

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : WINDMILLS II

Re: WINDMILLS II

Author: : tomgamber

Date: : 2009/12/23 12:27:03

URL:

Quote:

fritz wrote:

When you are looking at that coal plant--what do you think you see coming out of all those stacks?

From the larger cooling towers its mostly just steam. From the actual incinerators it particulate matter.

Microscopic particles linked to asthma, heart disease and other health problems — along with acid rain-causing sulfur dioxide and smog-forming nitrogen oxides

Coal contains trace quantities of the naturally-occurring radionuclides uranium and thorium, as well as their radioactive decay products, and potassium-40. When coal is burned, minerals, including most of the radionuclides, do not burn and concentrate in the ash.

While most of the ash is captured, tiny solid particles known as "fly ash," including some radionuclides, escape from the boiler into the atmosphere

In Addition:

* People dying prematurely from problems associated with exposure to fine particle pollution, or soot, lost an average of 14 years.

* Power plant pollution is responsible for 38,200 nonfatal heart attacks and 554,000 asthma attacks each year.

* Pennsylvania, Ohio and Florida had the highest overall mortality rates each year, and West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee — states with a large number of coal-fired plants — had the highest per capita mortality risk.

(by Harvard University in 1993 and the American Cancer Society in 1995)