

# Energy, SSP, and Jumpstarting America's Spacefaring Future

**Why America's Pro-Human Spacefaring Community  
Should Strongly Advocate Starting Commercial  
Development of Space Solar Power**

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# As the Space Shuttle era ends, America's human spacefaring enterprise is at a critical point

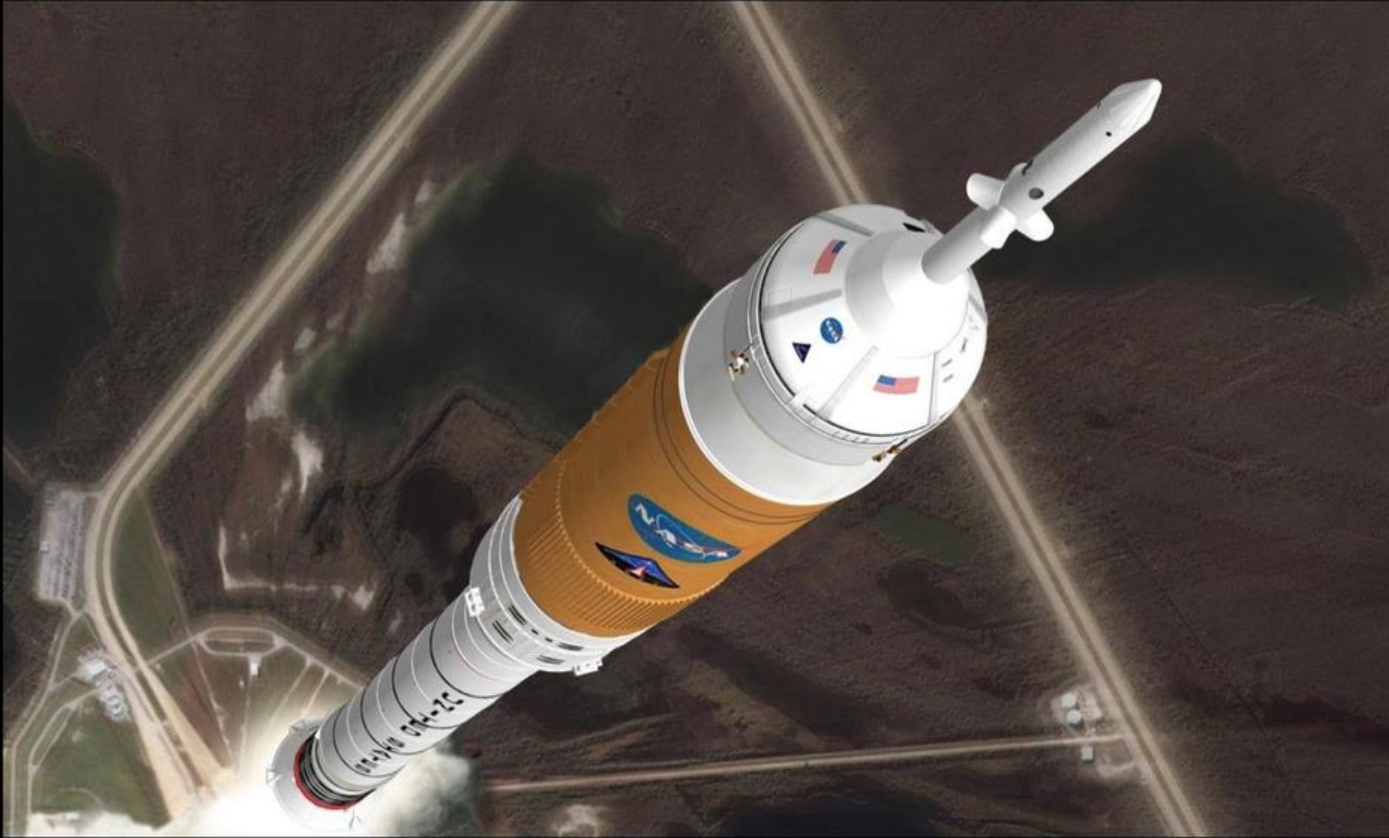


# Without proactive change, America's human spacefaring future is in doubt





**America must change course away from the prominence  
of only NASA human space exploration ...**



**... to a better course that will  
transform America into a true spacefaring nation**

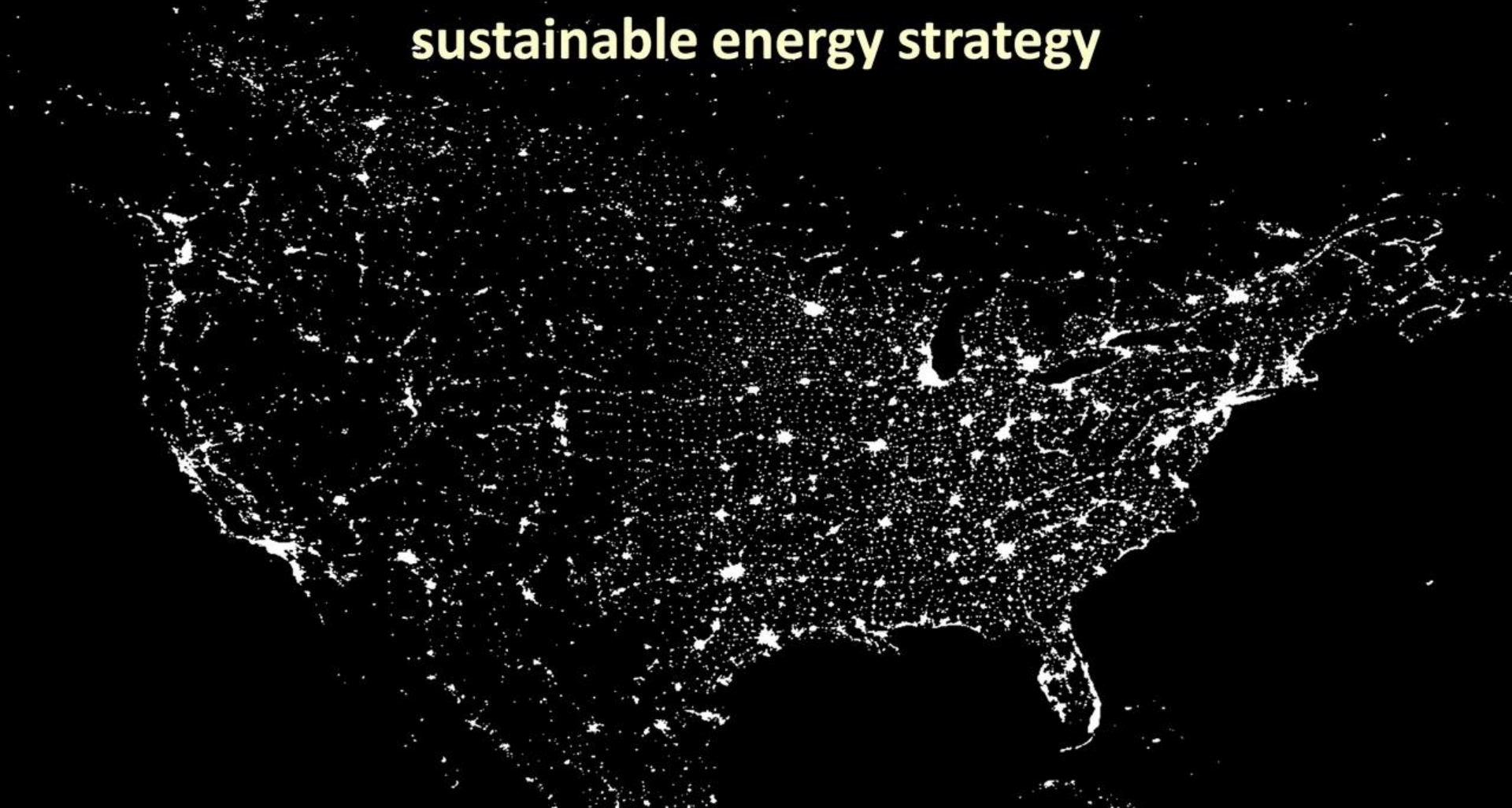


# America and the world are facing a serious shortage of energy – a situation that must be addressed

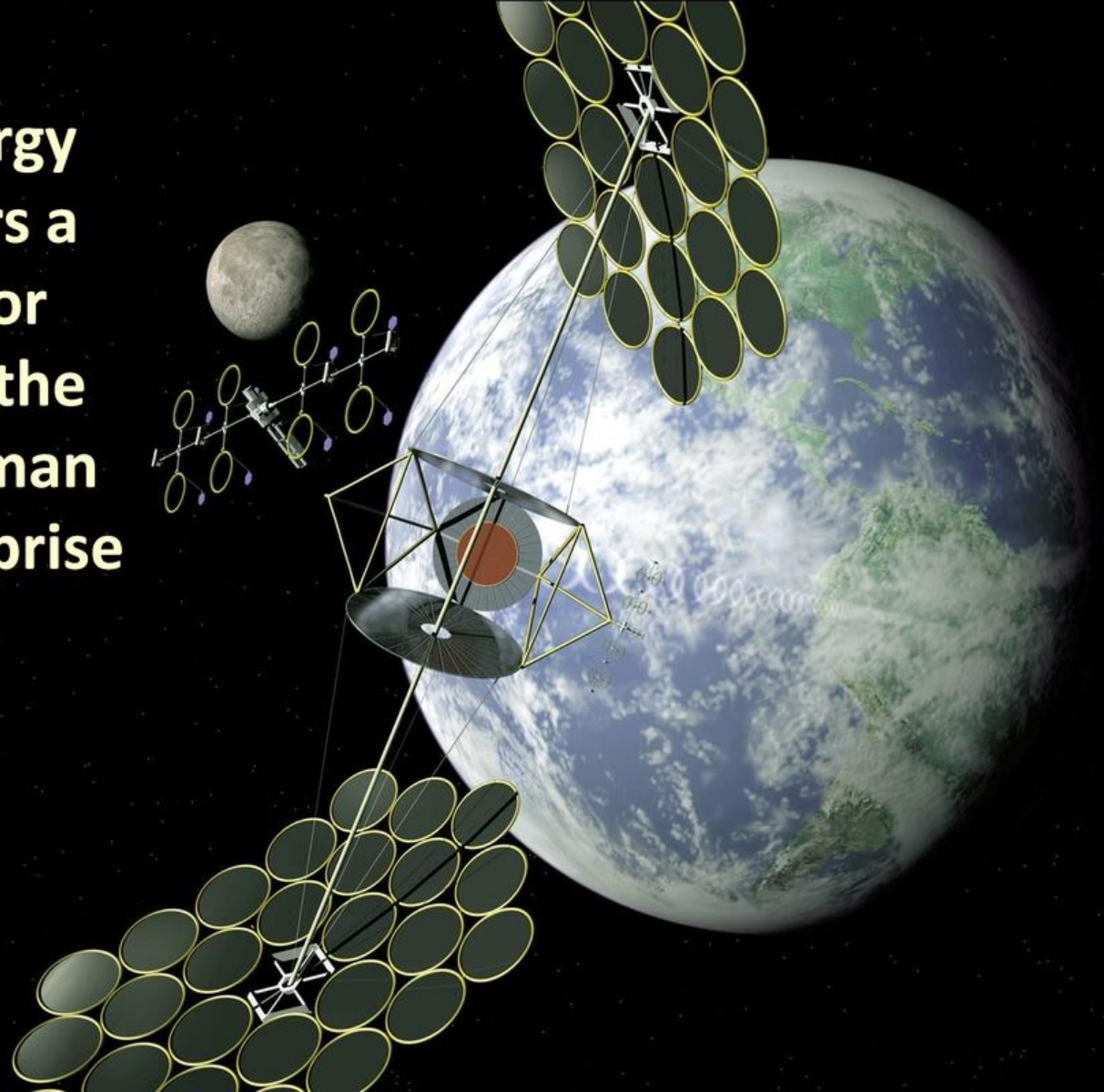




**America needs a well-reasoned and executable  
sustainable energy strategy**



**Sustainable energy  
from space offers a  
sound reason for  
America to turn the  
corner in our human  
spacefaring enterprise**





# A standard energy unit is the barrel of oil equivalent or BOE



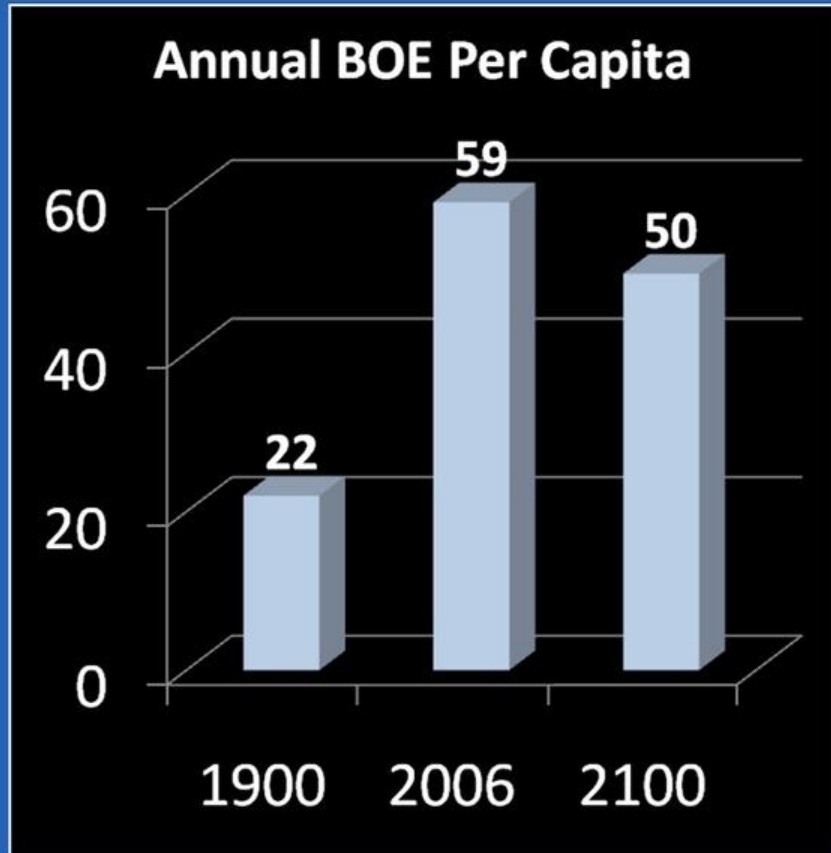
- Standard Oil's "blue barrel"
- Industry standard
- Holds 42 gallons of oil
- 5,800,000 BTU in BOE

