

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

HEARING

Prospects for Advanced Coal Technologies: Efficient Energy Production, Carbon Capture and Sequestration

May 14, 2007

**Statement of Subcommittee on Energy & Environment Ranking Member Bob Inglis
(SC-4)**

Thank you for holding this hearing, Mr. Chairman.

Duke Energy faces a dilemma in South Carolina. They would like to be producing energy free of CO₂ emissions, but because of the extensive licensing hurdles of nuclear, and the high costs of wind and solar power, Duke has been forced to meet increased energy demand by building coal-powered plants. Perhaps if we had clean coal and carbon capture technologies readily available and affordable, companies like Duke would be able to meet growing energy demand with coal and without emissions.

We are currently consuming coal energy at a rapid pace. We need to focus on ways to make that consumption cleaner and more efficient. Clean coal and carbon capture and sequestration technologies offer such solutions. I hope that we can find ways to encourage the implementation of these technologies.

More importantly, I hope that these technologies will be affordable and attractive to U.S. and global industry alike. America can lead the way with technological innovation that can be easily integrated into existing coal plants worldwide. In addition, the research that will soon begin at the FutureGen site, and the construction of IGCC power plants, will be vital for pioneering and demonstrating the many benefits of clean coal and carbon capture and sequestration technologies for other countries.

The future of renewable energy promises an end to our dependence on fossil fuels like oil and coal. But for today, we must work to make sure that our coal consumption is as emission-free and energy efficient as possible, bringing benefits to both industry and the environment.

Thank you again for holding this hearing, Mr. Chairman, and I look forward to hearing from our witnesses.