DID YOU KNOW?

• Wind and solar energy already support around 4,000 Washington jobs.

• Energy efficiency benefits everyone: homeowners, renters and businesses can save money to spend in local communities, while utilities spend less on expensive power plant improvements—leaving more capital to create jobs.

• Investment banks like Citigroup have found that solar and wind energy solutions are cost-competitive with coal.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

For info on local events, visit: sc.org/CoaltoCleanWa

Follow news on Twitter with #coal2clean

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COLSTRIP: WASHINGTON’S COAL-POWERED PROBLEM

Coal plants are the single largest air polluter in the United States, making coal a leading cause of climate change and a major public health threat. In Washington, three private utilities—Puget Sound Energy, Avista and Pacific Power—still get a significant amount of electricity from an out-of-date coal plant in Montana called the Colstrip Generating Facility.

Colstrip produces as much carbon pollution every year as half of all passenger cars in Washington, harming our climate, our air and water, and our children’s future. While Costrip’s cost to our environment is huge, it is also hurting our pocketbooks. This old plant needs upgrades and it faces potential fines for air and water quality violations. Those costs could land on Puget Sound Energy, Avista and Pacific Power’s customers: us.

CLEAN ENERGY IS THE ANSWER

Colstrip is a problem for Washington. Fortunately, we have a solution: Invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies that are good for our economy, our health and our climate. If we replace Colstrip’s coal with energy efficiency tools and electricity from wind, solar and other renewables, we could create more than 4,000 family-wage Northwest jobs.

PSE, Avista and Pacific Power like to promote their reputations for environmental stewardship. It’s time for them to walk their talk and lead the nation in powering our homes and businesses with clean energy. This one-time economic opportunity must be taken.

LET’S MOVE FROM COAL TO CLEAN ENERGY NOW

The Washington state legislature is considering a plan to transition our utilities off coal electricity. In order for this effort to protect our environment and our communities, any legislation must be accompanied by an agreed-upon retirement schedule for the Colstrip plant and a replacement package of clean wind, solar, and energy efficiency that will create good family jobs in Washington and Montana.

Our legislators need to hear from you. Help make sure Washington has a plan that solves, not postpones, our coal problem.

TELL YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES:

- We need legislation that replaces the coal with clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- We need legislation that retires Colstrip soon and makes sure that Colstrip’s workers receive the support and training they need to find new family wage jobs.
- We need legislation that protects Washington electricity customers.