

Stop the proposed AMP-Ohio coal plant

American Municipal Power (AMP) has proposed to build a new 1000 Megawatt coal-fired power plant in Southeastern Ohio in Meigs County. They call it a "clean coal" plant, but there is nothing clean about it. This is an old-fashioned pulverized coal burning plant, like the ones responsible for the asthma, emphysema and heart disease so many Ohioans already suffer from.

There is no set price for the plant. The original estimated price tag for this plant was \$1.2 billion. AMP released new numbers in November, 2008 with estimates projected for at least \$3.3 billion, plus financing.

Around the country, costs of construction and coal are skyrocketing, and no one knows how high the cost of financing will be due to the credit crisis. This is a very bad time to lock Ohio into an old polluting coal-fired power plant with skyrocketing costs.

At least 38 coal plants have been scrapped across the country in the past two years. AMP can reconsider and choose not to build this plant, and instead invest in better alternatives.

Coal-fired plants harm public health

Coal plants are a dirty business. The pollution can cause respiratory problems, especially for children, people with asthma, elderly and outdoor workers. Fine particles can penetrate deeply into the lungs. Both sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides also help cause acid rain, which may be carried hundreds of miles by the wind, damaging forests, corroding buildings, and killing fish in lakes and streams along the way. Mercury can cause severe neurological and developmental injuries to humans especially infants and children, as well as wildlife.

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Pollution knows no boundaries

AMP already admits the new plant would put out 20 million pounds of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide combined each year. They didn't even consider all of the pollution control options available when applying for the permit to build the plant. Neighbors in Meigs County already suffer health prob-

lems from pollution at four other neighboring coal-fired power plants. Since pollution knows no boundaries, this proposed coal-fired power plant would pollute air and water in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and many other surrounding states.

AMP plans to use mountaintop removal coal



AMP is planning on using coal from Central Appalachia, which arrives in Ohio as a mixture of mountaintop removal coal and underground coal. Mountaintop removal is a radical form of coal mining where entire mountains are literally blown up — devas-

tating communities throughout Appalachia, polluting drinking water and destroying rivers. Coal companies have already destroyed 470 Appalachian mountaintops, and they're just getting started.

Please write AMP's Board of Directors

Urge them to drop plans to build this coal-fired power plant

Letters are best when written in your own words. Here are a few points to get you started:

- In this uncertain time of economic and credit crisis in the U.S., it would be better to cancel plans to build a coal-fired power plant and consider other alternatives.
- Communities shouldn't be locked into a 50-year contract for old, dirty coal technology.
- Please write me back and tell me plans you have to cancel this proposed coal plant and what alternatives you are considering instead.

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*Please tape your letter to your door by 8pm.
Any postage you can contribute is much
appreciated. Thank you!*