# Mulberry St., New York City, 1900

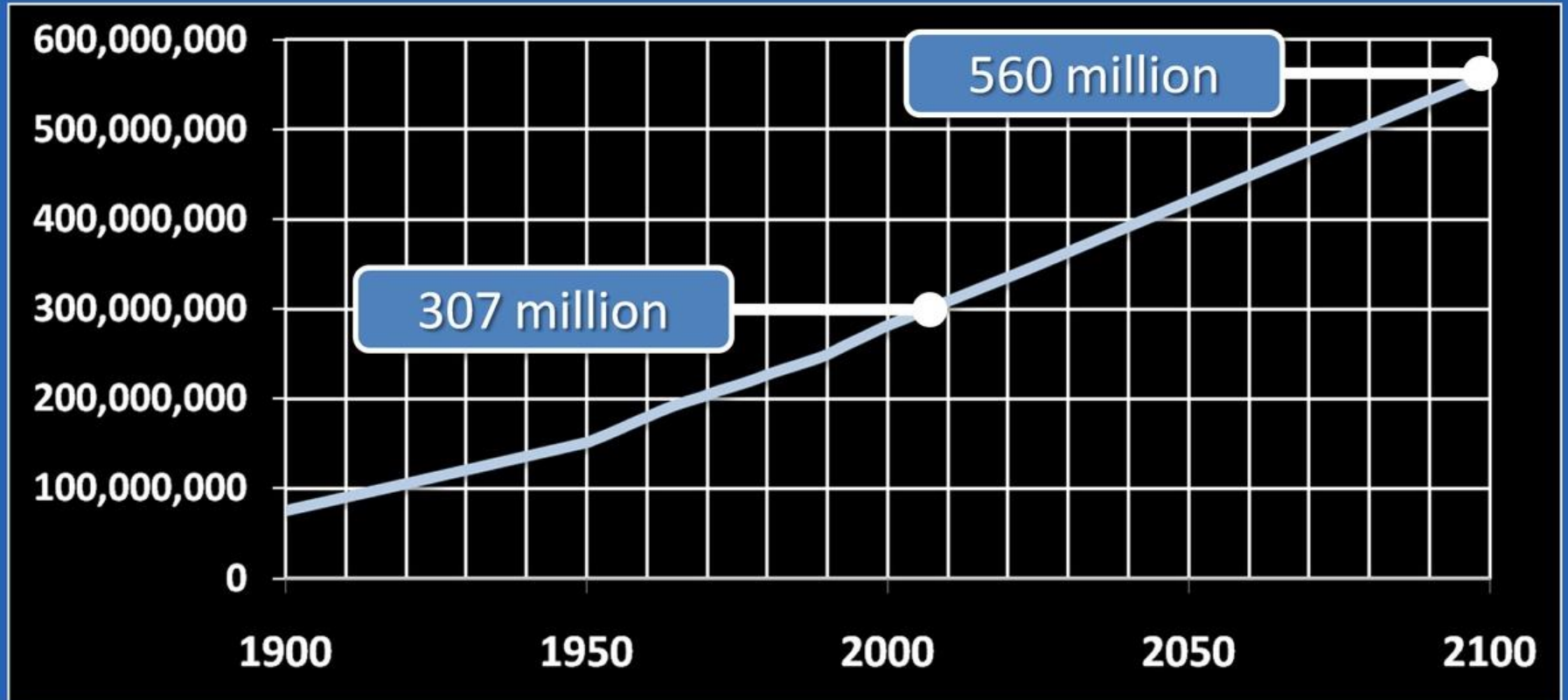




# U.S. per capita energy use is closely tied to our standard of living

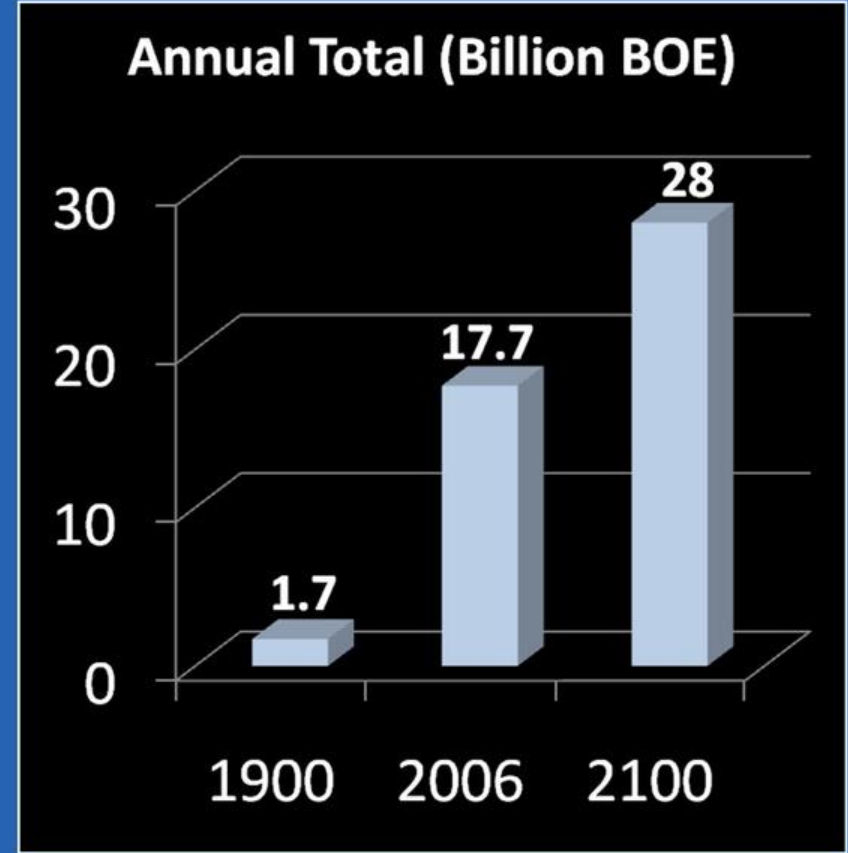
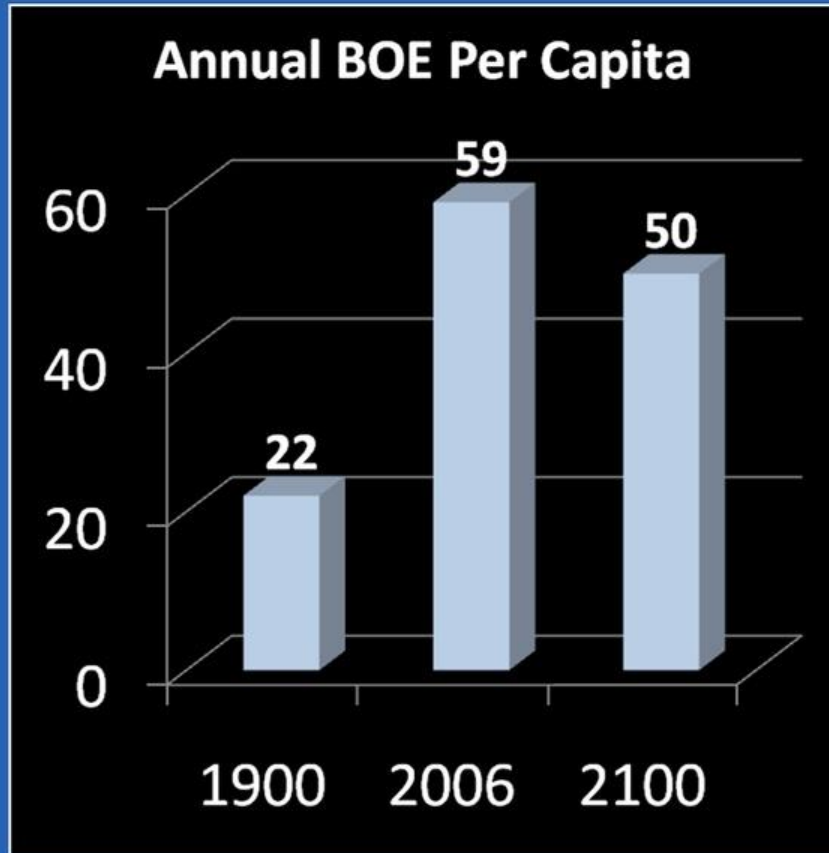


# U.S. population will nearly double by 2100

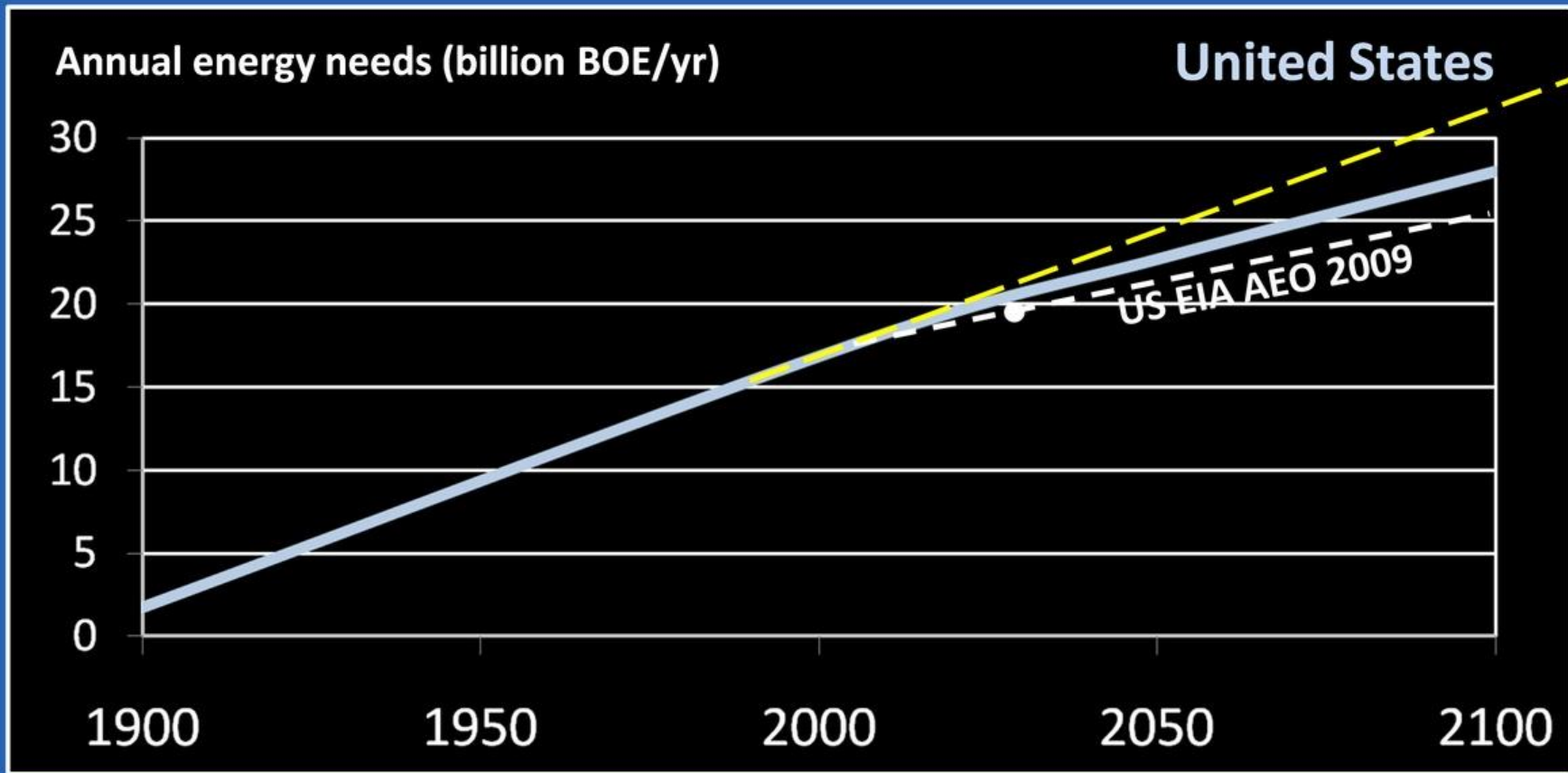




# U.S. population growth will drive total consumption energy growth going forward

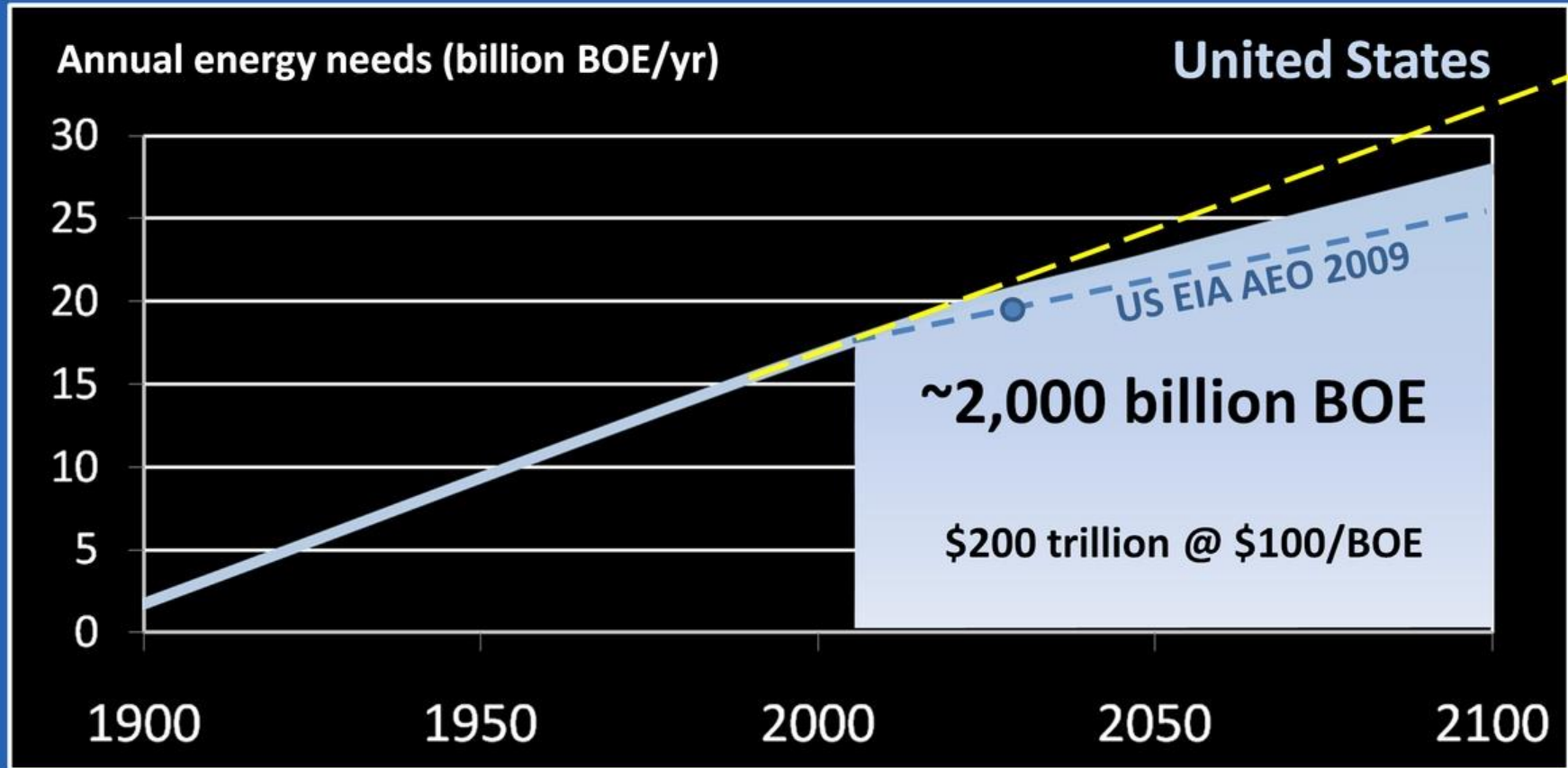


# U.S. annual energy consumption is assumed to taper off modestly

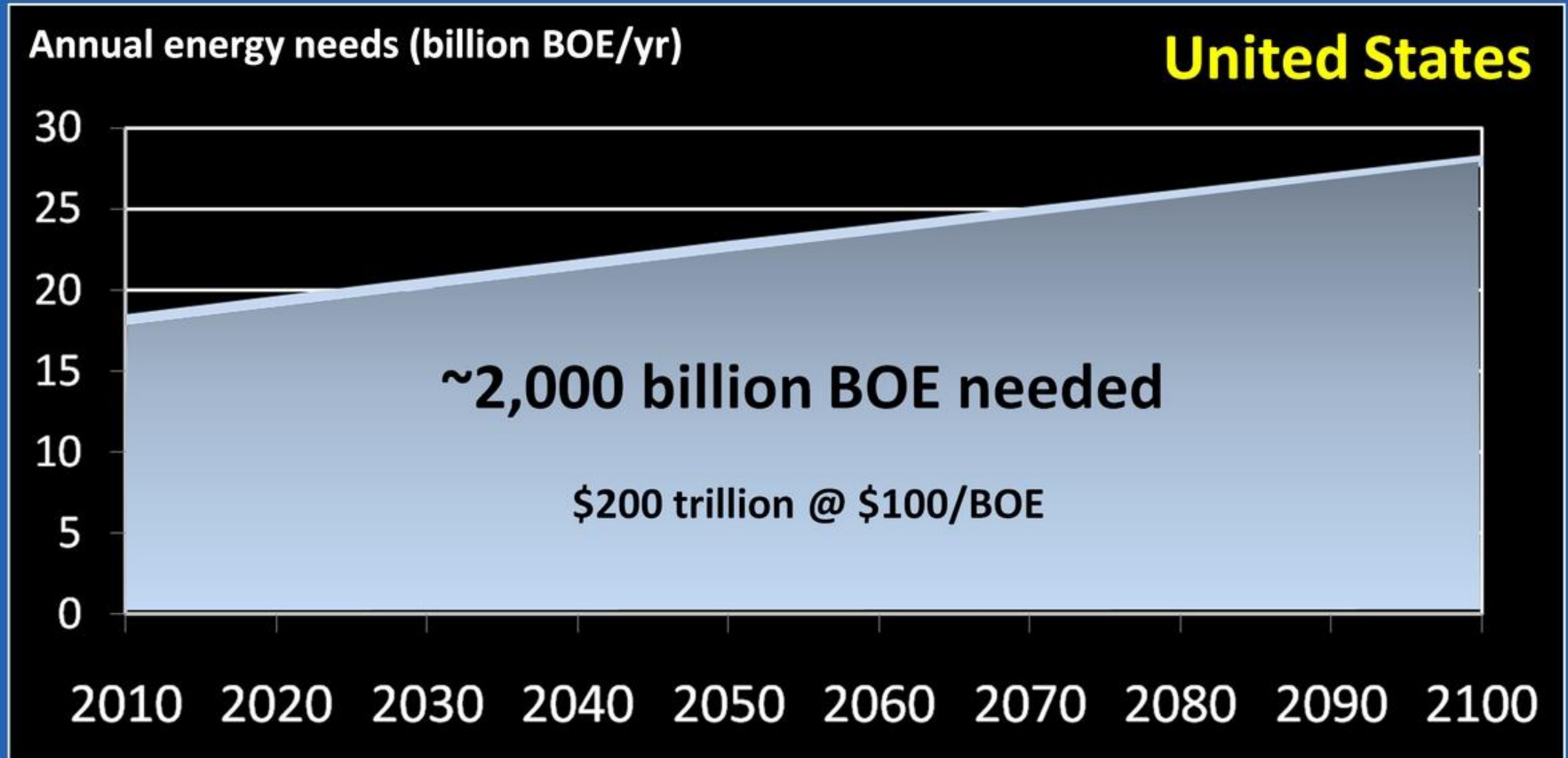




# U.S. total energy consumption will need about 2 trillion BOE by 2100

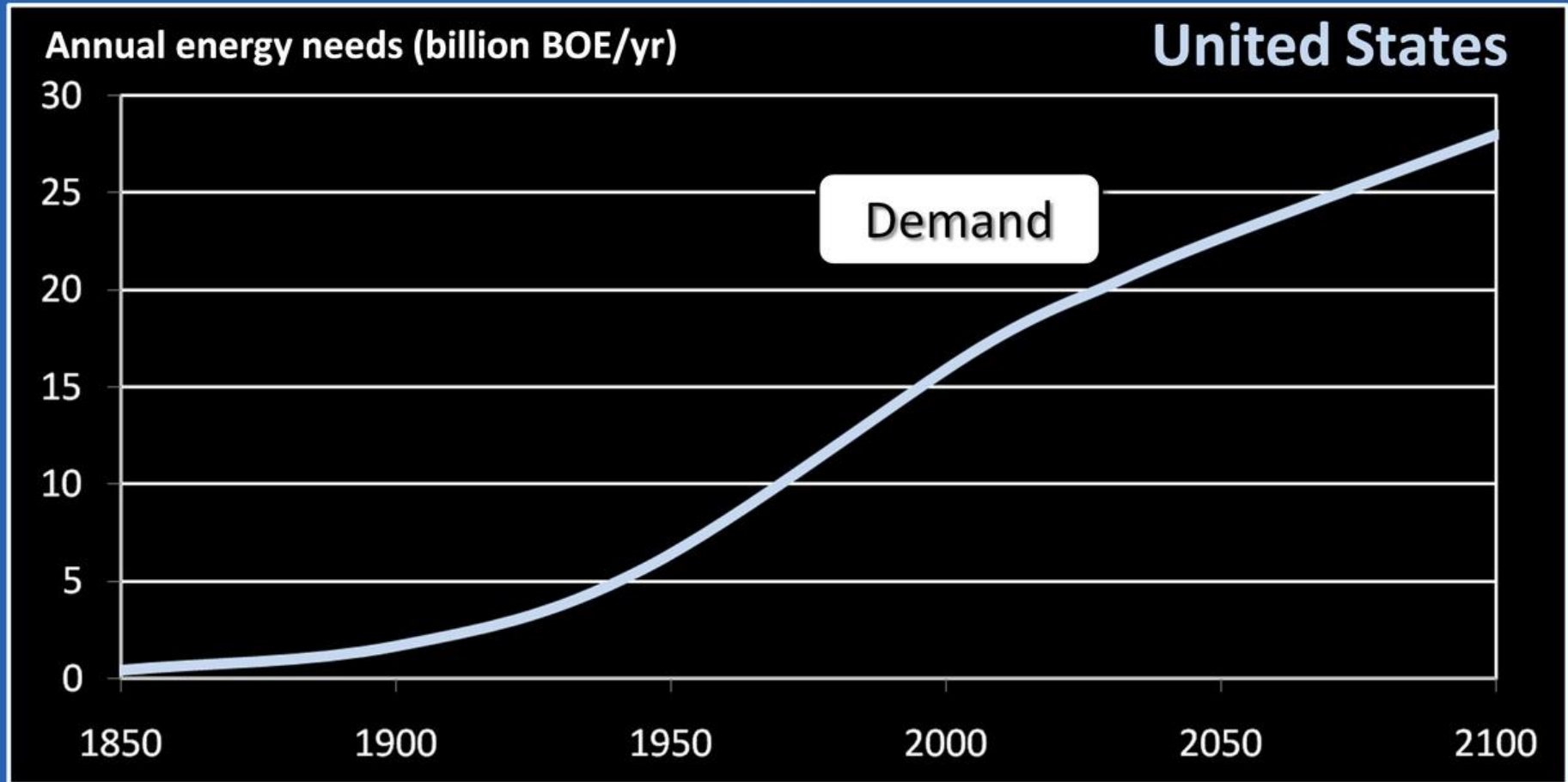


# America will need 2 trillion BOE by the end of the century

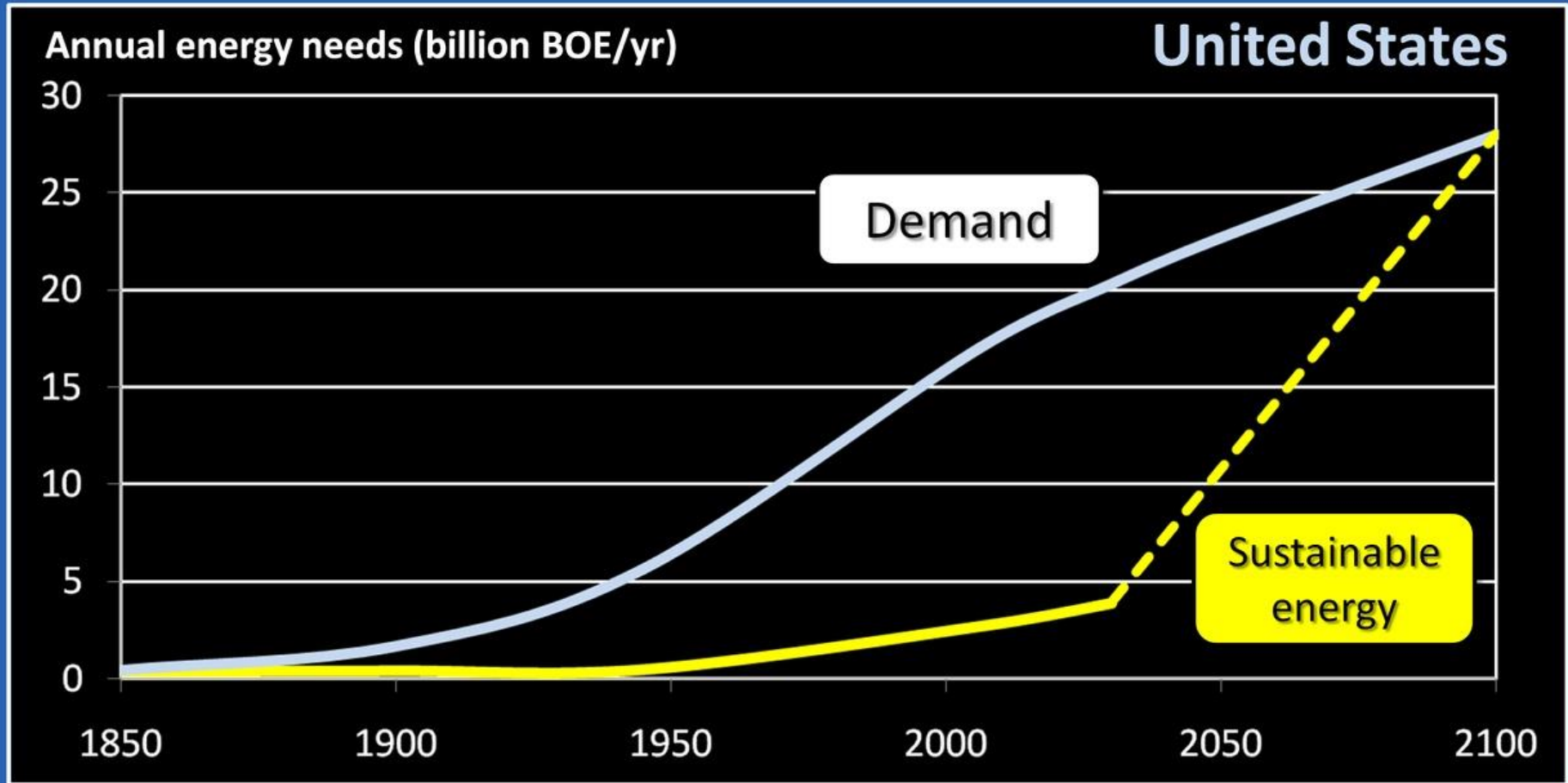




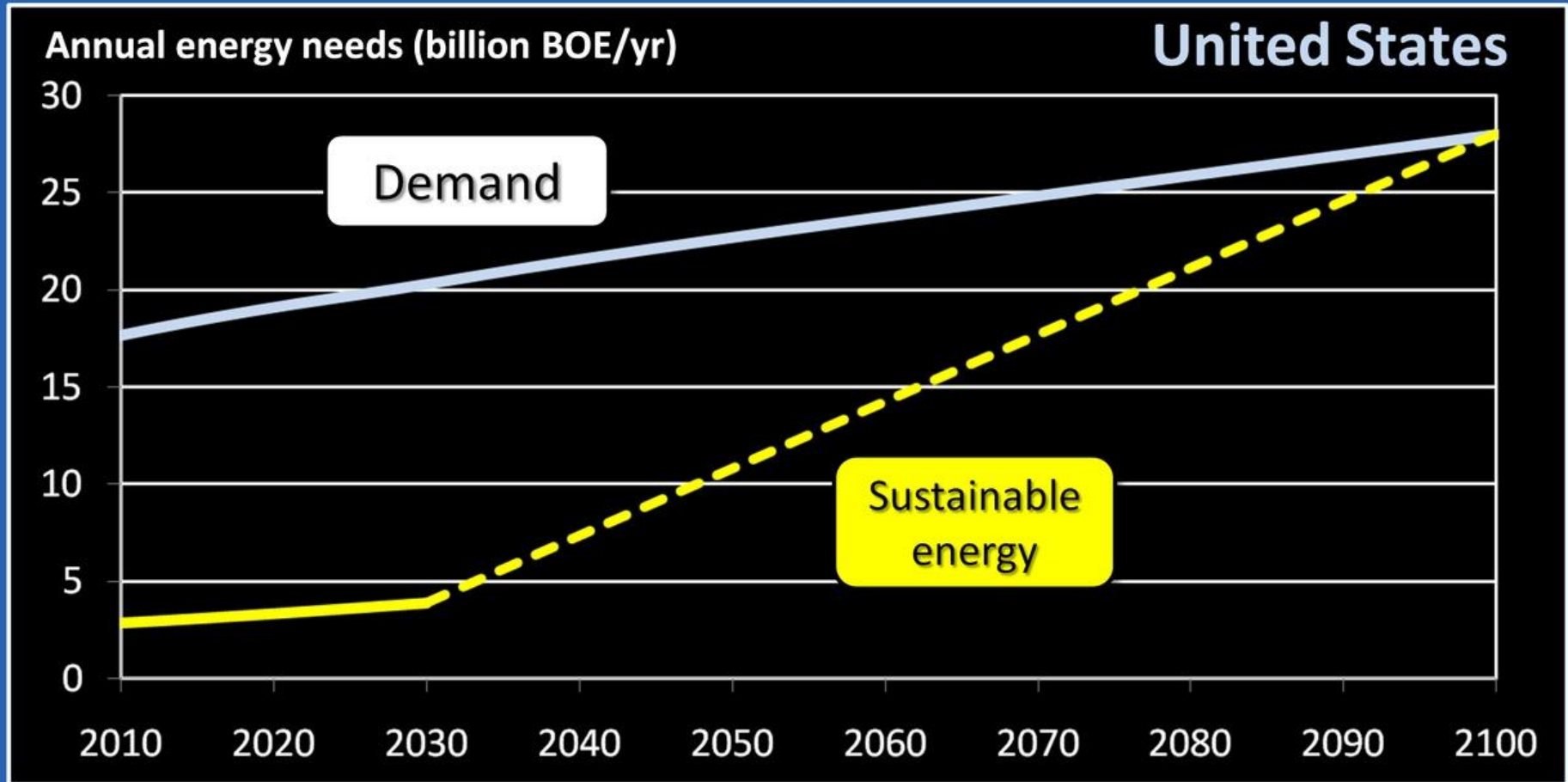
# Projected U.S. energy consumption through 2100



# Starting in 2030, the U.S. would need to accelerate sustainable energy development

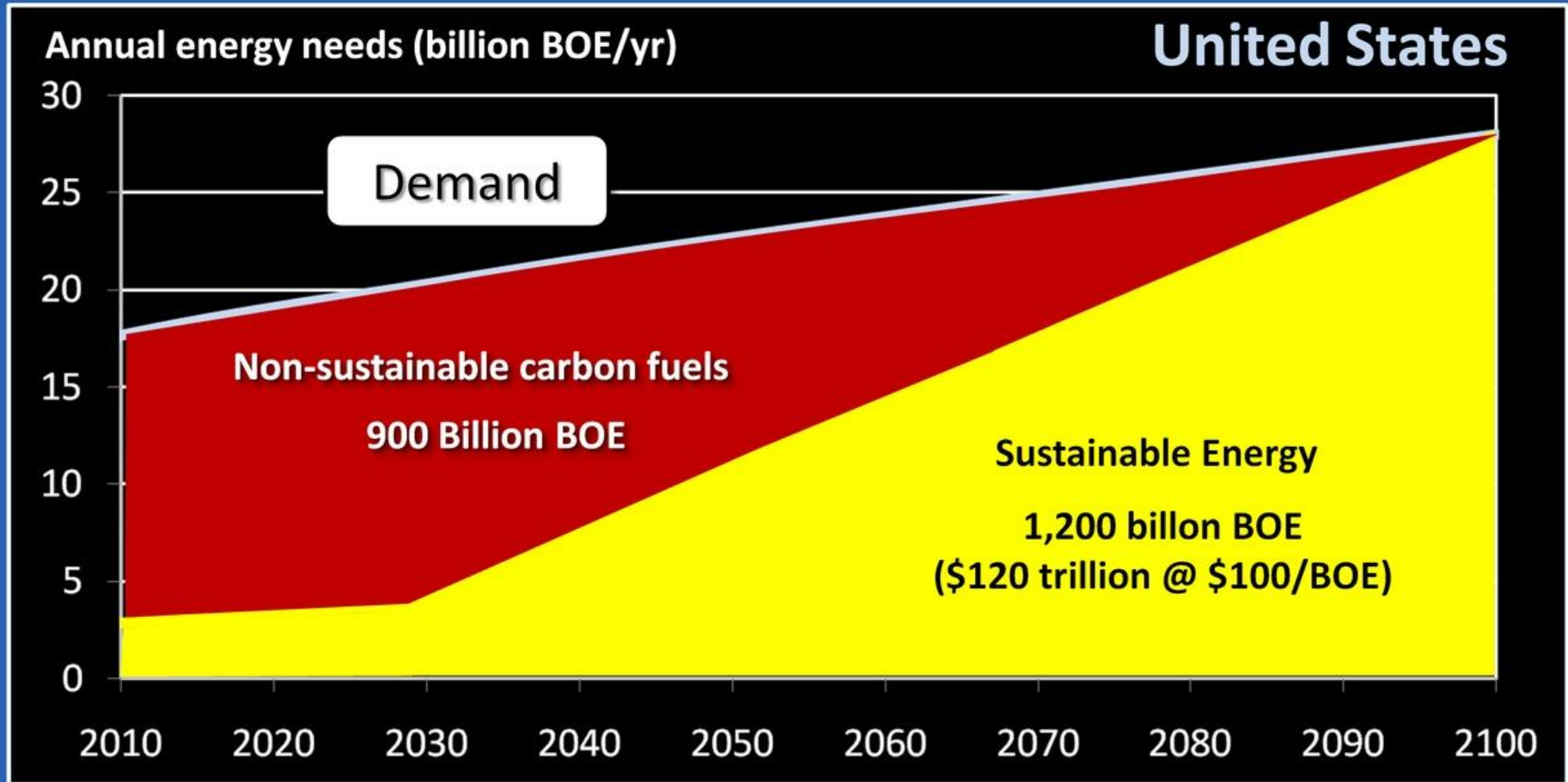


# Starting in 2030, the U.S. would need to accelerate sustainable energy development





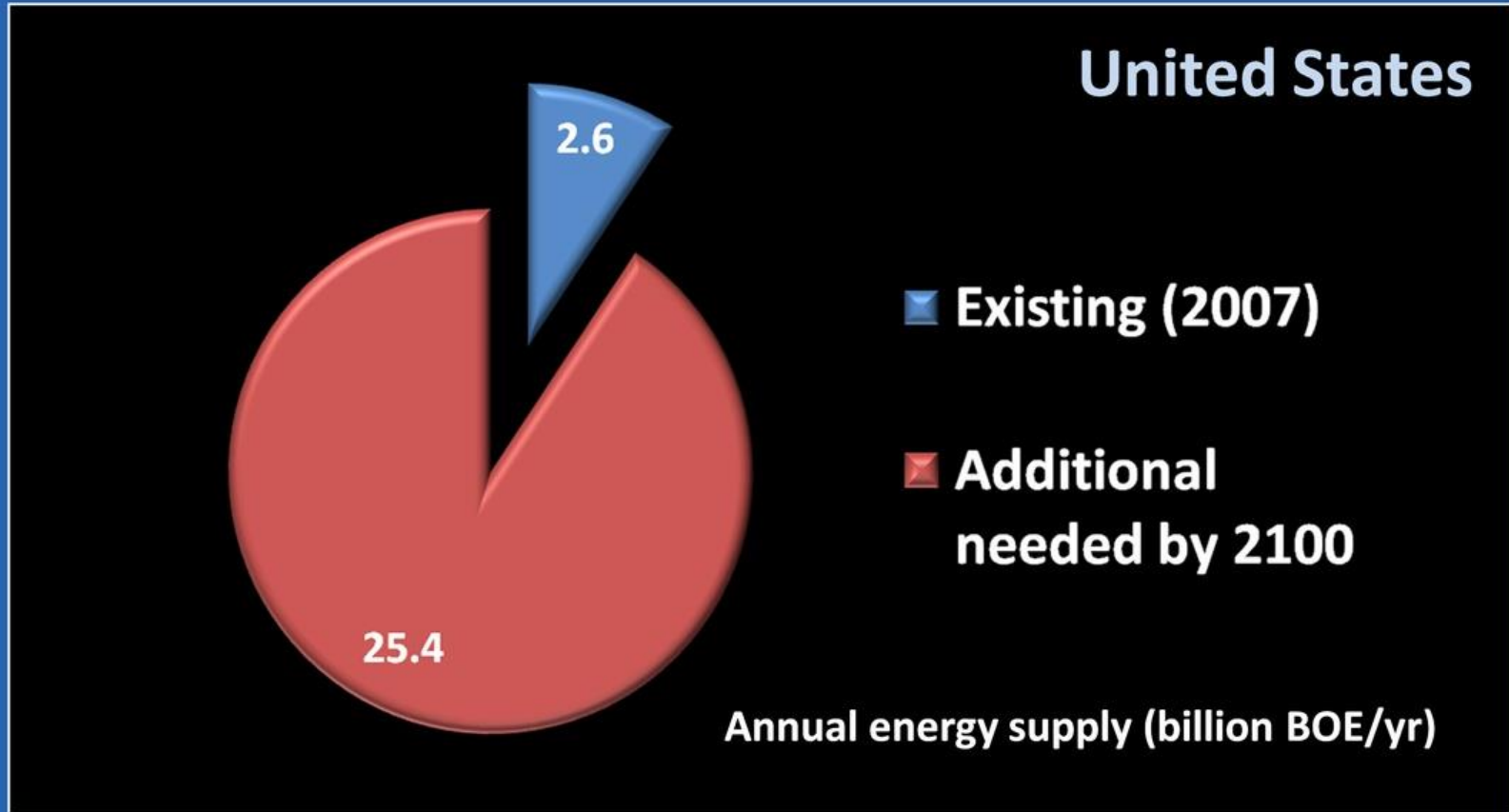
# By 2100, more U.S. energy will be provided by sustainable energy



## U.S. easy energy resources are large, but not sustainable

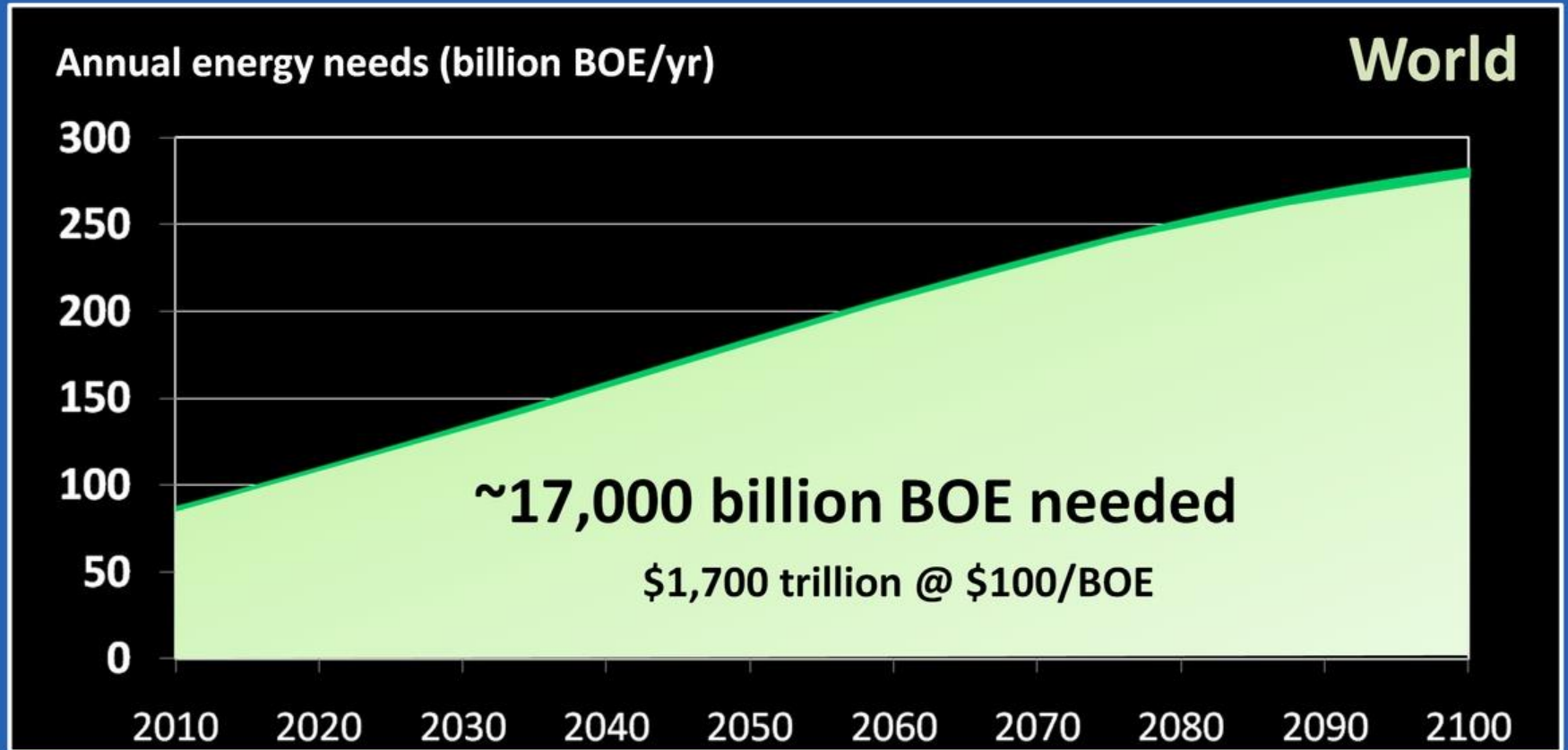
- Oil, coal, and natural gas: 1,100 billion BOE (proved reserves)
  - About 85% is coal
- Shale oil: 2,000 billion BOE in-place resources
  - Assume 50% delivered: 1,000 billion BOE
- Total: ~2,000 billion BOE of useable production
  - With substantial shale oil production

