

Lignite: History & Introduction

Unit 1: Lignite 101



Lignite: The Region's Best Kept Secret!

- How much coal is in North Dakota? _____ . In the nation? _____
- North Dakota produced _____ of lignite coal in 2014, or the equivalent of _____ barrels of oil – or enough energy to run _____ cars for a year.
- The fact that if one power plant goes down for maintenance or goes off-line the transmission grid will still function is an example of _____ .
- Lignite-based plants are _____, which means we do not ship our coal by train, but rather by “wire”.

History – Four distinct stages of coal mining in North Dakota

- 1873 – 1900 _____
- 1873 – 1900 _____
- 1900 – 1920 _____
- 1920 – 1951 _____
- 1952 – Present _____

Present-day North Dakota Power Plants and Gasification Plants

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Present-day North Dakota/Eastern Montana Lignite Mines

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- North Dakota has produced about _____ of lignite each year since 1985.
- _____ of North Dakota's electricity is exported, supplying about _____ of Minnesota's electricity.
- North Dakota's lignite industry employs about _____ direct employees and _____ indirect employees – or _____ indirect jobs for every _____ direct job.
- Every _____ generates _____ by industry activity in the state of North Dakota; accounting for about _____ in total business activity.

Notes: _____

