



Clean Coal
Technology
Foundation
of
Texas

FOUNDATION SUPPORTS R&D FOR MERCURY CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

AUSTIN, Texas (May 6, 2008) –The Clean Coal Technology Foundation of Texas has supported United States Department of Energy research and development funding for mercury control technology since the Foundation’s inception in 2004. The mission of the Foundation is to pursue the development of all available technologies to improve emissions from coal fueled power plants in Texas.

The Foundation issued the following response to the Sierra Club announcement in Dallas today that it planned to pursue legal action against plants currently being permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Current permitting is being done using Best Available Control Technology, which has successfully protected the human health and environment of Texas.

Foundation Chairman Chuck McConnell issued the following statement:

“OUR ORGANIZATION HAS CONFIDENCE IN THE TOXICOLOGISTS AND SCIENTISTS AT THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (TCEQ) WHO ARE CHARGED WITH PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. OUR MEMBERS HAVE ALWAYS ABIDED BY TCEQ RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND WE WILL MEET ALL FUTURE STANDARDS AS THEY CHANGE AND EVOLVE.

“IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT THE NEW POWER PLANTS BEING CONSTRUCTED AND PERMITTED TODAY ARE GOING TO BE CLEANER FOR ALL TYPES OF EMISSIONS – INCLUDING MERCURY – THAN MOST CURRENT PLANTS.

“EVEN WITH TODAY’S COAL POWER PLANTS, IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT NO COOLING LAKES AT COAL POWER PLANTS IN TEXAS HAVE MERCURY FISH ADVISORIES. THOSE BODIES OF WATER WITH FISH ADVISORIES ARE GENERALLY THOUGHT TO BE THE RESULT OF THE LEACHING AND RUNOFF FROM HISTORICALLY CONTAMINATED AREAS LIKE LANDFILLS AND MUNITION PLANTS.

“THE CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION OF TEXAS SUPPORTS THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE EMISSIONS FROM TEXAS POWER PLANTS. OUR FOUNDATION HELPED SECURE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FUNDING THAT PROVIDED FOR MERCURY CONTROL TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RIGHT HERE IN TEXAS.”

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