# By 2100, the U.S. must expand its current sustainable energy by 10X



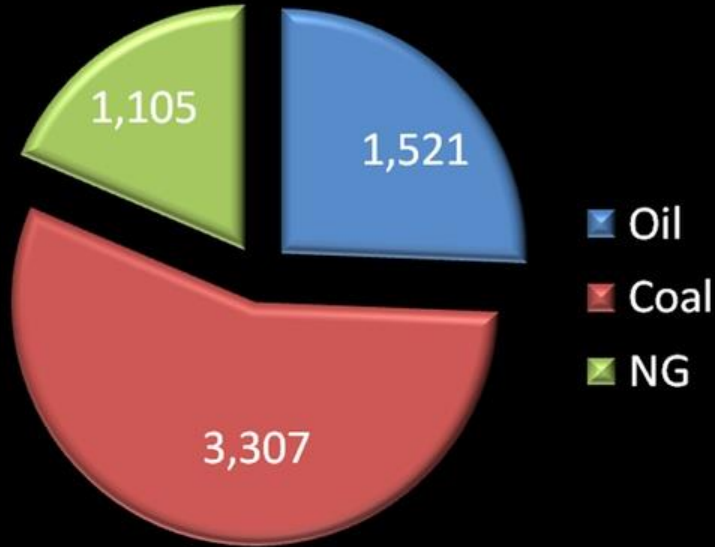


# The world will need 17 trillion BOE by the end of the century



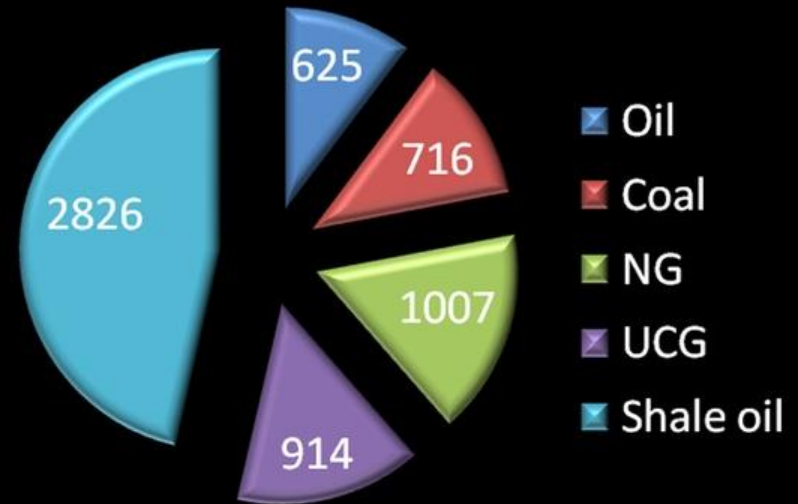
# World easy energy resources optimistically total 12,000 billion BOE

## Proved Reserves



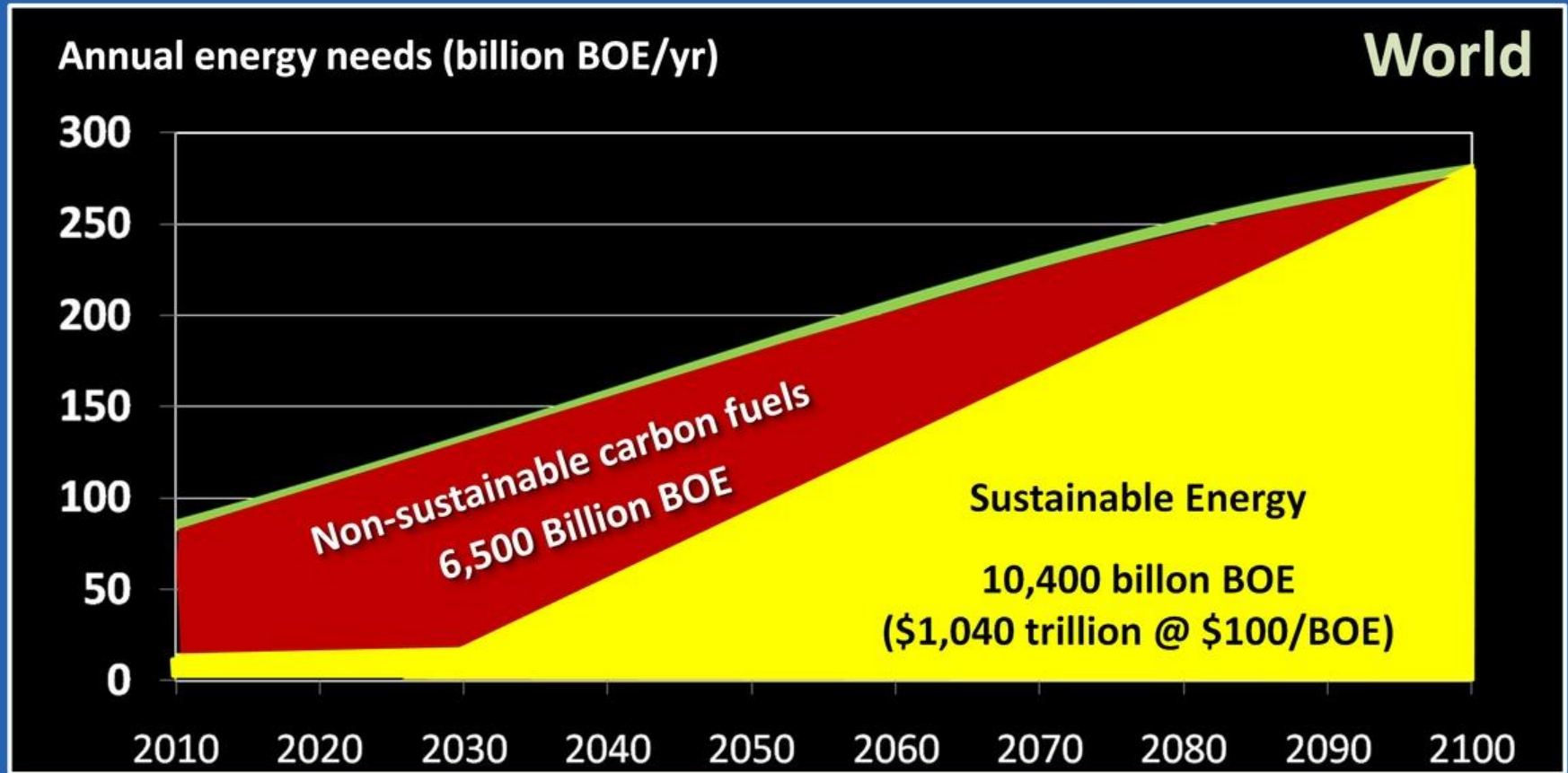
5,900 billion BOE

## Optimistic Additional Recoverable Reserves



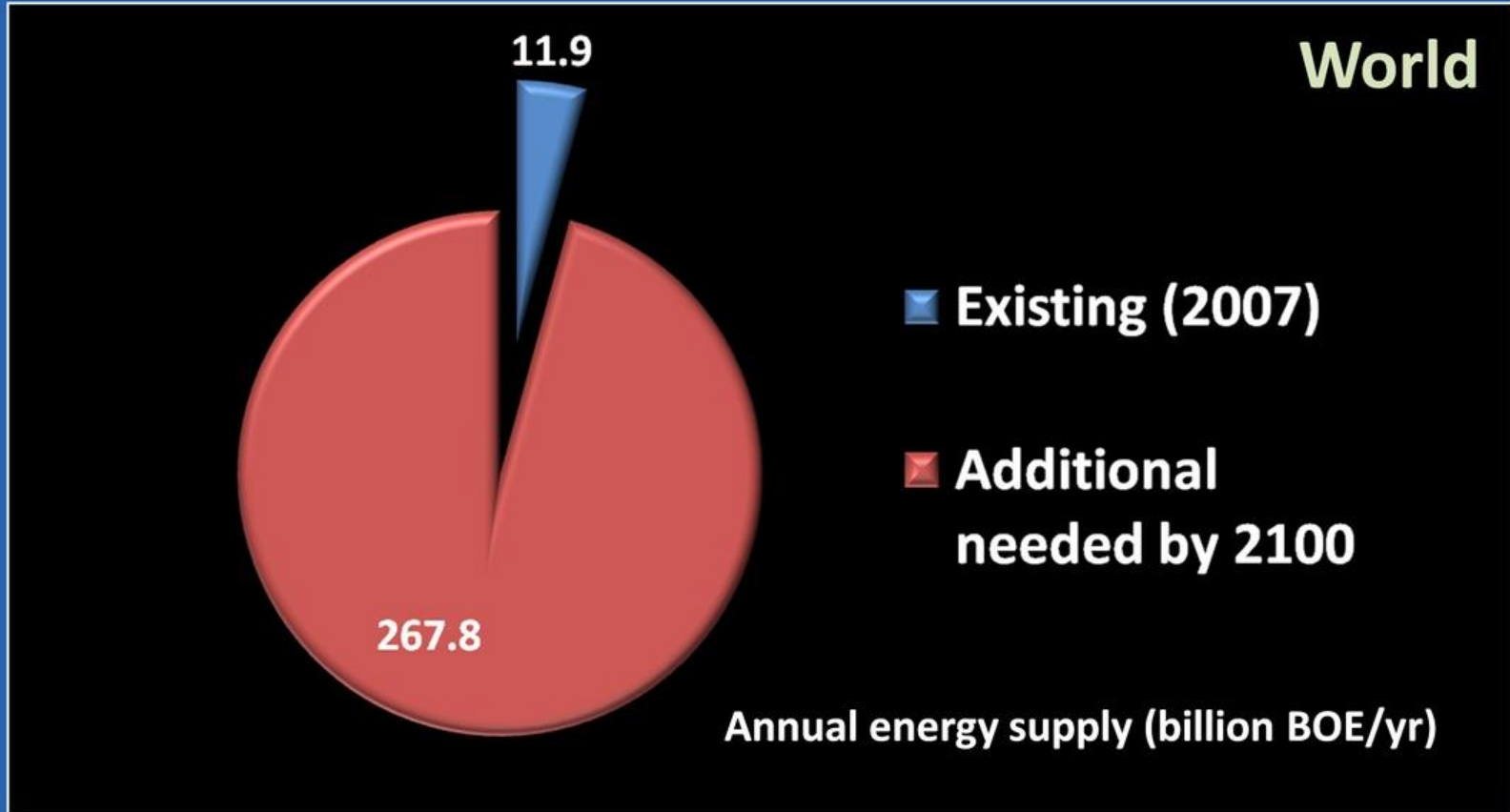
Optimistically, 6,100 billion BOE

# From 2030-2100, world sustainable energy production would exceed easy energy production





# By 2100, the world must expand its current sustainable energy by 22X



# Key 2100 energy needs headlines

- U.S. will add 250 million energy consumers
  - Need 2 trillion BOE of energy
  - Need 1.2 trillion BOE of sustainable energy
- World will add 5 billion energy consumers
  - Need 17 trillion BOE of energy
  - Need 10 trillion BOE of sustainable energy

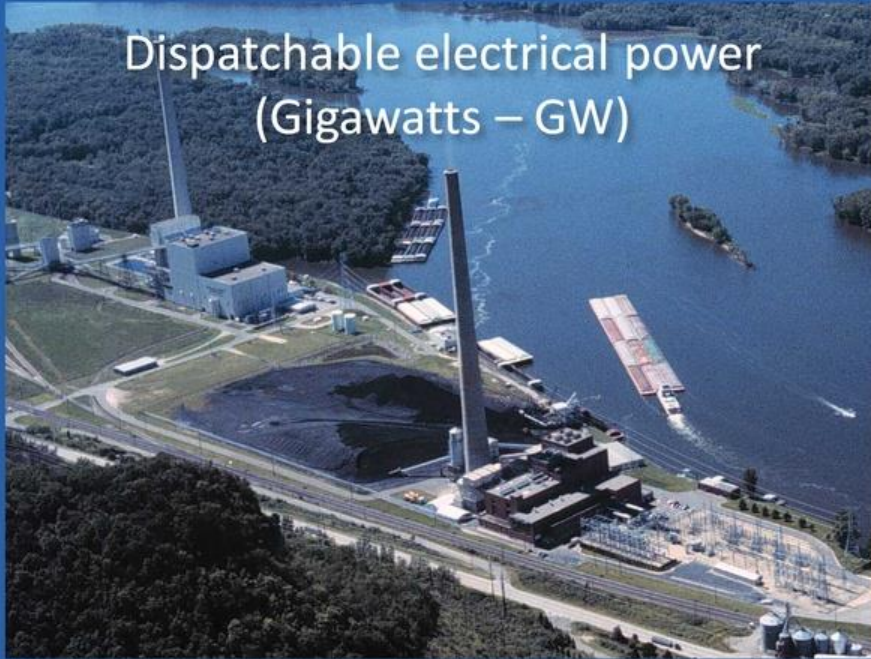
# Let's explore the potential of current developed sustainable solutions

Developed  
solutions

- Conventional nuclear
- Hydroelectric
- Geothermal
- Wind
- Ground solar electric
- Biomass
- Methane hydrates (non-sustainable)
- Advanced nuclear
- Algae biofuels
- Space solar power



