

Freedom From Oil Campaign

America is Addicted to Oil

The *Freedom from Oil Campaign* is working to end America's oil addiction, stop oil wars, and slow climate change by convincing the entire auto industry to dramatically improve fuel efficiency and eliminate vehicle greenhouse gas emissions.



The Freedom from Oil Campaign, formerly known as Jumpstart Ford, is pushing for one of the Big Six automakers (Ford, GM, DaimlerChrysler, Toyota, Honda and Nissan) to commit to being a leader in fuel economy and greenhouse gas reduction by 2010.

While the problem is complex, the solution is strikingly simple: if the auto industry embraced fuel efficiency, we would break our oil addiction and curb our greenhouse gas emissions. The Ruckus Society, Global Exchange, and Rainforest Action Network have joined together to eliminate the auto industry's addiction to oil.



The Road to Recovery

Increase Fuel Efficiency. *A fuel efficient auto industry will save us money at the pump, create jobs, and help reverse climate change.* Polling shows that consumers want fuel efficient vehicles,

The Auto Industry Problem

- The United States is responsible for 25% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and yet has only 5% of the world's population.
- Since mid-2000, Detroit has lost 336,000 jobs, and it will likely lose another 100,000 in the next two years.
- The top 3 U.S. automakers are responsible for more CO₂ emissions than all but 4 countries (U.S., China, Japan and Russia).
- The US is populated by 220 million automobiles; each vehicle generates 50 to 100 tons of carbon in its lifetime.
- Americans use more oil per person than any other developed nation on Earth.
- 70% of America's oil comes from conflict regions with 40 percent coming directly from undemocratic countries in the Middle East.

and the technology exists to make mass production a reality. Yet, after 30 years of efforts to increase fuel efficiency standards, the average US car guzzles more gas today than it did in the Reagan years.

A fuel economy of 40 mpg would:

- Save consumers \$23 billion annually at the gas pump.
- Eliminate 1 billion tons of global warming pollution annually and save consumers between \$3000 and \$5000 over the life of a vehicle.
- Save us more than 4 million barrels of oil per day – more than the combined amount of oil from the Persian Gulf and the Arctic Refuge.

All of this is achievable by using existing technologies to improve conventional gasoline vehicles. **One of the automakers must step forward**, apply these technologies, and demonstrate true environmental leadership.



Stop the Legislative War. *The auto industry must stop waging legislative war against the peoples' rights to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Car companies have spent billions of dollars on "greenwashing" PR campaigns convincing the public they are committed to producing clean vehicles, yet they are suing California and ten other states to prevent the regulation of pollution from tailpipes. The public has a right to cost-effective technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a healthier environment. It's time for the auto industry to stop blocking progress and start supporting efforts to defend public health.*

fuel efficiency to just 40 mpg, they could create more than 40,000 new jobs in the auto industry alone and more than 160,000 throughout the country. By producing more fuel-efficient cars we can not only maintain existing jobs, but create more of them.



Breaking Our Oil Addiction

There is no silver bullet in breaking our addiction to oil, but here is a good place to start:

Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV) can get more than 100 miles per gallon and drive up to 40 miles without consuming a single drop of oil. A PHEV is like a conventional hybrid car, such as the Toyota Prius, but it has a more powerful battery and a simple electric plug that can be plugged into a standard electrical outlet to charge the vehicle's battery. With GM and other automakers supporting these eco-prototypes, we must ensure that they will actually put these cars in production. If we simultaneously work to green the grid, these vehicles can curb our addiction. Learn more www.pluginpartners.org

What You Can Do

- Pass a Greenfleets Resolution on Campus, Adopt-a-Car Dealer, organize an Oil Addicts Anonymous meeting, or take action at Auto Shows. For more action ideas go to: www.freedomfromoil.com.
- Join the Oil Enforcement Agency at www.oilenforcementagency.com
- Sign the **Plug-in partners** community petition on-line and place a soft-order for your own PHEV at: www.pluginpartners.org
- Help bridge efforts to stop the war and halt climate change: www.NoWarNoWarming.org

For more information contact@freedomfromoil.org; 415-558-9490 or 415-659-0515.



Green-Labor Solidarity. *The US auto industry is hemorrhaging jobs that could be saved by building fuel efficient cars. While the Big Three struggles to sell SUV's and other gas guzzlers, auto factories are closing and workers are being asked to take buyouts. Detroit alone has lost 336,000 jobs since 2000 and Ford, GM and Diamler-Chrylser are estimated to lose another 100,000 jobs in the next two years.*

"Clearly, the entire industry could build nothing but zero emissions cars today if it wanted to."

-Niel Golightly, Ex-Ford Director of Environmental Strategies, USA Today
September 2, 2004

Job loss is impacting the health of our families and communities. If automakers were to increase

