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LEUCADIA COAL GASIFICATION SYNTHETIC NATURAL GAS PLANT

Leucadia is proposing to build a gasification plant that would produce Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG) on the southeast side of Chicago. The plant would gasify coal and petroleum coke, a toxic waste created by refining tar sands. This plant will gasify coal to produce 43.5 billion cubic feet of synthetic natural gas per year.

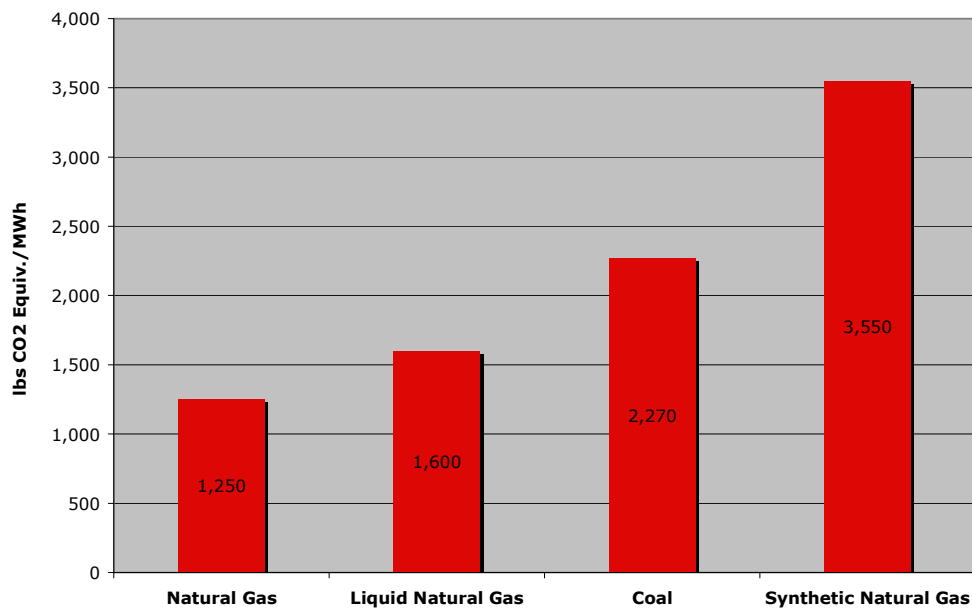
What's wrong with Synthetic Natural Gas?

Synthetic Natural Gas (SNG) is a dirty fuel being promoted as one solution to our nation's energy problems by the coal industry. However, these polluting giants fail to tell the real story.

The life cycle of SNG creates more than twice as much carbon dioxide (CO₂) as the conventional natural gas life cycle – making it a major contributor to global warming. SNG also requires a significant amount of water for the process, and would mean an increase in devastating coal mining practices.

Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions

without CO₂ sequestration



Data Source: Jaramillo, Paulina; Griffin, W. Michael; and Matthews, H. Scott. "Comparative Life-Cycle Air Emissions of Coal, Domestic Natural Gas, LNG, and SNG for Electricity Generation." *Environmental Science & Technology* 41.17 (2007): 6293

The carbon footprint of a coal gasification SNG plant is almost three times the carbon footprint of burning natural gas.

What's wrong with Synthetic Natural Gas?

PET COKE:

This plant will be using pet coke for up to 75% of its feedstock, with the pet coke pile located at the northern end of the site. Pet coke contains volatile hydrocarbons, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's), and toxic metals, all of which can cause harm to humans.

The gases and dusts which are found in the vicinity of pet coke piles can be extremely harmful and may cause cancer, genetic damage, suppressed immune systems, central nervous system damage and damage to vital organs.

GLOBAL WARMING POLLUTION

This plant could contribute up to 6 million tons of CO₂ (a primary global warming pollutant) to our atmosphere every year—the equivalent of adding 1 million more cars to the road!

AIR

This plant will add soot and smog to local air through the gasification process, and then again when the Synthetic Natural Gas is burned. The pet coke and coal piles are also potential sources of significant dust pollution that can be hazardous to human health (see PET COKE).

WATER

The plant will pull over 10 million gallons of water every day from the Calumet River and only return about 2 million gallons to the river.

COAL:

Up to **3 million tons of coal** will need to be mined annually for this plant. Mines are potential sources of **highly toxic contaminants** like arsenic, mercury, chromium, and cadmium which can damage nervous systems and other organs, especially in children.

COST:

Making synthetic natural gas from coal is **extremely energy intensive** as well as expensive. This gasification plant will cost almost \$4 billion to build, and Leucadia wants all residential and small business gas customers to help foot the bill by being forced to buy their gas.

In January, 2011, Leucadia successfully passed SB3388 which requires all the gas utilities in Illinois to purchase the entire output of Leucadia's SNG plant at almost twice the cost! Gas customers can expect their bills to increase up to 4% every year under this deal.



The Great Plains Synfuels Plant in North Dakota (pictured above) is the only Coal Synthetic Natural Gas plant in the US. It was built in the 70's and has already required financial assistance from the Federal Government to continue operating.

What to do?

CALL OR WRITE GOV. QUINN

Governor Quinn needs to hear from gas customers, residents close to the proposed site, and citizens concerned with global warming pollution that they want him to VETO SB3388 which forces all Illinois residents to foot the bill for dirty and expensive energy.

It is unwise to force Illinois families to bear the burden of funding dirty energy produced by out-of-state companies when clean alternatives are available, like wind and solar, that have already created over 10,000 jobs throughout Illinois.

Illinois can do better.

Governor Quinn has until March to VETO this bill—
Call or Write him today!

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