Subject: As if we could pretend this wouldn't come around... Posted by Doitle on Mon, 03 Jan 2005 08:52:49 GMT

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Running out of oil would probably cause more deaths than the tsunamis, the war in Iraq, Saddam's torture, 9-11 put together. In fact it could kill every last one. Think total breakdown of society.

We are at a point now where we need oil for survival. If you have an hour ride to work, you now have, what, a 4 hour bike ride to work? 8 hours on foot? It's simply not possible. Millions and Millions are out of work. Most services shut down because the people aren't able to operate and maintain them. Limits on water usage electricity usage natural gas usage. As we approach a complete depletion of oil racketeering and hoarding will settle in, I forsee national guard at all gas stations, ration systems being put into place, freezes on wages and prices, riots, scandals. The poor saying the rich are using all the oil while the rich say the poor use all the oil, class conflict breaks out, we have a sort of Russian Revolution style proleteriet vs. upper class. Arsons, vandalisms on a widespread scale.

Martial Law in place, national guard spread to each city. Curfews for all citizens, checkpoints and mandatory placement into areas, possibly relocation or just denial of travel. People who drive SUV's beaten in the streets a la LA Riots.

This keeps snowballing, government begins to lose control of the country as a whole. Society as we know it pretty much gone after a month. Civilization reduced to nomadic tribes and gangs a la Waterworld, (Minus the water that is) and only the strong survive. The majority of the population are unable to make the conversion and perish due to starvation or violence. Most of the people in this modern age couldn't last very long without electricity, natural gas, fossil fuels and running water. Anarchy ensues, and all the anarchists realize that anarchy sucks and die from starvation or disease.

This scene repeated in other countries to a lesser extent depending on their dependence on fossil fuels. The entire world reduced to 3rd world nations. 3rd world nations are renamed 6th world nations. Earth makes a big of frown and we get set back a thousand years and re enter the dark ages, only like... the technology infused dark ages where people wear headbands and live in huts made from parts of cars and aircraft.

Pretty bleak eh? Let's just cross our fingers and hope someone figures out how to burn water soon.

(DISCLAIMER: Yes this is exagerated but not as much as you'd probably think. Running out of Fossil Fuels would be a mondo bad thing and would definately cause the breakdown of society)