US Coal Cost and Supply: Tracking Your State’s Coal

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2005 Coal Deliveries to Power Plants by Region—Graphic by Ventyx

Red = Powder River Basin
Coal and Natural Gas Contract and Price Information

“EIA 423”
Colorado Coal Production 1986-2009

Data from EIA Coal Reports, Table 2
http://www.eia.doe.gov/fuelcoal.html
Aerial View of Powder River Basin Coal Mines

Eagle Butte Coal Mine

Source: Google Maps
Thirteen Major Coal Mines in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming

Bucksin
Rawhide
Eagle Butte
Dry Fork
Wyodak

Caballo
Belle Ayr
Cordero Rojo
Coal Creek

Jacobs Ranch
Black Thunder
N Antelope/ Rochelle Antelope

Source: Draft EIS South Gillette Area Coal Lease Applications Sept 2008
Bureau of Land Management, Casper, Wyoming Field Office
North Antelope/Rochelle Mine

Remaining Life: About 8 Years

Life Extension: 10 Years

Current Overburden: 211 Feet

Expansion O-burden: 340+ Feet

Source: Environmental Impact Statements PRB Coal Mines
Bureau of Land Management, Casper Wyoming Field Office
Overburden Above Coal in the Powder River Basin (Wyoming and Montana)

- 50-200 Feet
- 750-2250 Feet

Source: US DOE, DOI and DOA Inventory of Federal Coal Resources August 2007
70% of the Coal In the Powder River Basin is Not Surface Accessible

Blue Hatched Areas = Areas Where Surface Mining Is Not Anticipated...

Source: US DOE, DOI and DOA Inventory of Federal Coal Resources August 2007
Percentage of Economically Recoverable Coal Powder River Basin USGS 2008

6% Economically Recoverable

Source: USGS 2008-1202  Figure 68
Black Thunder Mine

Remaining Life: About 7 Years

Life Extension: About 10 Years

Current Overburden: 282 Feet

Expansion O-burden: 400+ Feet*

*For the West Hilight Major Expansion

Source: Environmental Impact Statements PRB Coal Mines
Bureau of Land Management, Casper Wyoming Field Office
Repowering the U.S. Is An Imperative, Not a Choice

The Sweet Imperative....
Variable but Renewable Resources for the 21st Century

Our Only Real Choice.....
Solar Resource of the Southwestern United States
(Measured in kwh/ meter$^2$/ day)

Source: The National Renewable Energy Lab