

(Current Date Here)

The Honorable (insert Senator's or Representative's name)

Washington, DC

Subject: Repealing/Abolishing New Source Review so that "Old Coal Plants" could be Upgraded for additional capacity and efficiency

Dear (Sir or Madam),

I am writing to urge you to vote for repealing/abolishing New Source Review. I will enumerate my reasons why I suggest this below.

In the electric power industry the terms "Upgrade" or "Uprate" have been frowned upon for fear of triggering NSR (New Source Review). Most of the old coal plants have pollution control devices to control the major pollutants from coal plant emissions, making them now "Clean Coal Plants". With the economy needing a boost, this is an opportune time to repeal this restriction. Good for America's Industry and good for the American people.

Known in the industry to be absurd and counterproductive, now is the time to get rid of NSR. Once removed as an obstacle to plant "Upgrades" most of the existing fleet of coal plants could be uprated and upgraded for increased reliability, capacity, efficiency, reduced carbon dioxide emissions and reduced power production costs. All of these goals are possible if "upgrading" the existing 335,000 MW USA coal fleet was made possible. In my observations, at least 5% in capacity and 5% in efficiency improvement is attainable, if the New Source Review law were rescinded. By upgrading old coal power plants, including coal pulverizers and other auxiliaries, fuels flexibility could further reduce production costs. I sincerely believe this is possible and possible at far less investments cost than the cost of any form of new generation.

The approximate published costs of new generating capacity is in the range of \$3,000/kWh for new clean coal plants, \$3,300/kW (or higher?) for new nuclear plants, \$3,750/kW for Bio-Mass plants, between \$6,000 - \$10,000 for solar and wind. Upgrading of the existing coal fleet for significant gains can be done for less cost than any other new capacity increases. This would provide jobs for American workers and business for American companies.

Just to make the point of "how right" this is, consider this: If 17,000 MW of old coal power generation efficiency were made possible, the changes that make the efficiency possible would be carbon free and would be equal to the total installed wind generation up to Dec. 2007. Better yet, coal power generation, unlike wind or solar, is "base load" and can generate at a predictable and high load factor. Renewables are good to do where practical. I think applying upgrades to the existing fleet is also practical and a good thing for America. This, in my opinion, is a matter of both National Security and Economic Importance. We need more energy from American fuel sources and less energy from overseas.

According to all experts, including the DOE, EIA and EPRI, America will depend on coal for decades to come. Reasonable cost electricity from domestic fuels is needed to save what is left of America's industrial manufacturing base. New nuclear power plants will take a decade or more to come on line and natural gas is likely to pressure prices up as the economy recovers. Coal is the most cost effective fuel in America for electricity production. We need more of it and we need new capacity soon. (the EIA says a 30% increase in electricity capacity is needed by 2030). Upgrading the existing plants is the low hanging fruit.

Please give these matters serious thought as I believe the future of our country depends on the decisions you make today as our elected representative. I ask that you do the research and understand these issues from an objective point of view as you make these important decisions for our country.

Thank you for the time you took to read my letter and thank you for your interest in these important issues.

Sincerely,

(your name here)