



Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis

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Executive Director

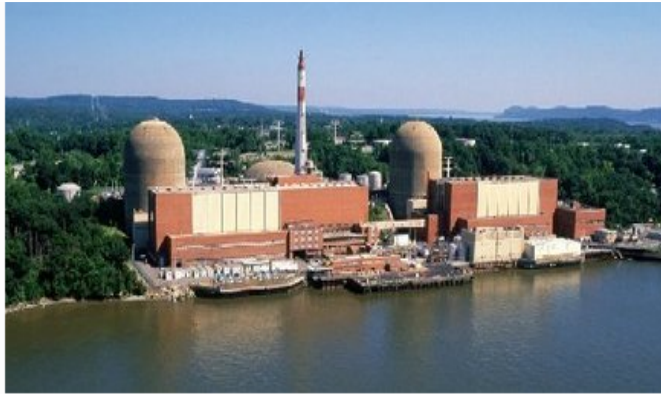
July 2010



Social Concerns: Nuclear, Coal, Mines

Entergy's nuclear facility denied water quality permit by New York agency

Published: Monday, April 05, 2010, 11:41 AM Updated: Monday, April 05, 2010, 11:43 AM



Courtesy Entergy Corp.

Entergy Corporation's Indian Point nuclear plant

NY State Gives Fossil Fuels Favored Treatment



[Podcast - Download Audio File Here](#)

This is a follow up to the podcast titled ["Water Wars in New York"](#) on May 27, 2010 in which I discussed how NY State is using their authority to issue Water Quality Certificates to wage war against the Indian Point Nuclear Plant. In case you missed that show, New York is holding the plant's 20 year license renewal hostage by refusing to issue a Certificate of Water Quality unless the plant agrees to install expensive cooling towers. The plant has argued that [the cost of cooling towers](#), approximately \$2 Billion, is excessive and disproportionate to the environmental benefit that would be derived. In fact, the plant has identified an alternate technology that would provide greater environmental benefits at about one-tenth of the cost of installing cooling towers. Thus far those arguments have fallen on deaf ears.

In my further research on this topic I discovered a [dampening piece of evidence](#) that proves NY State is giving preferential treatment to fossil fuels while at the same time imposing unfair regulations on neighboring nuclear energy facilities, the largest competitors to fossil fuels.

There are several other large power plants on the Hudson River that generate electricity by burning coal, oil, and natural gas. All of those plants, like Indian Point, use the Hudson River for cooling. One of the plants, the Bowline plant, is in Haverstraw, NY only about five miles across the river and downstream from Indian Point. Bowline is a two unit gas and oil fired power plant with a combined output of 1,182 MW (slightly larger than each Indian Point nuclear unit).



towers would provide the greatest reduction in fish mortality, but at a very high cost. Instead, the Bowline plant offered to use a combination of technologies that would provide 80% to 95% percent of the benefit that would be derived from the vastly more expensive cooling towers, but at 1/30th of the cost.

May 18, 2010



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SWEPCO SEEKS ARK. SUPREME COURT REHEARING FOR ULTRASUPERCRITICAL PLANT

Southwestern Electric Power Co. (SWEPCO) and the Arkansas Public Service Commission (PSC) on Tuesday asked the Arkansas Supreme Court for a rehearing, after the court had overturned a 2007 permit awarded by the PSC to the utility's 600-MW ultrasupercritical coal plant—to meet its commitments to the state. [Read More »](#)

WORLD U.S. N.Y. / REGION BUSINESS

FILE - In this file photo of Feb. 16, 2010, a permit for a new coal plant in the state.

Search Business

« EPA responds to WVDEP fill policy announcement

Kentucky gets tough on valley fill permits »

Bombshell study: MTR impacts 'pervasive and irreversible'

January 7, 2010 by Ken Ward Jr.

"Mining permits are being issued despite the preponderance of scientific evidence that impacts are pervasive and irreversible and that mitigation cannot compensate for the losses."



Veto of Mine

Community outraged at approval of Ison Rock Ridge surface coal mine permit, Appalachia, Va.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2010

EPA Vetoes 404 Permit for Arch Coal's Spruce Mine

Jane Branham, 276-679-7505
Hannah Morgan, 276-494-5686

Community is outraged at approval of Ison Rock Ridge surface coal mine permit

Vetoed Again, Sunflower Electric's Kansas Coal Plant Plans Lose Support

by Stacy Morford - Apr 14th, 2009 in [Cap on Emissions](#), [Clean Energy](#), [No More Dirty Coal](#), [Bio Business](#), [Clean Air Act](#), [Clean Tech Sector](#), [Coal](#), [Environmentalists](#), [EPA](#), [Farmers](#), [Governors](#), [Investors](#), [Kansas](#), [Sunflower](#)



Three vetoes weren't enough to make the Kansas Legislature rethink its push for building more coal-fired power plants.

Now lawmakers have a fourth veto to chew on – plus an imminent ruling from Washington that a key co-interest.

