

B.12. How important is it to you, that wind energy now costs less than non-renewable such as gas or nuclear?



Wind costs less than natural gas.
 Source: [New York Times 02/13/05](#)

Nuclear costs more than natural gas.
 Source: [New York Times 04/09/05](#)

Coal is cheaper but has hidden costs to consumer (acid rain, health costs, etc) [Source: US Army Corps of Engineers](#)

In 2003 FP&L canceled an order of 2 GE gas turbines. Instead in their place ordered 450 GE 1.5 MW wind turbines! [Source: IEEE Spectrum July 2005](#)

* **B.12. How important is it to you, that wind energy now costs less than non-renewable such as gas or nuclear?**

- Very Important
- Important
- Somewhat Important
- Not Very Important
- Not At All Important
- Need More Information

Narration:

In 2005, as reported by the New York Times, wind power became less expensive than natural gas. This trend was not a surprise, but anticipated by a major power producer. In 2003, Florida Power and Light tried to cancel an order of 2 natural gas turbines. General Electric left them of the hook only if they substituted with an order of 450 1.5 MW turbines. Florida Power and Light choose 450 wind turbines over the 2 natural gas turbines because it was better economically. Nuclear energy costs more than natural gas, as Kristoff of the NY Times said when he argued the need for nuclear energy despite its higher cost. In fact no one truly knows how much more nuclear costs because our tax dollars subsidize nuclear electricity. We pay billions to universities for nuclear research. We pay billions for facilities to safeguard the waste for thousands of years. And 2 acts of congress makes Federal, State, and local government part of the insurance package. Coal is the cheapest of all initially, but its heath effects can be quite expensive as documented by

the US Army Corps of Engineers. By the time you add the cost for healthcare and lost work due to emissions, coal can become the most expensive of all.

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