



Heinberg: Middle East at a Crossroads

Posted by [Prof. Goose](#) on August 4, 2006 - 7:07pm

Topic: [Supply/Production](#)

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Rich Heinberg has an interesting piece that should be brought to the attention of TOD. [Here is the link to it at The Energy Bulletin](#). Worth reading.

The [Middle East] situation clearly requires comment [and integration], as it has enormous implications both for the world as a whole and for the small but growing community of people involved in preparations for Peak Oil. Mainstream reporting seems to miss much of the context of events and, when discussing the Middle East, the geopolitical struggle for control of energy resources nearly always forms much of that context.

[...]

At the ASPO conference a well-connected industry insider who wishes not to be directly quoted told me that his own sources inside Saudi Arabia insist that production from Ghawar is now down to less than three million barrels per day, and that the Saudis are maintaining total production at only slowly dwindling levels by producing other fields at maximum rates. This, if true, would be a bombshell: most estimates give production from Ghawar at 5.5 Mb/d.



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