# Energy supplies fall into two categories: utility electrical power generation and fuels

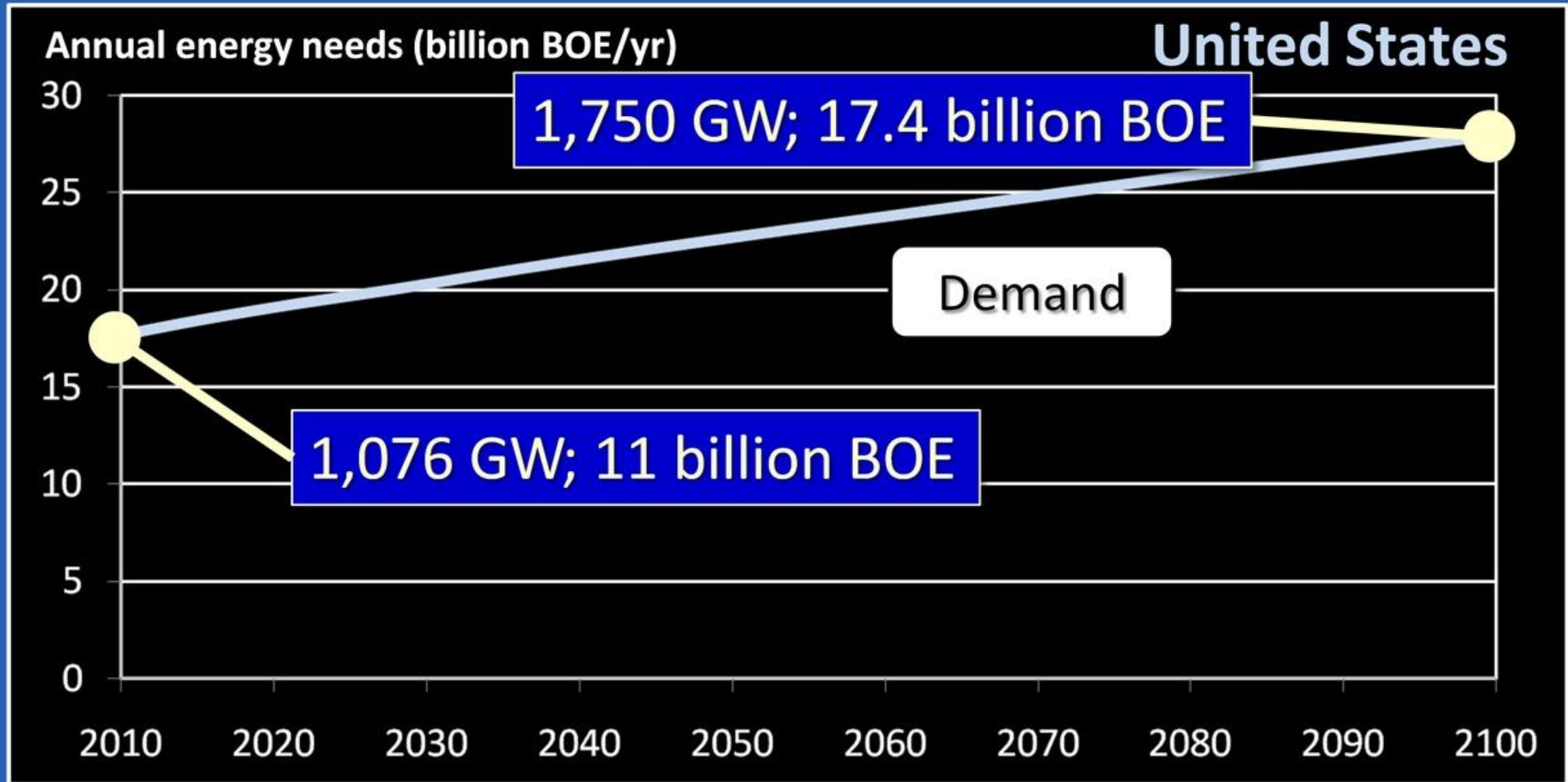


Reliable 365/24 availability  
to meet customer demand



Storable, transportable fuels

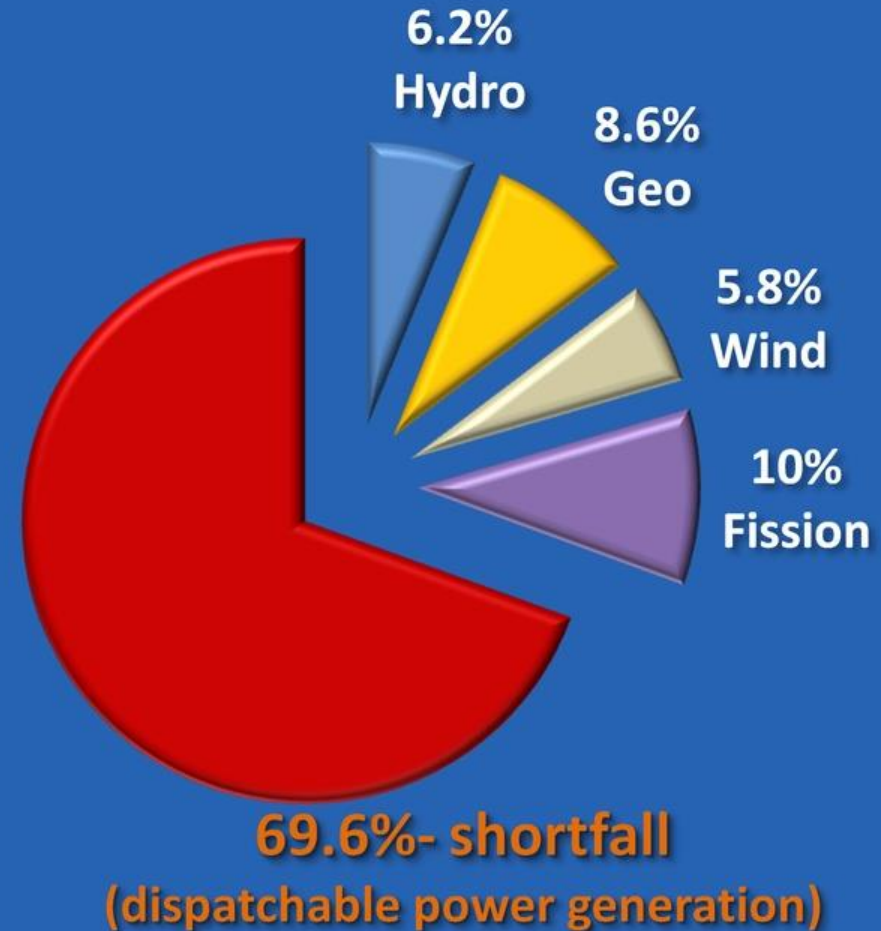
# Both electrical power generation capacity and fuels production must be increased





# U.S. sustainable, dispatchable electrical generation capacity will fall well short of 2100 needs

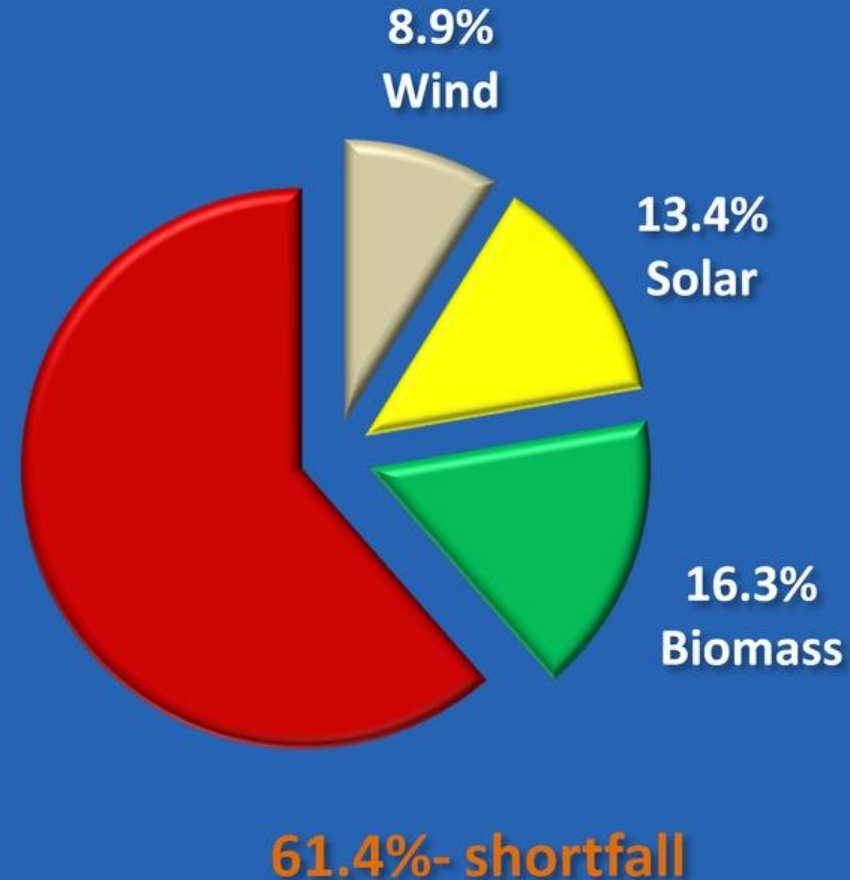
- About 1,100 GW today
  - 3.5 kW per capita
- About 1,750 GW needed by 2100
  - 3.1 kW per capita
- Only about 30% of 2100 need can be met
  - **0.9 kW per capita**





# U.S. sustainable fuels generation potential will also leave a large 2100 shortfall

- About 11 billion BOE supplied today
  - 36 BOE per capita/yr
- About 17.4 billion BOE needed in 2100
  - 31 BOE per capita/yr
- Only about 40% of 2100 need can be met
  - **12 BOE per capita/yr**



**Over 200,000 sq. mi. of the U.S.  
will look like this**





# Key sustainable energy supply headlines

- U.S. conventional sustainable potential
  - 70% shortfall in dispatchable electrical power generation capacity
  - 60% shortfall in annual sustainable fuels production
- World conventional sustainable potential
  - 50% shortfall in dispatchable electrical power generation capacity
  - 60% shortfall in annual sustainable fuels production



# What's the engineering readiness of advanced sustainable solutions?

- Conventional nuclear
- Hydroelectric
- Geothermal
- Wind
- Ground solar electric
- Biomass
- Methane hydrates (non-sustainable)
- Advanced nuclear
- Algae biofuels
- Space solar power

Developed solutions



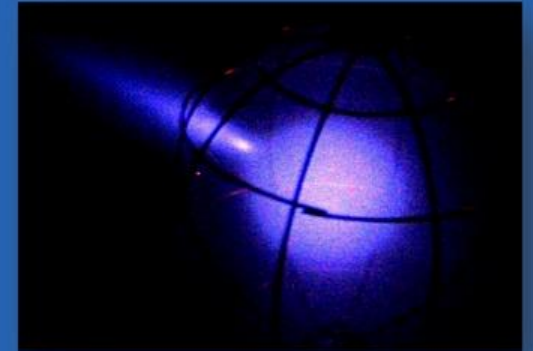
# Methane hydrates may become a new non-sustainable carbon fuel source

- Potential resources: Comparable to fossil fuels
- Issues:
  - Recovery technology immaturity
  - Environmental uncertainties
  - Industrial scale recovery uncertainty
  - Completion timeline unknown
  - Not now able to enter engineering development
- Conclusions:
  - Non-executable now to support energy scarcity-avoidance planning
  - Fund continued research



# Advanced nuclear energy holds the hope for an acceptable new scalable energy source

- Potential: 365/24 sustainable electrical power
- Issues:
  - Technology immaturity
  - Environmental uncertainties
  - Completion timeline unknown
  - Not now able to enter engineering development
- Conclusions:
  - Non-executable now to support energy scarcity-avoidance planning
  - Fund continued research





# Algae may be able to provide substantially more BOE's per acre than traditional crops



Warm-climate open pond algae biofuel = 53,000 BOE per sq. mi. per year



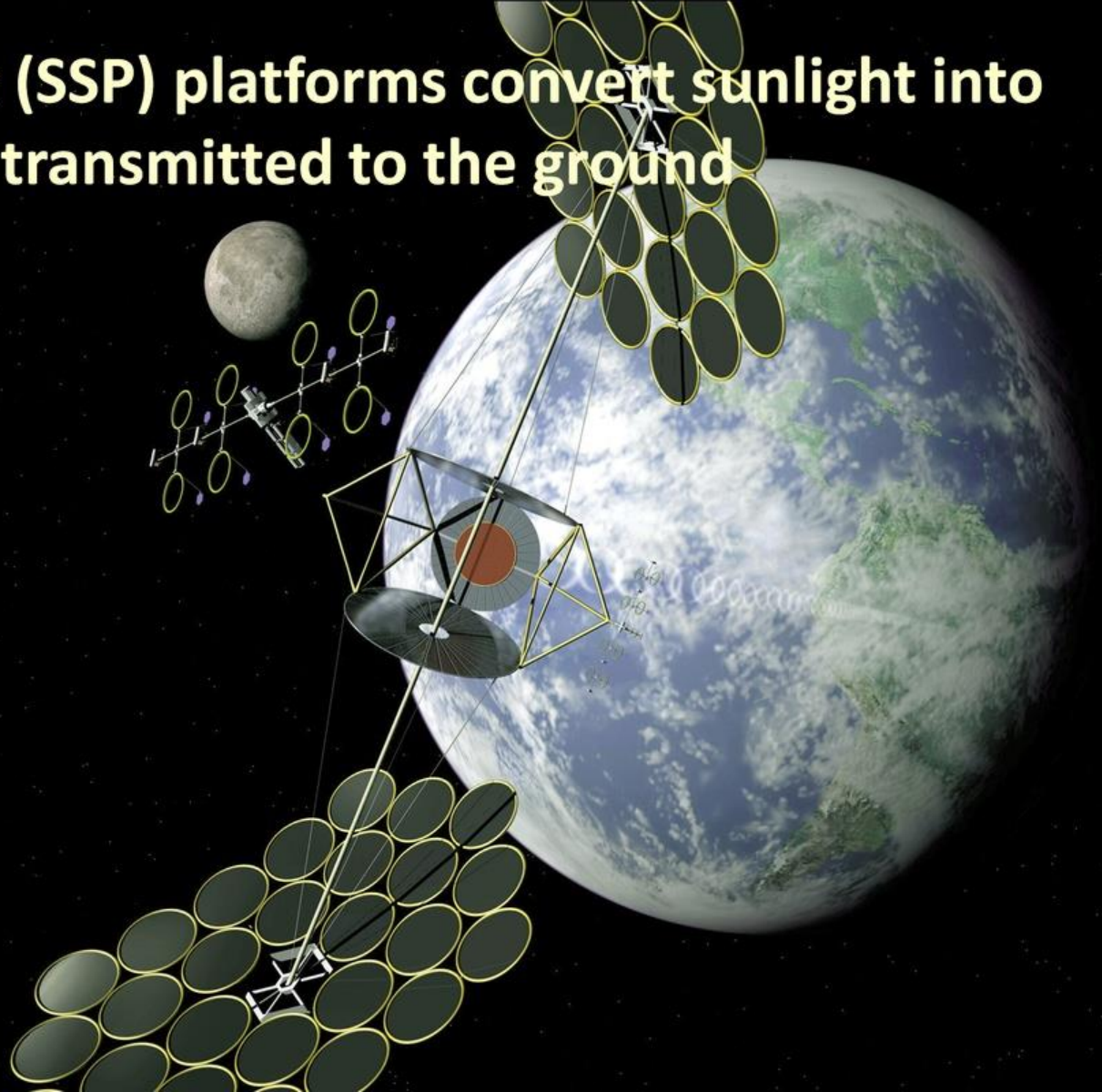
# Biofuels produced by algae provides a new renewable fuel source

