

Peak Oil

40 Years at 2% Growth

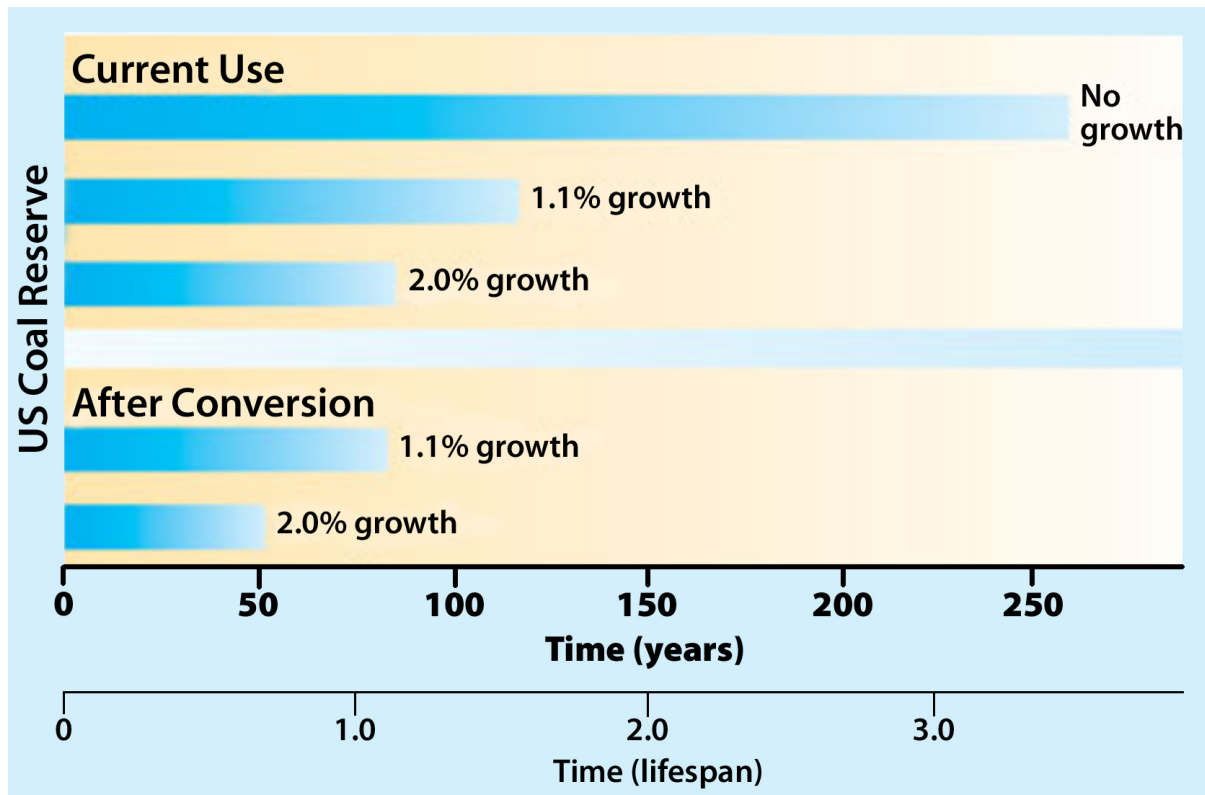


Figure 4.

Outlook for the longevity of the US coal supply, based on the current consumption rate and a range of anticipated annual growth rates—up to a 2% increase in demand per year. The two lowest bars indicate the longevity of the coal supply if coal is converted to other fuels. Experts estimate that roughly 54% of the reserve underground—comprising anthracite, bituminous, subbituminous, and lignite rock—is recoverable.

(Data from ref. 2, Annual Energy Review 1999.)