

Sustainable Iowa Capstone Experience
820:140:23
Draft Outline
Class Presentations
Sub-Issue Related to Main Issue
Should We Continue to Build Coal-Fired Power Plants
Due February 1, 2008

- I. Introduction of each group member, and the title of presentation.
- II. Brief overview of sub-issue
- III. How does sub-issue relate to the main issue?
 - A. Trace connection of sub-issue back to the main issue. [See (*) below for example.]
 - B. What impact does your sub-issue have on main issue [negative, positive]?
- IV. What is your sub-issue about?
 - A. Content about your sub-issue, the details of which will depend somewhat on the category to which your sub-issue belongs [See (**) below for details.]
 - B. Depending on amenability of the specific sub-issue, you may wish to discuss pros and cons, historical context, an international perspective, future prospects, or other case-specific topics.
- V. Evaluation/message.
 - A. Summary of major points [perhaps in bullet form].
 - B. Answer the question: Should we continue to build coal-fired power plants? [There is no right or wrong answer to this question. Your answer may also be conditional; e.g., “we should continue to build the plants if such and such conditions hold.....” or “we should not continue to build plants unless
- VI. Class activity (optional); time for questions and answers (required)

[These notes refer to the four categories given in flow chart on next page.]

* (Notes on Part III.A) At first glance, you may not make a direct connection between your sub-issue and the main issue, but work backwards from the sub-issue through the category to the main issue.

Example: Sub-issue reducing global warming under the category of Policies/Social Impact. Reducing global warming would require policies to lower greenhouse gas emissions. Coal-Fired Power Plants (CFPPs) emit copious amounts of CO₂, the greenhouse gas most responsible for climate change. Thus policies would have the effect of discouraging the building of CFPPs.

** (Notes on Part IV.A) For the category Alternative Energy (which includes energy efficiency), this may be a technical description of the alternative technology. For the category Policies/Social Impact, it would describe the specific instruments or design applied to make the policy work, or the personal and community impacts of the sub-issue. Under the category Health/Environment, it would describe the health or environmental effects of, say, coal mining or combustion emissions at the CFPP. For the category Economics it would describe the costs and profits of CFPPs, perhaps in comparison to costs and profits of alternative energies.

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Sub-Issue Flow Diagram for Main Issue: Should We Continue to Build Coal-Fired Power Plants?

