



State Office
603 E. Washington St., Suite 502
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Tel. (317) 205-3535
Fax (317) 205-3599

Northeast Office
2250 Lake Ave, Suite 110
Fort Wayne, IN 46805
Tel. (260) 399-1352
Fax (260) 420-8500

Turning On Citizen Power

www.citact.org

Contact your Federal Senators and Representative: Urge them to support a Renewable Electricity Standard of 50% by 2030!!!

The Situation in Indiana is Dire

96% of Indiana's electricity is generated by burning coal. Coal is becoming more and more expensive. According to the Energy Information Administration, the cost of coal itself increased by 57% in 2007 (from \$35/ton to \$55/ton) and has increased again by another 29% in 2008 (from \$55/ton to \$71/ton). Hoosiers have to pay for these increases in the form of higher rates on their electric bills. And Duke Energy customers are facing an additional 25% - 30% rate increase to pay for the new coal-gasification power plant that Duke wants to build.

Coal is making us sick. According to the Clean Air Task Force, due to the particulate matter pollution from Indiana's coal fired power plants, every year Hoosiers face 887 deaths, 1,491 heart attacks, 114 lung cancer deaths, 21,532 asthma attacks, 845 hospital admissions, 618 cases of chronic bronchitis, 1,274 asthma ER visits. 7% of women of childbearing age across the country have blood mercury levels that are higher than what the EPA considers safe to protect the developing nervous system of a fetus. According to the IU School of Medicine, Hoosiers spend \$5 million every year on health care costs directly related to the pollution coming from coal fired power plants.

Where will it end? Hoosiers, who are facing lost jobs and low wages, can barely afford to make ends meet now. So what happens when all of our energy and health care bills increase? Beyond the rate increases that we are facing right now, we know that legislation will soon be passed at the federal level forcing utilities to pay for their carbon dioxide emissions. We also know that the utilities will then want to pass those costs on to ratepayers, meaning that ratepayers all over Indiana will be hit with even more rate increases. This is especially true because Indiana's almost exclusive reliance on coal to produce electricity makes us the #1 emitter of carbon dioxide per capita in the country.

There is a better way.

It is time to begin phasing out coal and nuclear and phasing in renewables and energy efficiency. We know that energy efficiency and renewable resources (like producing electricity using wind and solar power) are far cheaper than coal and nuclear. We know that they are better for our health, and better for our environment. And we know that they create more jobs per megawatt than fossil fuels. At a time when Hoosiers are struggling with already high energy costs and unemployment, we should be looking at ways that we can stimulate the economy, create jobs, and help people to lower their utility bills. Renewables and energy efficiency will achieve all of these goals.

There is already a plan available to begin this transition. It was created by the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, and is called Carbon-Free and Nuclear-Free: A Roadmap for U.S. Energy Policy. It is available for download on their website at www.ieer.org. According to this plan, the U.S. can achieve a goal of 50% renewables by 2030.

- **71% of Midwesterners support a Five Year Moratorium on coal plants.**
(Source: A National Opinion Survey Prepared by Opinion Research Corporation, October 18, 2007.)
- **88% of U.S. citizens support a New Industrial Revolution in which coal plants are phased out and renewables and energy efficiency are phased in.**
(Source: A National Opinion Survey Prepared by Opinion Research Corporation, October, 18, 2007)
- **75% of CAC members support a Renewable Electricity Standard.**
(Source: 2007 CAC Membership Survey)
- **62% of CAC members support a slight increase in rates to pay for a comprehensive, statewide energy efficiency program.**
(Source: 2007 CAC Membership Survey)

- **If Indiana were to spend \$150 million per year for 5 years on energy efficiency programs, the savings to Hoosiers in the 5th year would be \$345 million for that year alone.**
(Source: American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy)
- **A National Renewable Electricity Standard of 15% renewables and 15% energy efficiency by 2030 would save U.S. ratepayers \$600 billion.**
(Source: American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy)
- **Cost of one Coal Gasification Plant with Carbon Controls: \$4.2 billion to \$5 billion**
(Source: Duke Energy CEO Jim Rogers)
- **Cost of Wind Farm producing the same amount of electricity: \$1.9 billion**
(Source: CAC Calculations)
- **Minimum Rate Increase faced by Duke Energy Customers from the Proposed Coal Gasification Plant in Edwardsport: 25% to 30%**
(Source: Duke Energy)

Wind Farm:

Benton County, Indiana*

The Fowler Ridge Wind Farm in Benton County, Indiana will be the largest wind farm in the country when it is completed.