- Potential: fuel, hydrogen, and protein production
- Issues:
  - Land and water use
  - Disease/contamination
  - Evaporation byproduct disposal
  - Early stage of commercial development
    - Especially closed environment approaches
- Conclusions:
  - Expand commercial open pond production
  - Fund continued research especially on closed-environment production

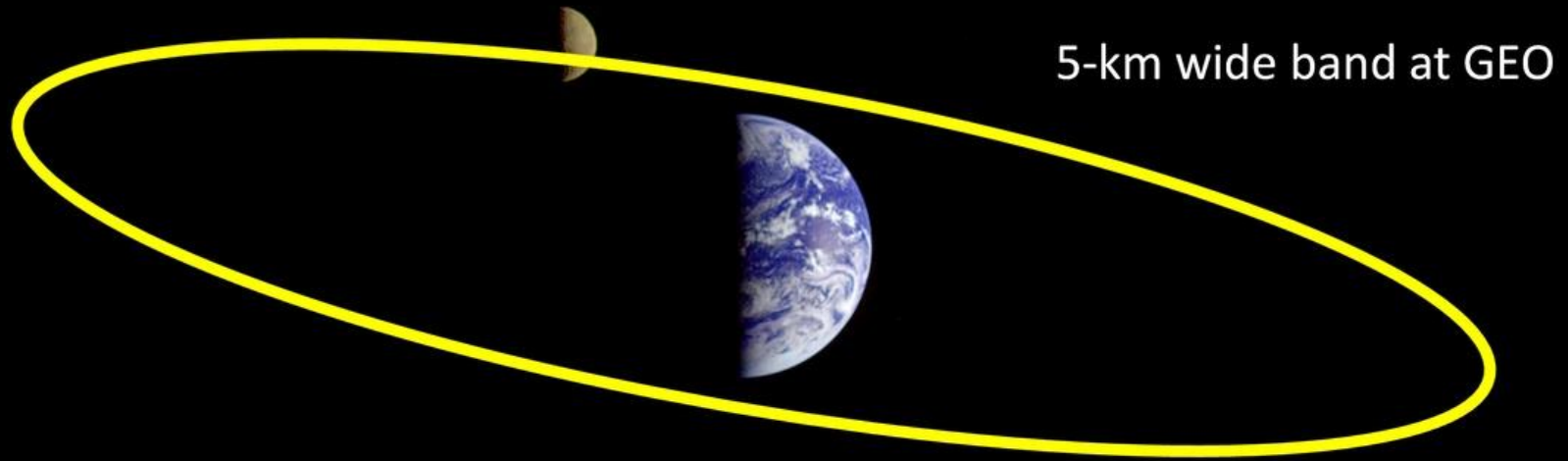


# Space solar power (SSP) platforms convert sunlight into energy transmitted to the ground

One concept for a  
GEO SSP platform



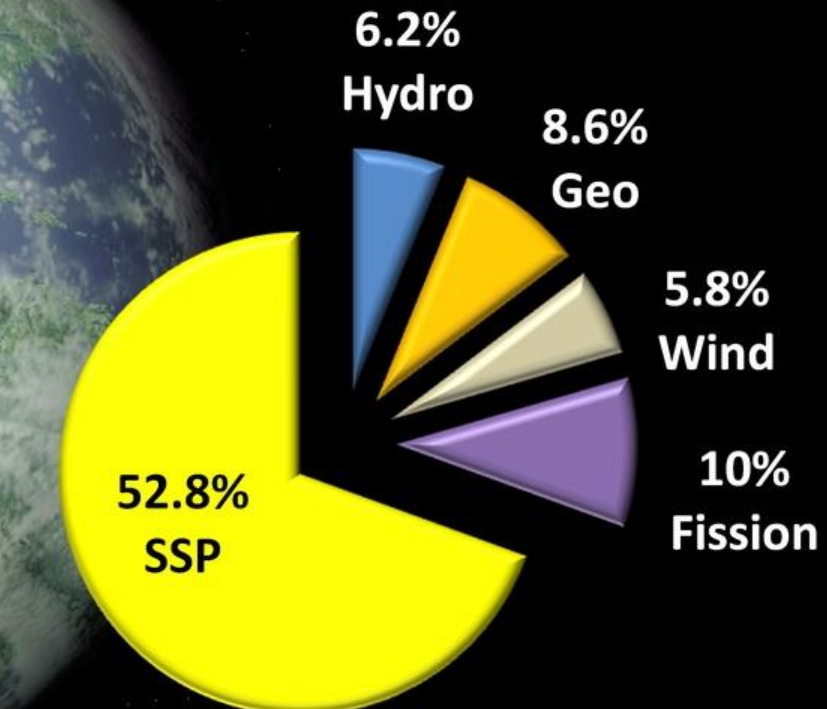
# GEO is an orbit 26,200 miles above the Earth and 164,600 miles in circumference



- \$14 trillion/yr @ 5 cents per kW-hr
- 33,100 GW-yrs of energy/yr
- 6,620 5-GW SSP platforms (10% slot use)



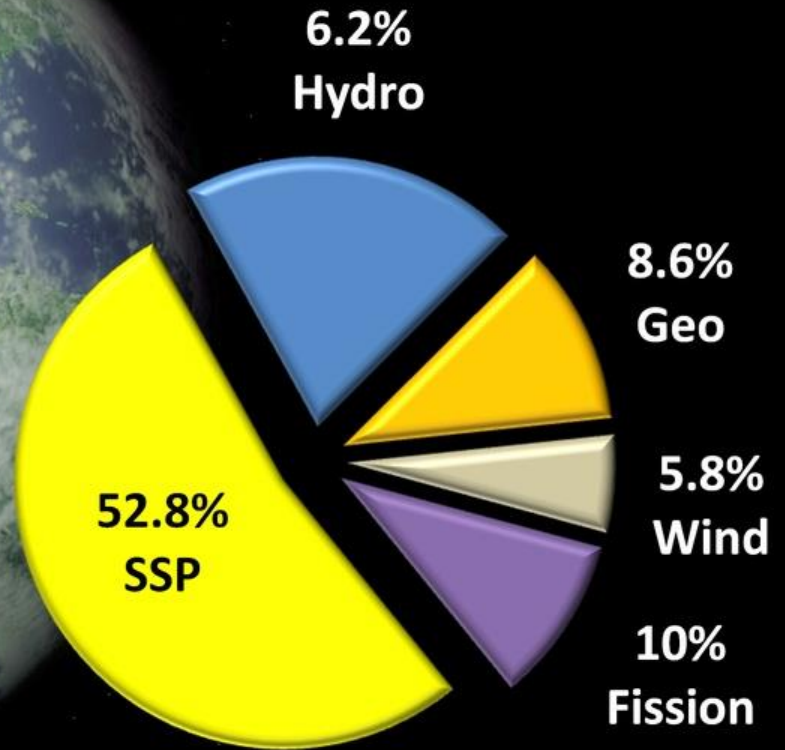
# 250 5-GW SSP systems needed to close the U.S. 2100 dispatchable electrical power shortfall



**U.S. SSP - 1,220 GW  
(dispatchable power generation)**

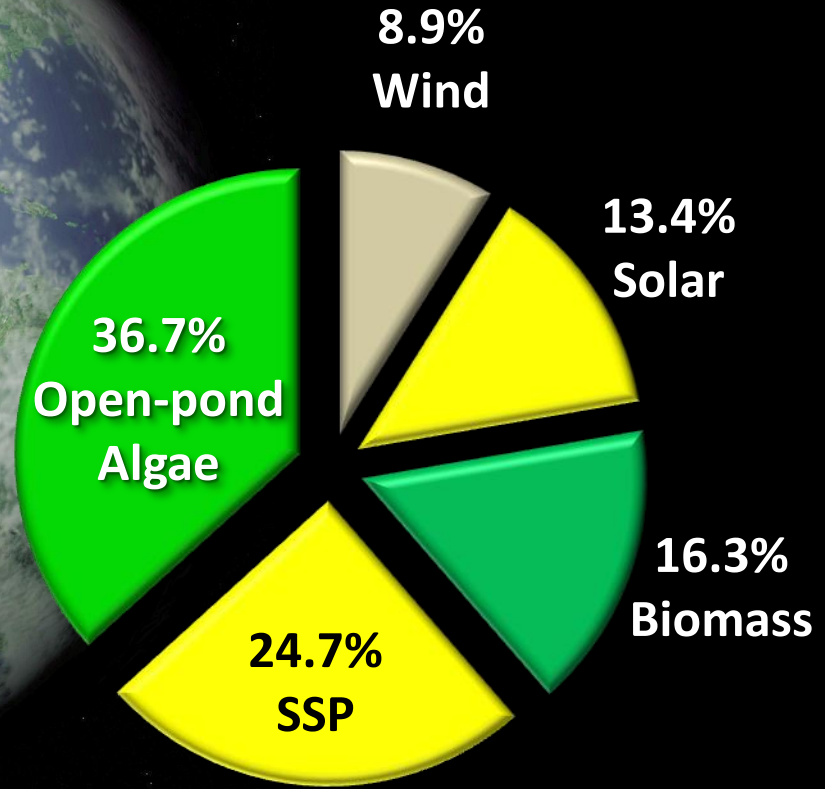


# 1,850 5-GW SSP systems needed to close the world 2100 dispatchable electrical power shortfall



**World SSP - 9,240 GW  
(dispatchable power generation)**

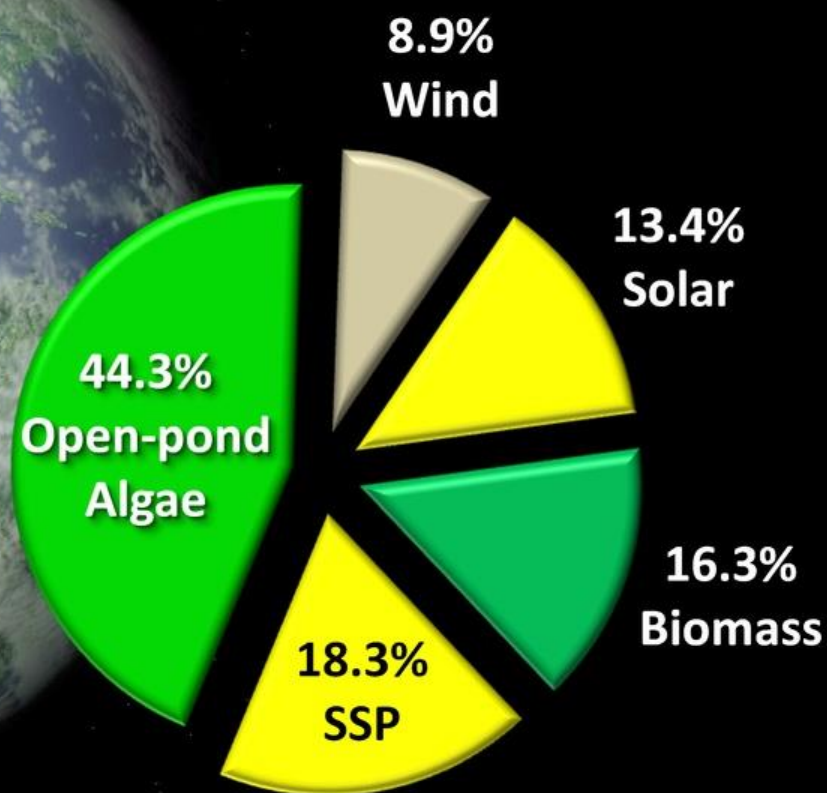
**250 5-GW SSP systems can provide 25%  
of U.S. 2100 fuels**



