

Enhancing Lignite's Future through Research & Development

Unit 4: Environmental Impacts & Stewardship

There is no challenge regarding the use of coal as a clean, efficient fuel thattechnology.	been met by
Nearly of criteria pollutants from US coal-based power plants are reduced through the use of technology.	now captured or
Over the last two years, coal use worldwide has	
Defined by Congress in the mid-1980s,	are technologies to es and reduce
The is an industry/government partnership who dollar, dollars is invested from industry & other sources in lignite r	nere for every state related R&D projects
Consumption of North Dakota lignite can be broken down by:	
 Electric Power Generation Synthetic Natural Gas Specialty Products 	
Current Technologies	
fired boilers use pulverized coal and are based on a concept of a envelope and project both fuel and combustion air from the corners of the furnace. It directed on a line tangent to a small circle lying in a horizontal plane at the center of action produces a fireball that moves in a cyclonic motion and expands to fill the furnishment.	The flames are f the furnace. This

use several water cooled horizontal burners to produce high temperature flames that circulate in a cyclonic pattern. The coal is not pulverized but instead crushed to a 4-mesh size. The crushed coal is fed tangentially, with primary air, to a horizontal cylindrical combustion chamber. In this chamber, small coal particles are burned in suspension while the larger particles are forced against the outer wall. The high temperature of the coal ash, causes the ash to form a molten slag, which is drained from the bottom of the furnace through a slag tap opening.
technology uses air to suspend coal particles and an inert bed material. Burns at a significantly lower temperature which reduces the production of thermal NOx. The bed material can be an alkali or alkaline earth material that will capture SO2.
Future Generating Technologies
• – 3500 PSI Steam, Up to 1300 MW/Unit, 35-40% efficient,
almost 17% reduction in CO2 and other emissions
• – uses pure oxygen not air for combustion. This allows the flue
gas to be basically CO2 and water and allows for different strategies for CO2 capture.
• chemical process that converts coal into a synthetic gas, this
gas is used as a fuel. Highly efficient because the exhaust from the gas turbine is hot enough to
boil water. The steam is then used to drive a turbine that creates a second source of electricity.
• – refers to creating multiple products from coal
• – uses supercritical CO2 as the working fluid and high pressure
oxyfiring to release the chemical energy. Very high efficiency and capture 100% of the CO2.
Gasification Products •
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will gasify coal and convert it to ultra-clean gasoline, LPG, propane &
electricity
will gasify lignite and convert it to hydrogen for use in combustion turbine

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	is the process of separating relatively pure carbon dioxide gas as a by-	
product	of industrial processes and electricity generated from fossil fuels.	
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Emission Control Technologies