



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

NATIONAL COAL CAMPAIGN

November 15, 2007

STATE OF THE CAMPAIGN

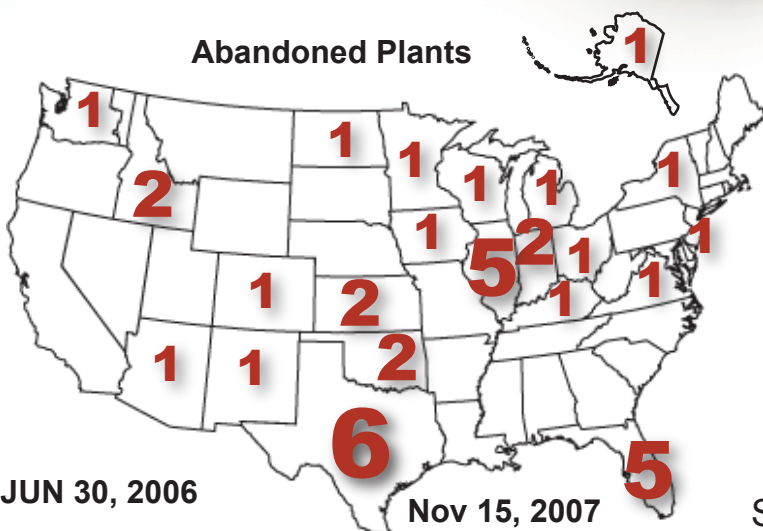
In a watershed decision three weeks ago, officials in Kansas denied the permits for the nation's largest proposed coal-fire power plant. Led by Governor Kathleen Sebelius, the state cited carbon emissions and global warming as its main impetus for the decision. Encouraged as I am by the decision, the challenge now is to leverage our early successes and create an environment where antiquated coal power solutions are no longer a viable option. Our state-specific campaign is poised to register more of these victories by year's end and continue to lead towards a future of smart energy solutions.

As 2007 comes to a close, we are expanding our efforts in new battleground states. There are significant opportunities to change the course of Michigan's energy future, shift the debate in Nevada, and protect the natural resources in eastern Kentucky. The future is bleak for big coal.

Bruce Nilles
Campaign Director

THE SCORECARD

Abandoned Plants



JUN 30, 2006

92 - In the Pipeline
27 - Permitting Stages
14 - Being Constructed
19 - Abandoned

Nov 15, 2007

73 - In the Pipeline
21 - Permitting Stages
24 - Being Constructed
39 - Abandoned

Campaign Finances

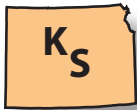
2008 Budget **\$10 Million**

Commitments
as of November 15
\$7 Million

Since Oct. 15, 2007...

... **3** major coal-fired power plant projects have been abandoned.

THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL Recent News and Accomplishments



Holcomb, KS

On October 18, regulators in Kansas denied the air permit for a massive coal power plant expansion. Sunflower Electric Power Cooperative planned to build two matching 700 MW coal-fire facilities, contributing 10 million tons of CO2 to the air annually and becoming one of the nation's single largest sources of gasses that contribute to climate change. Only 120 of the proposed 1400 MW were bound for homes and businesses in Kansas and the denial positions the state in an advantageous position to develop wind power.

The Sierra Club led by filing two separate lawsuits, organizing its Kansas Chapter into action at the local level, and demanding that authorities consider the environmental implications of proposed plant expansion. The first of the lawsuits, filed in April against the Kansas State Dept. of Health and Environment, disputed the State's decision to deny a public hearing regarding the permit granted to the plant and was resolved with this recent decision. The second suit, filed October 16, accuses the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture for approving the plant at the national level without first preparing an environmental impact statement or examining the alternatives to the project.



Palmer, AK

adn.com
Anchorage Daily News

MEA to shelve coal plan for at least five years

By RINDI WHITE, November 10, 2007

WASILLA -- Matanuska Electric Association is shelving plans to build a coal-fired power plant south of Palmer, citing "anti-local-power sentiments" held by local elected officials and a spike in costs related to building coal-fired plants.

[MEA board member David Dahms] blamed Friends of Mat-Su, a local pro-planning group, and The Sierra Club for organizing opposition in April to the coal-fired plant.



Hempstead County, AR

American Electric Power plans to construct a 600 MW, \$1.3 billion coal plant by the summer of 2011. Currently the plant is being fought at the Arkansas Public Service Commission (PSC) in Little Rock and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

Earlier this month, ECONorthwest, an independent consulting firm commissioned by the Sierra Club, released a report concluding that investment in energy efficiency and renewable resources would have dramatically better results for the environment and economy than an investment in coal. Renewable energy projects that use solar, wind, and biomass technologies generate approximately 2 to 10 times more jobs when compared to coal projects. For example, plans to build a wind-turbine blade facility in Little Rock were recently announced that will create more than 1,000 new jobs within five years – over 9 times the number of long-term jobs expected from the Hempstead plant. ADEQ has not announced when it expects to release its decision regarding the status of the plant's final air permit, but this report should have a significant effect on the decision.



Madison, WI

On November 7, 2007 a federal judge vindicated the Sierra Club's efforts to clean up the University of Wisconsin's outdated, dirty coal-fired power plant. The Honorable John C. Shabaz issued an order finding the University of Wisconsin and the State Department of Administration in violation of the federal Clean Air Act for the past 5 years as they rebuilt the fifty-year old Charter Street Power Plant piecemeal without notifying DNR, without obtaining the necessary permits, and without installing modern pollution controls.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Litigation in Eastern Kentucky

The Sierra Club is preparing to file a lawsuit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers if they approve a valley fill permit in the eastern part of the state.

The Corps will be in violation of the Clean Water Act if it erroneously finds that filling over two miles of streams will not cause "significant degradation" of the waterways.

Regulators Decision in AR

The Arkansas Public Service Commission (PSC) in Little Rock is scheduled to rule on the permits for Hempstead County's 600 MW facility.

We hope the new alternative energy report we commissioned from ECONorthwest will persuading regulators to follow Kansas' lead and deny American Electric Power's plant.

Public Hearings in Minnesota

In late October 2007, the Minnesota Department of Commerce issued a notice announcing the availability of the draft 'environmental impact statement' (EIS) for the proposed 1200 MW Mesaba plant.

The agency will be holding two public meetings on the draft EIS: November 27, 2007, in Taconite and November 28, 2007, in Hoyt Lakes.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE? Visit the National Coal Campaign at: www.sierraclub.org/coal

Volunteers and Field Staff - Let us know what's happening! Send your reports to Ben Avery: ben.avery@sierraclub.org - 415-977-5655