

## Why are we demonstrating?

“In this past year, American servicemen and women - and Iraqi soldiers and civilians - gave their lives in part to feed U.S. addiction to oil. If we, the American public and global citizens, don't address the causes, no one will.”

### we recognize that:

- Oil addiction compromises global security.
- Oil addiction necessitates oil wars.
- Oil addiction causes pollution and harmful diseases.
- Oil addiction promotes global warming.
- Oil addiction leads to human rights abuses and environmental destruction in oil-rich nations, and across the globe.
- Gas-guzzlers are often unsafe vehicles.
- Ford has the immediate know-how to make a vehicle that gets at least 40 MPG, but won't institute these improvements.
- Private vehicles are the single largest contributor to oil addiction, guzzling 40 percent of oil consumed by the United States. The single biggest step away from oil addiction is for the automobile industry to begin producing cleaner, more efficient cars.
- Democracy is threatened when extremely powerful industries buy access to Congress (or simply buy government) and craft regulations in their favor. The automobile industry, along with oil and weapons manufacturers drive our policy more and more with citizens and consumers shut out.
- Ford has tried to place the blame on the consumers by saying we choose to drive polluting vehicles. The fact is, Ford fails to give consumers a real choice by refusing to produce clean cars. Ford currently has the technology to make cleaner vehicles-including SUVs-that get better gas mileage. All they need is the will to innovate

### Why target Ford?

- Ford cars are on average the worst global warming polluters in the industry.
- Ford vehicles are responsible for approximately 9% of America's oil consumption, an amount equal to Italy's total oil use.
- Ford's vehicles, along with those of other American automakers, get fewer miles per gallon than they did 20 years ago.
- In April 2003, Ford broke its promise to America to increase SUV fuel-efficiency by 25 percent by 2005.
- Ford lobbies Congress to relax clean air standards and tries to derail citizen initiatives toward cleaner technologies.
- As Americans, we make up just five percent of the world's population, yet we consume (and pollute with) one quarter of the world's oil. As Americans, we do not want to hold this dubious distinction.

### Who organized this action?

- Locally the group Longmont Citizens for Justice and Democracy ([www.longmontcitizens.org](http://www.longmontcitizens.org)), in conjunction with Global Exchange, and Rainforest Action Network.

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