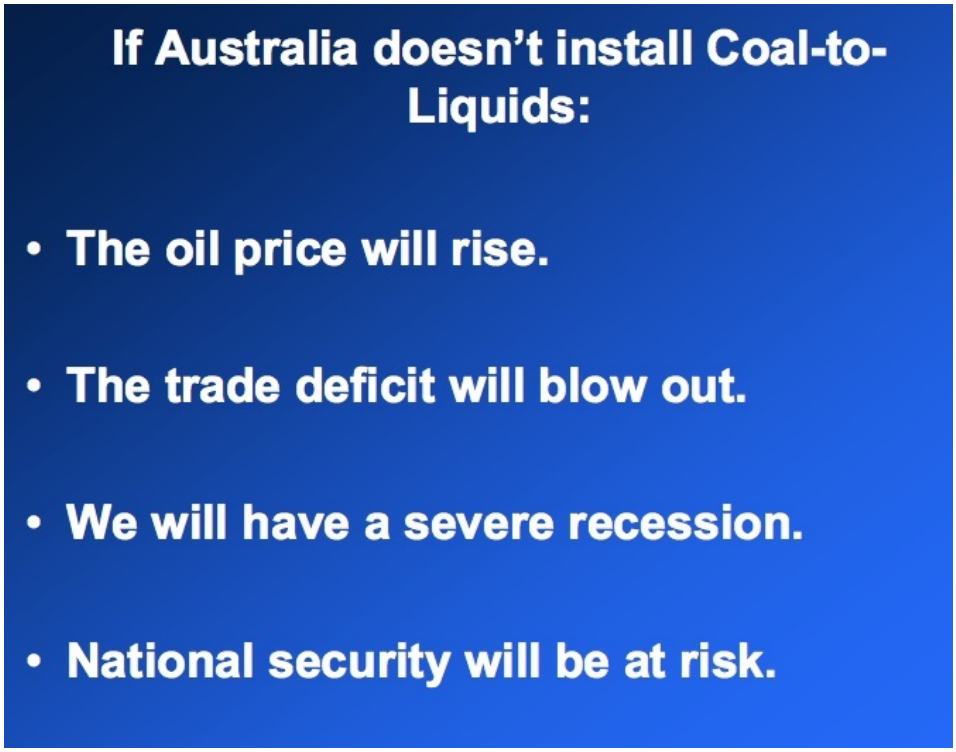


Slide 28

Note: The estimate of recoverable reserves for China used in Slide 28 is 1 trillion tonnes. According to this report on China's coal industry, China's recoverable reserves "exceed 1 trillion tonnes".



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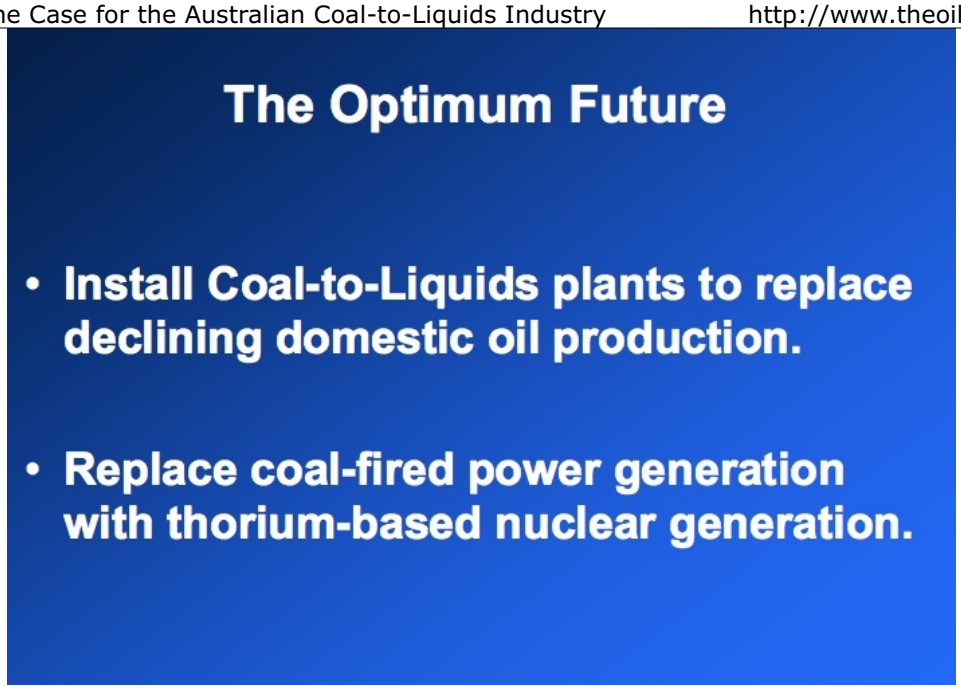

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