- It will generate 740 megawatts of electricity
- The Request for Proposal to build the farm was put out in September, 2007. By the end of 2008, it will be generating 400 megawatts, and by April, 2009, it will be at it's full 740 megawatt capacity.
- The entire project will be completed in less than 24 months
- It will cost approximately \$1.1 billion to construct.

During construction, it will:

- Generate about \$12 million per year in property tax revenue to the local economy;
- Create about 1,147 construction jobs; and
- Generate an additional \$13 million per year in other revenue to local economy.

After construction, it will:

- Create about 185 permanent jobs
- Generate about \$2 million per year in payments to land-owners; and
- Generate an additional \$15 million per year to the local economy.

*Facts taken from DOE presentations & research, and from presentation by BP Fowler Ridge project manager.

Coal-fired Power Plant:

Edwardsport, Indiana*

Duke Energy wants to build a new coal-gasification power plant in Edwardsport, Indiana.

- It will generate about 630 megawatts of electricity
- The request to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to build the plant was filed in August of 2006.
- The entire project has been in the works for 26 months, and they haven't even begun construction.
- It will cost a minimum of \$2.3 billion to construct, and Duke's own cost estimates continue to rise.
- Duke expects ratepayers to foot the bill by increasing rates at least 25%, which will rise as construction costs continue to rise.

During construction, it will:

- Generate about \$4.5 million per year in property tax revenue to the local economy; and
- Create about 850 construction jobs.
- Duke is not making any promises about additional revenue generated to the local economy.

After construction, it will:

- Create about 75 permanent jobs.
- Duke currently employs 37 people at the Edwardsport plant. They are not making any promises about keeping those people employed.

*Facts taken from Duke website , and from Duke testimony before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

Take Action - What You Do Will Make a Huge Difference!!

Our best chance to move Indiana in the right direction will come at the federal level. President-Elect Barack Obama has stated over and over again that he wants to develop green jobs, and that he wants to do that by implementing an energy policy focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy. He has also stated that he needs our help to do this. He needs us to stay involved in the conversation in Washington and to keep in touch with him and with our U.S. Representatives and Senators.

Write letters or e-mails to President-Elect Obama, your U.S. Senators, and your U.S. Representative! Urge them to:

- Support public policies that will protect our health, our environment, and boost our economy;
- Support a 5-year moratorium on coal-fired and nuclear power plants;
- Support a comprehensive energy efficiency program that allows ratepayers to keep most of the savings; and
- Support a Renewable Electricity Standard of 50% by 2030.

Write a letter to editor of your local newspaper!

Make this debate public! Continuing down the path of building more coal-fired power plants doesn't make sense because it continues to jeopardize our health, our economy, and our environment. There are cheaper, cleaner, and healthier ways to produce and save electricity. If policy makers truly believe in addressing our economic crisis as they say, they will stop pursuing coal-fired and nuclear power plants and start pursuing energy efficiency and renewable electricity options such as wind and solar.

Letters to the Editor

For a list of local Indiana papers, visit <http://newslink.org/innews.html>

President-Elect Obama

451 6th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 540-3000 (then press "2")
www.change.gov

Rep.

United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515
House Switchboard: (202) 224-3121
www.house.gov/writerep/

Senator Bayh

131 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5623
www.bayh.senate.gov

Senator Lugar

306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1401
(202) 224-4814
senator_lugar@lugar.senate.gov