



## SANTA'S NAUGHTY AND NICE LIST

Monday, November 19, 2007  
Days left for passage of EIS: ~~23~~ 30!

Dear Boys and Girls,

Did you have a good weekend? It's getting colder up here at the North Pole, and the reindeer are anxious to get going. Yet, if there's no change in Pennsylvania's energy policy, nightmarish energy bills will be all too real.



Those **naughty girls and boys at Duquesne Light Company** are in trouble. They sent every customer a newsletter (with their bill) that calls for what they say is the "middle ground" on state energy policy. They claim to know what's good for their customers — and what do they say this good, middle ground is? Electricity from old polluting coal-fired power plants. The same power plants that cause acid rain, smog, soot, and mercury pollution. The same power plants that contribute to global warming, and are causing the ice at the North Pole to melt. They herald coal as cheap. Duquesne Light apparently does not know the price of coal plants has skyrocketed, causing many cancellations of coal plants around the country, even before coal plants start paying for the huge cost of carbon pollution.

And then there is the \$15 billion needed to clean up the mess just in Pennsylvania from coal mining. Six thousand miles of our streams have been damaged or destroyed by acid mine pollution. One hundred and eighty thousand acres of abandoned mine land must be reclaimed. Underground mine fires must be extinguished. All that costs a lot of money. But the naughty Duquesne Light Company kids didn't tell their customers that.

But there is a kind of Pennsylvania power plant that not only causes very little pollution, but the fuel is really really cheap. In fact, once the plants are built, the fuel is free! Yes, you guessed it, boys and girls, Santa is talking about wind power. And Pennsylvania is not only one of the fastest growing states for wind energy, it is also becoming a hub for wind energy throughout the nation.



The **nice girls and boys at Gamesa** are a great example. Gamesa decided just a few years ago to build its North American headquarters and production facilities here in Pennsylvania. Now, more than 1300 Pennsylvanians are working round-the-clock to meet the demand for towers, generators and all the other parts of wind turbines. There may be as many as 1500 employed by Christmas – because even though they are working non-stop, there is a three year backlog of orders.

I hope all those nice Gamesa kids get everything they want this year – **a clean environment and a booming economy.**



But Santa is getting worried about the lack of action on the energy bills in the **Pennsylvania House of Representatives**. Since the governor is a Democrat and the House calendar is controlled by the Democrats, Santa really wonders why things aren't moving along. And with the House out of session until after Thanksgiving, time is slipping away. **The good news is that the House just added days to the session, so we have a little more time – 30 days as of today – to pass the Energy Independence Strategy.**

Santa is pretty powerful, but he can't pass any laws. On this one, the reins of the reindeer are in the hands of the House Democratic leadership. **Giddy up, boys and girls!**

If you think you should be on the nice list, send Santa an email – [Santa@PennFuture.org](mailto:Santa@PennFuture.org). Look for another list on Tuesday at 11 AM in the Capitol newsroom!

*Love, Santa* (R&D-North Pole)