In Washington greenhouse gas

the state legisl

A and the oth



Updated: 11:18 AM May 19, 2010

UPDATE: Hundreds Pack EPA Mining Permit Hearing to Speak Out



Social Concerns: Natural Gas, Water, Habitats

DENVER AND THE WEST

Drilling process causes water supply alarm

By Abrahm Lustgarten
ProPublica

The Associated Press
Friday, June 11, 2010; 1:10 PM

CHARLESTON, W.Va. --

Wyoming regulators approve

By Mead Gruver, AP



Does Natural-Gas Drilling Endanger Water Supplies?

A debate is heating up over whether the fracturing technique used in natural-gas drilling could result in chemicals contaminating drinking water

By Abrahm Lustgarten



Natural Gas: Not as clean as you think

EPA's study of gas drilling in Wyoming could impact operations

BY TOM WILBER • TWILBER@GANNETT.COM • SEPTEMBER 13, 2009, 10:40 PM

Impacts on drinking water

Impacts on wildlife and habitats

on water

f Network News

f Like

impacts that natural gas drilling has on wildlife and habitats should also not be considered "clean." As can be seen in the photo of the Jonah Natural Gas Field on BLM lands in



June 8th, 2010

disclose 'fracking' chemicals

disclosure rules

agency that oversees [oil and gas development](#) voted Tuesday to require energy companies to disclose what [chemicals](#) improve the flow of oil and gas into well bores.
Tuesday, June 15, 2010; 9:13 PM

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Buried Secrets: Is Natural Gas Drilling Endangering U.S. Water Supplies?

by Abrahm Lustgarten, ProPublica - November 13, 2008 2:00 pm EDT

Nov. 19: This post has been [corrected](#).



Lisa Bracken of Silt, Colo., worries about the water she draws from Divide Creek Jamie Krijke



A drill rig near the town of Pinedale, Wyo. (Credit: Abrahm Lustgarten/ProPublica)

Social Concerns: Solar, Hydro, Wind

Solar showdown in tortoises' home

Activists like renewable power, but not on that Mojave spot



An endangered desert tortoise sits in the middle of a dirt road at the proposed location of a solar-energy park in California's eastern Mojave Desert.



AP Associated Press
updated 12:40 p.m. MT, Fri., Jan. 1, 2010

by JEFF BRADY

Airspace Issues in Wind Turbine Siting

Wind turbine projects need to clear many hurdles before they can proceed to construction. One of the most important milestones in any wind project is securing a determination from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that the project does not adversely affect air traffic or radar systems. This can be a complicated and uncertain process, and many projects have run into unexpected delays. The primer below explains how to anticipate and avoid some of these conflicts, and how the FAA review process works. Several case examples are presented.



Enlarge
The Sierra SunTower facility utilizes 24,000 mirrors to harness solar energy. It covers 20 acres of ground. Some environmentalists have raised concerns about the Obama administration's plan to build new solar facilities because of the land and water requirements.



Listening to Wind Farm Noise Concerns

by Jim Cummings, Acoustic Ecology Institute
Published: March 29, 2010

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ell | Apr 13 2010

Solar Power Plant Construction Endangered Squir



ry Desert, California) The unexpected discovery of

guardian.co.uk

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Environment > Flooding

Brazil to build controversial Belo Monte hydroelectric dam in Amazon rainforest

Environmentalists and tribal leaders oppose massive flooding, while Brazil minister states 'not a single Indian will be displaced'

Tom Phillips
guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 2 February 2010 16:22 GMT
Article history



Social Friction

by Stephen Lee, Editor



Climate | Science Pollution control dam ifful?

PROFILE



THE TIMES | THE SUNDAY TIMES | TIMES+

THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES

Archive Article | Please enjoy this article from The Times & The Sunday Times archives.

From The Times
August 26, 2006

Wind farms cause thousands of bats to die from trauma

Mark Henderson, Science Editor

Wind turbines pose a far more serious risk to bats than birds because their blades cause air pressure imbalances that can inflict fatal trauma.

A six-week study at two wind farms in the eastern United States recorded 1,764 and 2,900 bat fatalities. Another American project found that bat deaths outnumbered bird deaths in Montana by two to one. Though death rates in Europe are generally lower than this, extensive bat casualties have been reported in Britain.

Birds die when they are struck by turning blades, but bats use echolocation to evade this danger. However, higher risk than birds of barotrauma — a cor sudden drops in air pressure. In May Natura government agency responsible for wildlife p acknowledged increasing concern about the on bat populations, and called for more rese level of risk.

In mainland Europe, noctules, common pipit Nathusius's pipistrelles are most commonly casualties of wind farms.



Wildlife Rulings Challenge Wind Farms

by Marsha Johnston, Contributor
Published: May 5, 2010

Washington, DC, United States -- Two recent high-profile decisions on wind development and wildlife mean that developers looking to develop wind farms on sites considered endangered bat territory in the Eastern United States

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n Energy?
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