



Date: November 26, 2012

To: Interested Parties

From: Mark Mehringer, Peak Campaigns

Re: Results from a poll of 801 Duke Energy Ratepayers in Indiana

According to our recent poll in Indiana, Duke Energy ratepayers clearly oppose paying for cost overruns at the Edwardsport coal gasification plant. In contrast, ratepayers express strong support for expanding the use of renewable energy sources, including solar and wind energy, in Indiana, and they want Indiana utility companies to invest more in wind power.

- **Initially, nearly two-thirds of ratepayers (65%) say Duke Energy shareholders should be responsible for the cost overruns.** Only 22% agree that, instead, shareholders and customers should both be responsible for these cost overruns, while only 4% would let shareholders completely off the hook.
 - **After hearing that high-ranking officials of Duke Energy reportedly engaged in improper communications and unethical relationships with officials of the Indiana Regulatory Commission, opinion shifts as 78% of ratepayers say shareholders should be responsible for the cost overruns.** Support for sharing the costs drops to just 12%.
- **The vast majority of ratepayers (81%) support the expanded use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind energy, in Indiana,** including a majority who support it strongly (52%).
 - **By more than a two-to-one margin, ratepayers say they support phasing out some of the 20 coal-fired power plants in Indiana, and replacing them with clean, renewable energy sources** (62% support such a phase out).
 - Further, when ratepayers hear that Indiana ranks 13th in the country for installed wind capacity, and that the National Renewable Energy Laboratory says wind could provide more than four times the state's current electricity needs, three in four ratepayers (75%) say Indiana utility companies should invest more in wind power.

Public opinion polling firm Peak Campaigns conducted an opinion survey of 801 Duke Energy ratepayers in Indiana. Maximum margin of error for a random sample of 801 ratepayers is +/- 3.5%.