

# Who is Duke Energy Indiana?

Duke Energy Indiana is the largest of our state's five for-profit monopoly electric utilities, with customers in 69 of Indiana's 92 counties.

Duke owns and operates some of the most expensive and dirtiest coal-burning plants in the United States, right here in Indiana, with five units at Gibson, and two at Cayuga, in addition to the Edwardsport plant. Its Gallagher Plant is planned to retire by 2022. Duke currently gets 90% of its energy from coal, and less than 5% from renewables.

## **Gibson Super Polluter Coal Plant**

Duke's Gibson plant in Southwest Indiana was identified by the *Center for Public Integrity* as a Super Polluter, one of the top 22 worst toxic and greenhouse gas polluters in the nation. The Gibson Super Polluter was the sixth biggest emitter of carbon dioxide in the country in 2014.<sup>1</sup>

### **Edwardsport Plant**

The \$3.5 billion Edwardsport power plant<sup>5</sup> is the most expensive power plant that Duke owns. It was one of the last coal plants built in the U.S. and exemplifies Duke's greed, and unscrupulous behavior. Duke built this plant despite massive cost overruns, mismanagement, and an ethics scandal that toppled a high-ranking state official and several Duke executives.

#### **Dark Age Duke**

Duke is the dirtiest Indiana utility, hellbent on burning as much coal as they can. Their stockpiles of coal grow month by month because of the bad deals they make with coal companies. They keep so much coal around that they literally burn it just to get rid of it.

Duke burns coal even when it's cheaper to purchase that power for customers on the market. Who pays for all this polluting waste? You do. No wonder Sierra Club has dubbed Duke Energy "Dark Age Duke."



Gibson released 17,851,720 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere in 2018. That's equivalent to 3.8 million automobile emissions for one year.

Only 2.3 million automobiles are licensed in the state of Indiana!<sup>2</sup>



Released 5,770,553 pounds of chemicals into the air, water and land in Gibson County in 2018.<sup>3</sup>

## Duke's Energy Plan is a Public Health and Climate Disaster

According to Duke's 20-year energy plan released in June 2019, the utility would still be generating more than 70% of its power from coal and gas in 2037. This is a recipe for a public health and climate disaster.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change we must take urgent action to reduce carbon pollution by 2030, but in its plan, Duke only retires a small percentage of the Gibson Super Polluter and the Cayuga plant in that time frame.

To replace these coal plants, Duke says it will build two massive 1,240 MW fracked gas plants in 2028 and 2034. This is the wrong direction for customers and the climate.

Vectren, the Southwest Indiana electric utility, proposed to build a large fracked gas plant to replace its coal plants and the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission denied their request in April 2019. Vectren had to go back to the drawing board with its planning process, and so should Duke.

While Duke boasts that its plan includes 1,650 MW of solar and 700 MW of wind over the 20-year period, it also includes 2,480 MW of gas-burning generation. More importantly, they have virtually no new renewable energy in their plan for the next five years—only 15 MW of battery storage and no new wind or solar. Compare that to the fact that Duke Energy Indiana needs 7,000 MW on the hottest day to meet customer needs.

## Duke is Making our Bills Go Up, Up, Up!

Duke Energy is refusing to transition away from high-cost coal to clean energy from the wind and sun. And to pay to keep their costly coal-burning power plants running, Duke recently tried to raise your electric bill by an average of \$24 per month. Duke claimed that they were raising rates to make the switch away from coal to clean energy, but that is a big dirty lie. Their insistence on doubling down on fossil fuels has led to higher bills, and will continue to do so until they retire their expensive coal plants and replace them with affordable clean energy.

## Together, We Can Move Duke out of the Dark Ages

With your help, we can move Duke to put people over profits. We shouldn't have to bear the cost or health impacts of propping up their outdated polluting coal plants.

Duke needs to get with the program. The renewable energy transition is already happening in Indiana. NIPSCO, the utility in Northwest Indiana, is replacing all of its coal plants (1800 MW) with renewable energy, energy efficiency and storage while proposing to save customers \$4 billion.

- 1 https://publicintegrity.org/environment/americas-super-polluters/
- 2 EPA Toxic Release Inventory
- 3 https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program
- 4 https://www.tollfromcoal.org/#/map/(title:6113//detail:6113//map:6113/IN)
- 5 Edwardsport IGCC Plant White Paper



110 Deaths



31 Hospital admissions



45 Asthma ER visits



66 Heart attacks



26 Chronic bronchitis



714 Asthma attacks



5,265 Work loss days4

We can move Duke Energy to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

The facts and the momentum are on our side: cheap, renewable resources like wind and solar, paired with investments in energy efficiency and battery storage, will beat out the dirty fuels of the past every time. Together, we can push Duke out of the Dark Ages into the light.

