

Re: New Coal Power Plants

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- *From:* Paul Studier <studier@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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peterwezeman@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

I heard on the radio that utilities building new coal fired plants generally prefer conventional steam plants rather than the newer design where the coal is gasified and then burned in a gas turbine with steam bottoming cycle. I find this somewhat surprising as the gasification plants have a thermal efficiency of 45 percent versus 30-35 percent for steam plants, and gasification plants have been operating successfully in this country for over a decade. Are the costs of a gasification system so great as to offset the increase in efficiency?

Thank you,
Peter Wezeman
anti-social Darwinist

Does this 45% count just burning the gas for electricity, or does it include the whole path from coal to electricity? In other words, does it account for the losses when converting coal to gas?

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Paul Studier <Studier@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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When you win, you just take from the loser.
For an explanation, see <http://paulstudier.com/win>

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