**U.S. SSP Fuels – 4.3 billion BOE/yr**



**1,850 5-GW SSP systems can provide about 20%  
of the world's 2100 fuels**



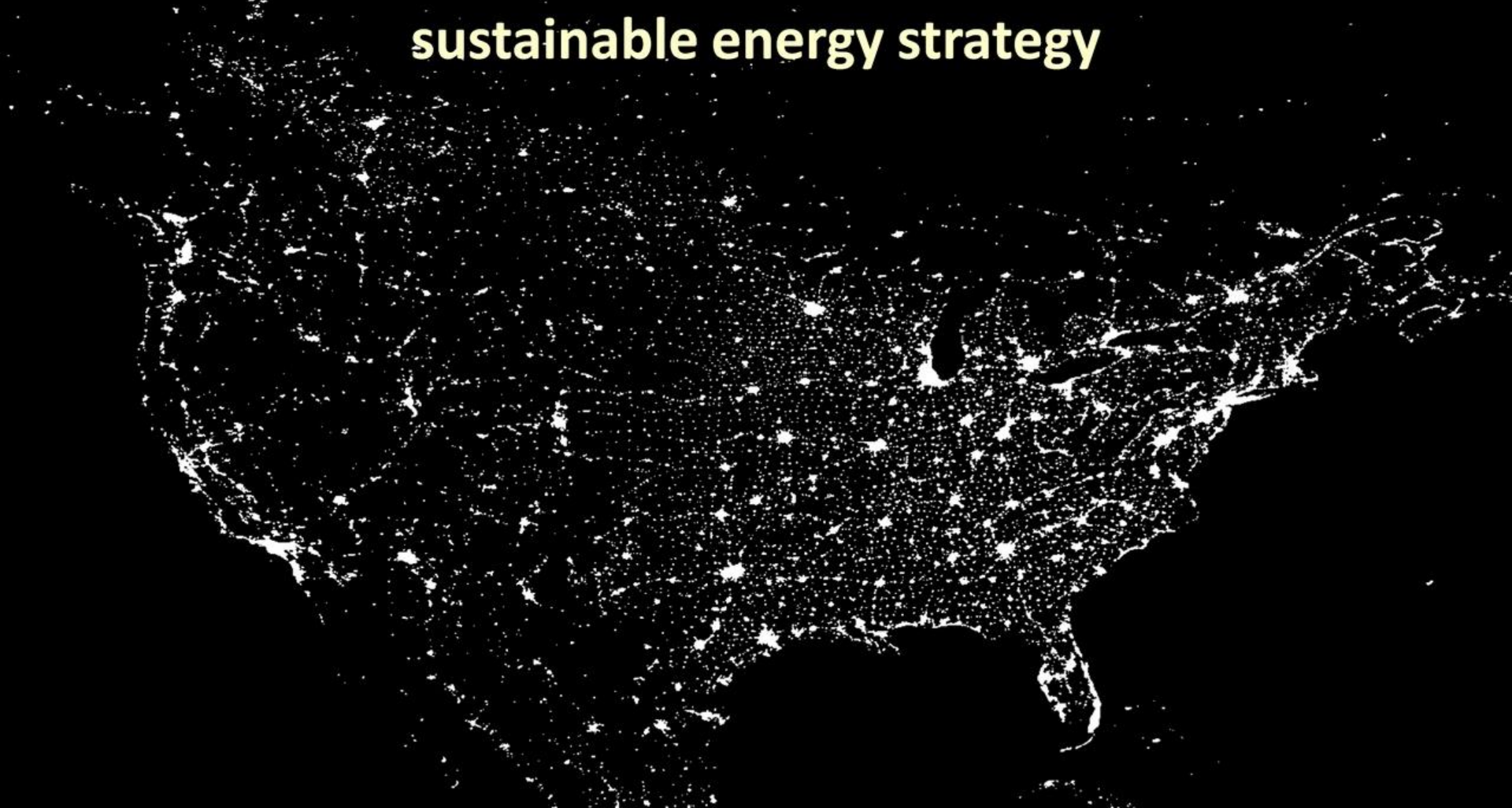
**World SSP Fuels – 31 billion BOE/yr**



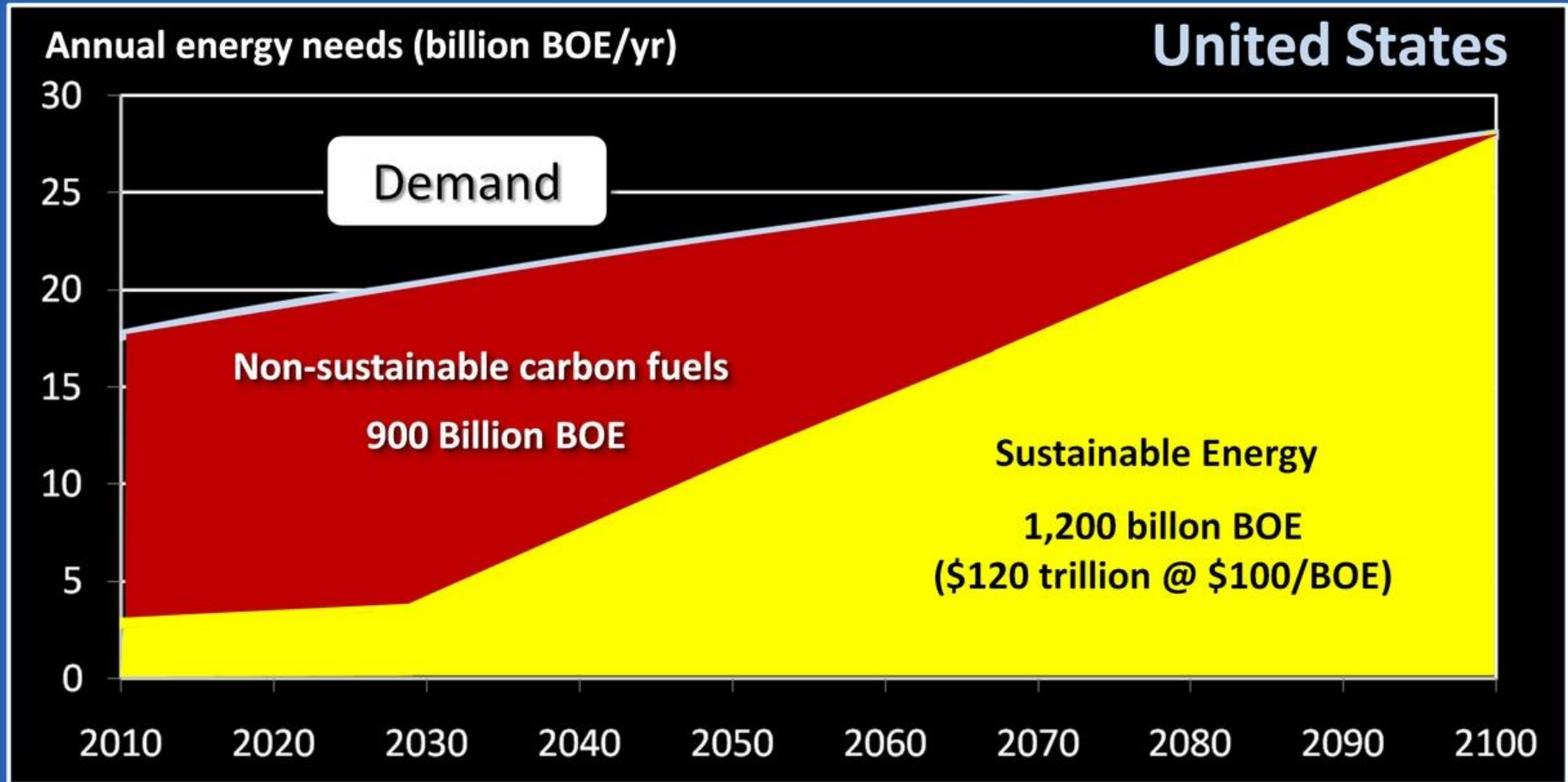
# Key energy scarcity avoidance headlines

- SSP is today's engineering ready solution
  - Baseload electrical power
  - Hydrogen fuels
- SSP will help U.S. and world close sustainable energy supply shortfalls
- Only a true spacefaring America can undertaken SSP

**America needs a well-reasoned and executable  
sustainable energy strategy**



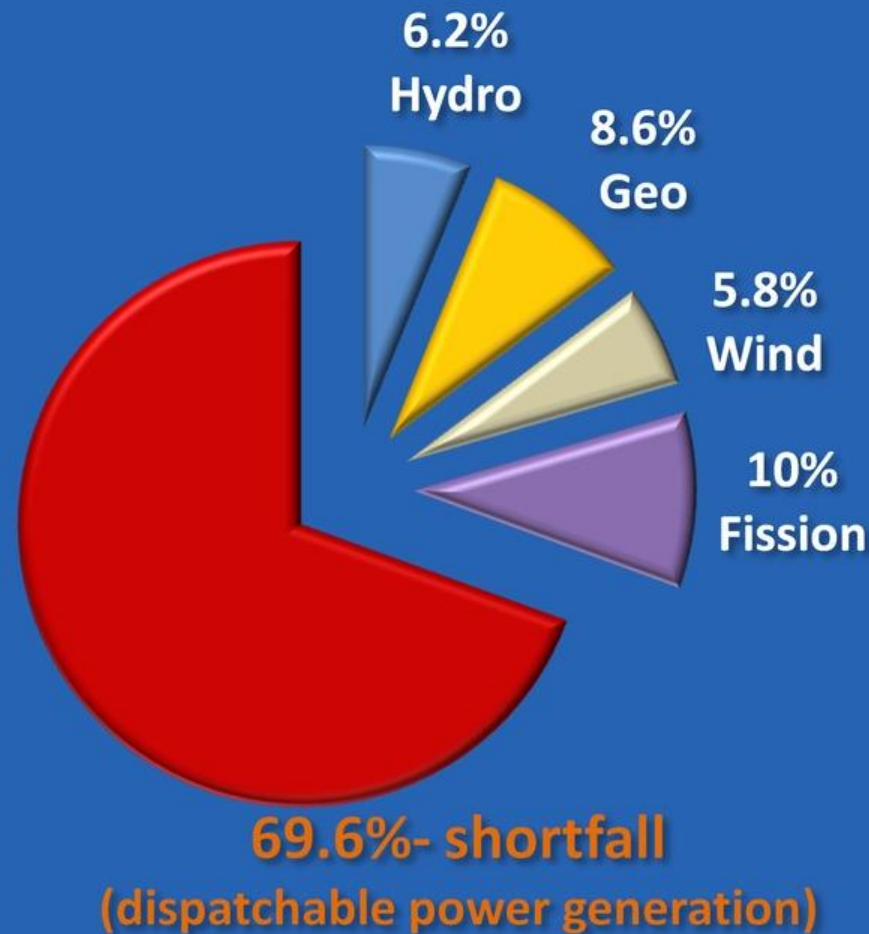
# By 2100, more U.S. energy will need to be provided by sustainable energy





# U.S. sustainable, dispatchable electrical generation capacity will fall well short of 2100 needs without SSP

- About 1,100 GW today
  - 3.5 kW per capita
- About 1,750 GW needed by 2100
  - 3.1 kW per capita
- Only about 30% of 2100 need can be met
  - **0.9 kW per capita**



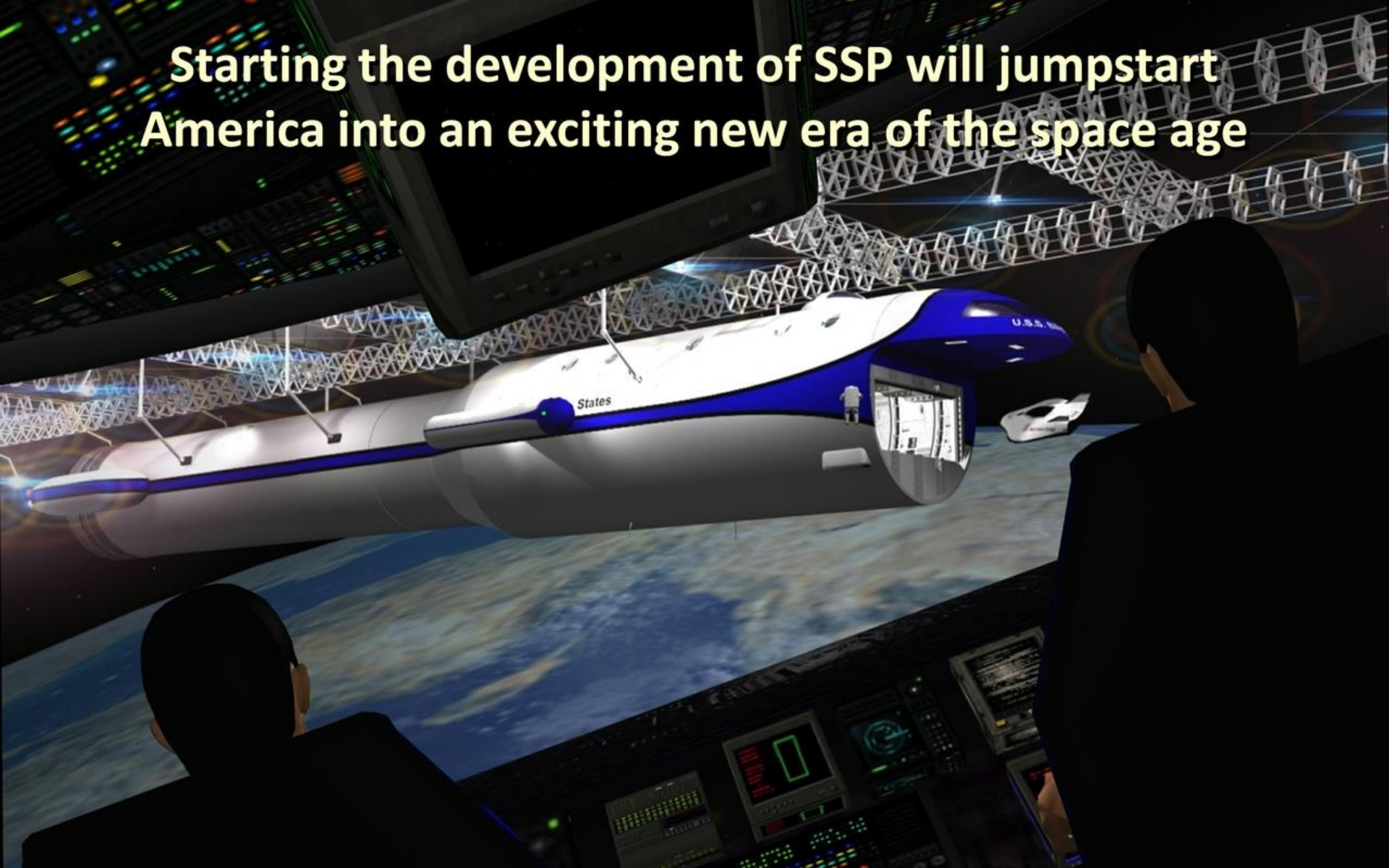


**Space solar power is today's  
"engineering-ready" new sustainable energy source**





**Starting the development of SSP will jumpstart  
America into an exciting new era of the space age**





# The End of Easy Energy and What to Do About It

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November 19, 2008

## *Abstract*

*Easy energy refers to the current oil, coal, and natural gas energy sources that provide about 86% of the U.S.'s and the world's energy. An increasing average world per capita demand for easy energy combined with a growing U.S. and world population will exhaust recoverable resources of easy energy this century, probably within the lifetime of today's young children. Current*