

John W. Hickenlooper
MAYOR



City and County of Denver

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY AND COUNTY BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO • 80202-5390
TELEPHONE: 720-865-9000 • FAX: 720-865-9040
TTY/TTD: 720-865-9010

August 29, 2005

Dear Friend:

On November 10-11, 2005, the City of Denver will be co-hosting a high-level conference to discuss the global challenge of, and intelligent local responses to, a potential peak in world oil production. Our partner in this conference is ASPO-USA (the Association for the Study of Peak Oil).

As described in the *New York Times* Sunday magazine cover story on August 21, many credible geologists, scientists and analysts project that worldwide oil production will peak and subsequently decline sometime during the next 10 to 15 years. Thereafter oil would be available, but in declining amounts.

As you may know, I started my career as a petroleum geologist. In my much more recent role as Mayor of Denver, I have spoken with a number of national experts based in Denver, including Tom Petrie of Petrie Parkman and Peter Dea of Western Gas Resources, about this projection and have concluded that it warrants more in-depth understanding and consideration in terms of possible impacts on the city's economic health and future. An authoritative report funded by the U.S. Department of Energy speaks of significant economic risk tied to a possible peaking of world oil production. Given the potentially powerful financial impact on the Denver area, we will need proactive responses and we'll need them soon.

My job is to balance our budget today and to chart a future direction that preserves positive choices for tomorrow's leaders and residents. Many of the policy decisions we make today will not only affect the City's fuel tab, but the fuel consumption of our local businesses and residents as well. All municipalities will be affected by Peak Oil.

We are co-hosting the Denver World Oil Forum because we believe that deliberation and action now will not only smooth the path ahead but also create compelling new choices and opportunities for Denver. We invite you as a leader in this community to join with me.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either the director of my Sustainable Development Initiative, Beth Conover, at 720-865- 5429 or ASPO-USA's conference co-chair Steve Andrews at 303-759-1998 or sbandrews@att.net. More logistical details about the Forum, other hosts, the agenda and registration can be found at www.aspo-usa.org.

Thanks for your consideration. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John W. Hickenlooper".

John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor