

CONTACT AN ALLSTATE AGENT ROLLOVER

With Accident Forgiveness, your rates won't go up just because of an accident. Part of YOUR CHOICE AUTO only from Allstate.



Feature is optional and subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Company, Northbrook, IL.

Green Edition Login | Subscribe to Paper

Publish your Stuff Log in | Become a Member



Need Help? Click Here

gazette.com

COLORADO SPRINGS The Gazette

Search: Site Web Search powered by Google™

Home > Metro

Emissions-purifying system working well so far in Colorado Springs

Comments 7 | Recommend 5

August 24, 2008 - 4:50PM

By PAM ZUBECK THE GAZETTE

David Neumann isn't the most excitable guy.

He's a physicist, after all, who worked at Air Force Space Command and did research at the [Air Force Academy](#).

But Neumann was enthused and smiling Friday — his brainchild, which will purify some coal plant emissions, has performed stunningly at Colorado Springs' Drake Power Plant.

The project could have "global implications" if the device is successful at removing carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming and has made coal the outcast of the green movement. There is no proven technology for removing carbon, but if Neumann's Purestream works, it could bring an end to some of the world's energy problems, Neumann said.

Although coal is abundant, it's the dirtiest energy source and could become the most expensive if hefty carbon taxes under consideration by Congress are imposed.

That prospect has caused many utilities to turn to renewables, but Neumann said wind and solar power can't possibly satisfy the world's growing appetite for power. "If we think renewables are going to solve our energy dependency, that's an incredible mistake," he said.

Experts with the Electric Power Research Institute will visit the Colorado Springs power plant to verify test results in coming weeks. EPRI is a nonprofit that supports emerging technologies whose members represent more than 90 percent of the electricity generated in the United States.

"Getting somebody's stamp on this that's nationally recognized is critical to getting this adopted in the industry," Neumann said.

It's been a relatively short road. Neumann has spent five years and \$6 million in grants and investments — a pittance in the research and development world.

The effort took a giant leap forward when Colorado Springs Utilities teamed with Neumann this year to apply his device to Drake.

Since then, the city has invested about \$1 million in the project in exchange for a cut of the profits after the device is marketed.

The device, which uses a secret formula of chemicals and water, removes sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate emissions — all regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Some utilities have mounted scrubbers onto plants to remove those substances, but the technology is expensive and bulky.

Neumann's device is less than a 10th the size of other scrubbing equipment. Being modular means additional capacity is added by stacking another piece onto the platform.

More importantly, the device is estimated to cost a third of competing technologies and would be cheaper to use and maintain, because it consumes two-thirds less power to operate, Springs Utilities officials said.

In addition, Neumann's invention will produce by-products, including fertilizer and cement.

Print Story | E-Mail Story | Font Size

Other Articles in this Category

- Hurricane response less dramatic, but just as important
2 hours 40 minutes ago
- NOREEN: Colorado grads build a legacy in Peace Corps
- 3 held in armed game console theft
- Baby's brain injury wasn't criminal
- AFA holding blood drive this week

Most Viewed Stories

- VIDEO: Teen pinned under Blazer spent 8 hours clinging to life
- SUNRISE: Driver cited for flashing green laser at helicopter
- Baby's brain injury wasn't criminal
- Group says city could save millions by privatizing services
- Man who threatened to behead women will lose his eye, police say

Most Commented Stories

- 13,000 at Obama rally in Pueblo
- Obama says McCain 'passing the buck' on economy
- Palin spells out her role at Golden appearance
- NOREEN: By no means is Sarah Palin a feminist
- Focus pours cash on initiative

Most Recommended Stories

- Cops kill dog during search of Springs home
- City marshal arrested after drawing gun on roof inspector
- Woman says traffic cop ignored her claim of rape
- 13,000 at Obama rally in Pueblo
- Survivor of child sex abuse helps others heal

Save & Share this Article [What is this?](#)

- Digg
- Google
- Yahoo!
- del.icio.us
- StumbleUpon
- Newsvine
- Facebook
- Spurl.net
- Reddit
- Slashdot

Jobs Autos Real Estate Classifieds Place an Ad

springsjobs.com monster

Keyword Job Search

Weather Yellow Pages TV Spotlight

68°F Fair
Brought to you by LEXUS
NEWS FIRST 3/30 5 Day Forecast

Catch up with the old crowd. See what they're up to now

Go >>

classmates.com

ADVERTISEMENT

On the GO!

Events Dining Venues

Featured Events

- James Otto
- SET Family Medical...
- Carmina Burana
- 11th Annual Rocky...
- All Pikes Peak Reads...

Click for More Events Add Your Events

Find an Event

what when where

Catch up with the old crowd. See what they're up to now

Go >>

classmates.com

ADVERTISEMENT

Publish Your Stuff

Log In Join Now Explore

you photos blogs forums explore

Poll Lottery

Petraeus steps down as head of Multi-National Forces in Iraq. He did:

An excellent job