



American Society of Mechanical Engineers - Fox Valley Section

Current Environmental Issues in Electricity Generation: Gasification, coal boilers, and beyond

**Presenter: Constantine Blathras, EPA
Jimmy's Charhouse, Naperville, IL
Wednesday, April 12, 2006**

The current drastic rise in natural gas prices have made coal a viable and readily available option. EPA has been actively engaged in the development of projects attempting to meet modern day electricity demand. From natural gas combustion simple and combined cycle turbines, to current integrated coal gasification combined cycle (IGCC) process, each project must go through permitting under the Clean Air Act. Illinois presently has 2 pending projects that will combust Illinois high sulfur coal in a traditional pulverized coal boiler and a proposed project for an IGCC power plant, which have generated significant interest from industry, environmental groups, and the general public.

Constantine Blathras is an environmental engineer with the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the past 13 years. He is presently located in the Air Permits Section of the Air and Radiation Division at U.S. EPA's Region 5 office in Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Blathras specializes in the New Source Review and Prevention of Significant Deterioration construction permitting programs under the Clean Air Act, with an emphasis on sources located in Illinois. Mr. Blathras has also worked on the Title 5 Operating permits program in addition to working with Native American tribes in the Region 5 area on air permitting issues. Mr. Blathras received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology.

LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS:

Jimmy's Charhouse, 523 Fairway Drive, Naperville, Illinois Tel: 630-753-0400

From I-88 (East-West Tollway), exit at Route 59 going south. The restaurant is one block west of Route 59 and North Aurora Road on the corner of North Aurora Road and Fairview Drive. (by Route 59 Metra Station)

SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM Registration and Cash Bar 6:30 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Presentation

DINNER: Includes soup, salad, dessert and a choice of:

- Charbroiled Chicken Breast
- Charbroiled Pork Chops
- Vegetarian - sautéed vegetables served over spaghetti

COST: \$30.00 payable at the door, by check or cash

RESERVATIONS:

Send e-mail to mjm@packereng.com and include your name, phone number, ASME membership number, company name, address and choice of entree. If you do not have e-mail access, call (630) 505-5722, and leave a message stating this is a reservation for the ASME Meeting on April 12th and include the above information.

DEADLINE:

Noon on Friday, April 7, 2006. Please cancel if your plans change. Reservations not cancelled by the deadline may be invoiced cost of dinner.

MAP:

