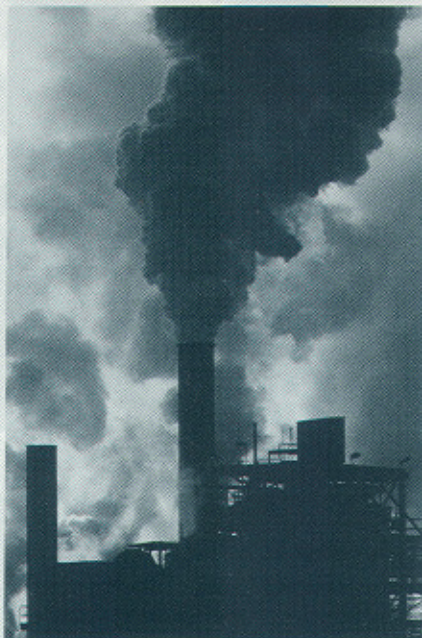


Worldwide legislative pressure to clean up the environment is setting the stage for explosive investment opportunities



In recent years, serious environmental concerns over acid rain, ozone depletion and global warming have caused governments worldwide to set regulations and provide financial support to develop new ways for reducing harmful air pollution.

Coal is the main energy source for electric utilities in the United States, accounting for over half the total utility generation. Coal-fired power plants are the nation's primary source of air pollution after automobiles. The opportunities for enterprising environmental companies to work with our nation's electric utilities toward reducing harmful sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions are limitless.

Across America and the world, we are taking on a pollution-prevention culture. The environmental protection industry is essentially recession-proof.

Environmental Protection — A Massive Industry

From preventing pollution to cleaning up hazardous waste sites, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has shaped a giant marketplace. Federal environmental rulings on NO_x emissions from industrial boilers, hazardous waste disposal restrictions, toxic chemical release reporting, in addition to numerous other concerns, are continually

becoming stricter, creating excellent opportunities for environmental companies.

These regulations primarily affect electric utilities. They produce prohibitive quantities of nitrogen oxides, which are major precursors to ozone and photochemical smog formation, highly recognized as hazardous to the earth's biosphere.

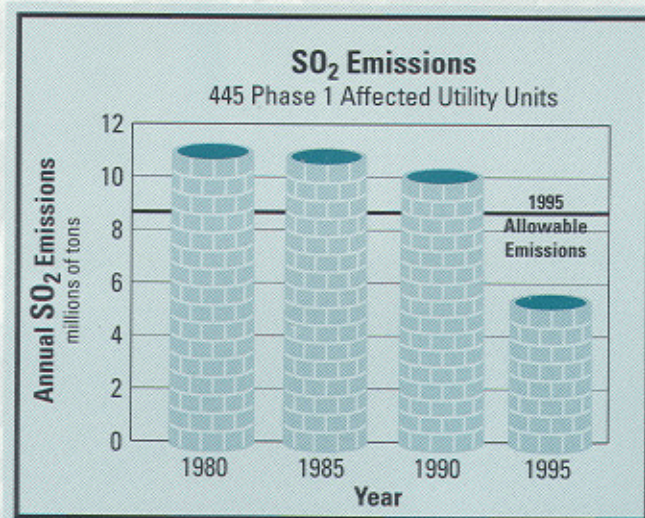
Pulverized Coal Combustion Is Here to Stay

According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), coal supplies over 56 percent of U.S. electricity. With abundant U.S. reserves, coal will remain the dominant source of fuel for power generation well into the 21st century.

Most of the world's coal-fired power plants, and over 80 percent of U.S. plants, use a technology called pulverized coal combustion (PCC). The method creates serious air pollution problems and, in recent years, has caused strict nationwide limits on sulfur oxides (SO_x) and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions.

The tremendous investment already made in PCC technology, proven performance and reliability, and high potential for continued improvement are the primary strengths that are likely to maintain it as the preeminent technology for coal-fired power generation in the future, according to the DOE.

Clean coal technologies are universally necessary, and utility companies must step up to this challenge, while at the same time remaining competitive in their markets. However, these technologies are expensive and not economical for many small and mid-size plants.



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency