

## Clean Coal Counterplan

Story: The move to renewable energies is a mistake. Energy producers are on the brink of making power from coal without producing any greenhouse gases. Moving research money and philosophical emphasis to clean coal solves global warming faster, and cheaper than plan.

Shell.....	Pg. 2
Solvency Extensions – Clean Coal on the Brink.....	Pg. 4
Solvency Extensions – India and China will follow.....	Pg. 5
Net-Benefits Extensions - Kyoto.....	Pg. 6
Net-Benefits Extensions/Inherency Takeout.....	Pg. 7

## Clean Coal Counterplan

A. Plan text – The United States should encourage the use of cleaner coal-based technologies around the world through the following planks:

Plank 1 – The U.S. State Department will attempt to persuade more countries in the world to become signatories of the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate.

Plank 2 – The United States will give \$500 million in tax incentives to coal producing businesses who invest in cleaner coal technologies.

Plank 3 – Funding for the tax incentives will come the Department of Defense's budget, which was just over \$400 billion last year. This loss would equal .00125% of the defense budget.

B. Non-topicality – The counterplan advocates a non-renewable energy, namely fossil fuels, which violates the resolution.

C. Competitiveness – The counterplan will solve for the same harms as the affirmative.

D. Mutual Exclusivity –

1. Every dollar the Affirmative spends is one less dollar that can be spent on clean coal technologies.

2. The Affirmative entrenches the philosophy that governments must intercede to support renewable energies, counterplan has the opposite philosophy that governments should not intercede to support renewable energies, but should instead support cleaner versions of current technology.

## E. Net Benefits –

### **Clean Coal technology is cheaper and will produce no Greenhouse gas**

Swope, 2006 (Governing Magazine, “The Clean-Coal Contest”, Feature pg. 63, Christopher Swope, from L/N)

A coal-fired power plant is not the sort of enterprise that states typically fight each other to get. But FutureGen, a \$1 billion clean-coal demonstration project, is no ordinary power plant. When it opens in 2012, it will be the world's first coal plant to spew no toxic emissions or greenhouse gases into the air.

Seven states competed for the right to host FutureGen, offering the project--a joint effort between the federal government and a consortium of energy companies--millions of dollars in incentives. In July, the list was narrowed to two finalists: Illinois and Texas. The states aren't just looking to land 1,300 construction jobs and another 150 or so to run the plant; they want FutureGen to anchor a whole industry of research and development based on using coal cleanly.

With energy prices soaring, coal has been enjoying a comeback lately. It's cheap, and there's enough of it in the ground to power the U.S. economy for hundreds of years. FutureGen will experiment with "gasifying" coal to produce electricity, rather than simply burning it. The plant will also try capturing carbon dioxide, global warming's primary culprit, and pumping it underground. Potential sites in Illinois and Texas are undergoing an environmental-impact review; a final choice is expected by this time next year.

## Solvency Extensions

### **Clean Coal technology on the brink of existence**

Rocky Mountain Construction, 2006 (“Xcel Commits To Clean Coal Plant”, September 25, 2006, DEPARTMENTS; Industry News; Pg. 12, Staff Authored, from L/N)

Denver- Xcel Energy has committed \$3.5 million through 2007 toward development of Colorado's first clean-coal power plant. The money will fund engineering studies and other project development activities for the proposed 300-megawatt to 350-megawatt power plant.

Like the expansion of the coal-fired Comanche generating plant at Pueblo, Excel wants to build and own the clean-coal plant itself rather than having an independent power producer built it and sell the energy to the utility. The plant will likely cost between \$500 million and \$1 billion, depending on size, location and required infrastructure such as transmission lines, as well as the actual technology employed.

At present, the utility plans to use integrated gasification combined cycle technology (IGCC), which employs a chemical process to turn coal into a gas that is burned in a modified combustion turbine to generate electricity.

Xcel plans to file an application with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission in the fall of 2007 to build the plant, and construction could begin as early as 2009, with the project completed around 2013.

## Solvency Extensions

### **China and India will follow Clean Coal Technologies**

The Australian, 2005 (July 29, 2005, "Emissions pact 'fairer than Kyoto'", Local pg. 003, from Newspaper Source)

But Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane said the focus would be on perfecting ``clean coal" technologies such as geosequestration, in which carbons are captured and buried underground.

Mr Macfarlane said it was significant that Japan had decided to join the new technology-based alliance.

``Japan is now spreading its options in terms of its role in global greenhouse reduction," he said.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned world temperatures could rise by 1.4C to 5.8C by 2100.

US president George W Bush said the partnership would aim to address global warming while promoting economic development.

Mr Downer said the pact was not intended to undermine Kyoto but to complement it. ``This is not about setting targets ... technology is going to be central to resolving the climate change issue," he said.

``Given time, with this approach countries like China and India will adopt newer and cleaner technologies."

Opposition environment spokesman Anthony Albanese said the pact would deliver nothing new, as countries were already embarking on agreements to share gas-reducing technologies.

## Net Benefits Extensions - Kyoto

### **Kyoto Protocol only asks for a 5% reduction by 2012**

The Australian, 2005 (July 29, 2005, "Emissions pact 'fairer than Kyoto'", Local pg. 003, from Newspaper Source)

Japan -- which hosted the 1997 Kyoto climate change conference and invested much political capital in the deal to see the industrialised world cut greenhouse emissions by 5per cent by 2012 -- joined the other Asian powers South Korea, China and India in the new agreement.

### **China and India don't have to follow Kyoto**

The Australian, 2005 (July 29, 2005, "Emissions pact 'fairer than Kyoto'", Local pg. 003, from Newspaper Source)

China and India are also signatories to Kyoto, but as developing nations were not required to set a greenhouse reduction target despite their industrial potential -- a significant factor in the US and Australia's decision not to ratify the agreement.

## Net Benefits Extensions/Inherency Takeout

### **Renewable Energies Will Become Popular Without Plan**

Hamilton, 2006 (Toronto Star, Aug. 21, 2006, "Mainstream capital for alternative energy: Greening the machine", Business pg. D01, Tyler Hamilton, from Newspaper Source)

"It used to be when you thought about environmental or sustainability issues, it was just a good thing to do," she says. "But people are realizing we can make money and do these things, and we don't have to leave our personal values at home. This is part of business - good business."

She points to companies such as Wal-Mart and General Electric who are embracing so-called clean technologies to improve the efficiency of their operations, reduce their environmental impact, and capture any associated feel-good marketing benefits. "Green is almost sexy now," says Bansal.

There's no shortage of evidence to prove it. In Canada, 18 per cent of all venture capital and private equity investments in the second quarter went to companies focused on alternative energy, environmental and other emerging technologies. It's a huge jump, triple the percentage recorded for all of last year.

Factor in the United States, and investment in clean technology companies soared to \$843 million (U.S.) in the second quarter, up 129 per cent from the same time last year, according to the Cleantech Venture Network. After investment in software and biotechnology, clean technology attracted the highest amount of early-stage funding - even surpassing investments in telecommunications and medical technologies.

Much of that money is flowing into start-ups trying to develop more efficient solar cells, cheaper wind turbines, alternatives to oil such as ethanol and biodiesel, new processes for turning garbage into energy, better batteries, and cleaner ways of using conventional fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas.