## **RT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.** *Your Solution-Oriented Environmental Services Firm*

## DUKE ENERGY DROPS NUCLEAR POWER PLAN FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

It was announced in a Saturday Wall Street Journal article that Duke Energy, one of America's most well respected utilities, has dropped a nuclear power plan for a plant in South Carolina. This is considered very significant, as this makes it clear that new nuclear power plants may no longer be constructed in the future in the United States for the foreseeable future.

There are some very simple facts that underlie this decision:

- Westinghouse, owned by Toshiba, is going through bankruptcy because nuclear power plants, with many redundant systems implemented because of safety concerns about the fundamental aspects of nuclear generation, are too expensive to construct.
- Inexpensive gas-powered power plants could undercut the cost of nuclear power plants and coalfired power plants for generations to come.
- The more that is learned about fracking and the reserves of natural gas below Pennsylvania and nearby states and in the Lower Mississippi Valley suggest that natural gas reserves will provide low cost power for generations.
- An equally important aspect from an environmental standpoint is that disposal of nuclear waste and coal-fired power plant waste will continue to increase, and for nuclear power no safe way of disposing of nuclear plant wastes long term has ever been implemented in the United States.
- From an environmental standpoint, this means the cost of nuclear power plant disposal is still not really known decades after nuclear power plants were authorized to operate in the United States.

We at RT think this is a failure of the United States' government to only license and allow facilities to operate when the "total cost" of a manufacturing process are known.

While coal-fired power can be implemented appropriately from an environmental standpoint, Obama-Era regulations on disposal of coal ash and total emissions costs through the life of a coal-fired power plant are simply not tied down at this time.

We think we are blessed with an abundance of clean natural gas, which will economically undercut any future construction of coal-fired power plants or nuclear power plants for generations to come. It is time that the economic reality of clean natural gas sinks in, because it is also true that as natural gas pipelines proliferate even the future implementation of high tension lines is called into question. If inexpensive natural gas can be used to produce power wherever natural gas-powered pipeline proliferate, what is the need for long term and distant construction of high tension lines, when inexpensive power can be produced in each major metropolitan area without the efficiency losses associated with high tension power lines?

A big plus which is not well documented or told to the public is that greenhouse gases will keep declining for every kilowatt hour produced as more and more gas-fired power plants go online.

We have a tendency in the United States to over-regulate and fall behind on environmental advantages that are produced by industry, but it is becoming clearer and clearer that clean natural gas produces a great future for America, including:

- power costs that are not extraordinary
- power production that produces little or no waste
- lower greenhouse gas emissions long term, likely for generations.

Duke Energy's decisions are the right ones, and speak greatly for the future of America. We commend Duke Energy for making the right decision, for its rate payers at the right time.

We at RT thank all of those involved in energy technology as improving our environment through natural gas production is proving to become an environmental advancement in the United States, by reducing greenhouse gasses and improving our environment through reduced disposal of energy production waste.

> Gary R. Brown, P.E. President Justin R. Lauterbach, Q.E.P. Vice President RT Environmental Services, Inc.



## **DIRECTORY**

Corporate Headquarters 215 West Church Road King of Prussia, PA 19406 Phone: (610) 265-1510 / FAX: (610) 265-0687

New Jersey Pureland Complex, Suite 306 510 Heron Drive, P.O. Box 521 Bridgeport, NJ 08014 Phone: (856) 467-2276 / FAX: (856) 467-3476

Southwest Pennsylvania 591 East Maiden Street Washington, PA 15301 Phone: (724) 206-0348 / FAX: (724) 206-0380

E-mail: RTENV@AOL.COM World Wide Web: HTTP://RTENV.COM 24 HOUR URGENT LINE SERVICE 800-725-0593

Corporate HeadquartersNew JerseySouthwest Pennsylve215 West Church Road510 Heron Drive591 East Maiden StrSuite 301P.O. Box 521Washington, PA 153King of Prussia, PA 19406Suite 306, Pureland ComplexPhone: (724) 206-03Phone: (610) 265-1510Bridgeport, NJ 08014FAX: (724) 206-03FAX: (610) 265-0687Phone: (856) 467-2276 FAX: (856) 467-3476FAX: (724) 206-03
Suite 301P.O. Box 521Washington, PA 153King of Prussia, PA 19406Suite 306, Pureland ComplexPhone: (724) 206-03Phone: (610) 265-1510Bridgeport, NJ 08014FAX: (724) 206-038FAX: (610) 265-0687Phone: (856) 467-2276 FAX:
King of Prussia, PA 19406Suite 306, Pureland ComplexPhone: (724) 206-03Phone: (610) 265-1510Bridgeport, NJ 08014FAX: (724) 206-038FAX: (610) 265-0687Phone: (856) 467-2276FAX:
Phone: (610) 265-1510 Bridgeport, NJ 08014 FAX: (724) 206-038   FAX: (610) 265-0687 Phone: (856) 467-2276 FAX:
FAX: (610) 265-0687 Phone: (856) 467-2276 FAX:
(856) 467-3476
E-mail: RTENV@AOL.COM / World Wide Web: HTTP://RTENV.COM
24 HOUR URGENT LINE SERVICE: 800-725-0593

Forward email | Update Profile | About our service provider

Sent by <a href="mailto:lcarr@rtenv.com">lcarr@rtenv.com</a>