

Injection with Modified Burners (LIMB) might yield reduction of both NO_x and SO_2 at costs well below those for conventional scrubbers. However, this technology is in the developmental stage and would not be available for installation until after 1985.

A few caveats should accompany any assessment of the model results.

- Results are preliminary findings and can be viewed confidently as correctly indicative of qualitative trends. Their quantitative accuracies have considerable error margins, due largely to inexactness of many of the models input data, such as the energy scenario.
- Cost outputs should be used with great caution. They assume a utility will seek to minimize overall costs and it is clear that some utilities do not choose to do this, but instead minimize capital expenditures. For example, a utility may choose to use low-sulfur coal to meet a requirement, even though capital investment in a scrubber may be less expensive overall.
- Costs to break existing contracts are not reflected in this analysis. This is important because of the great reliance on cleaned or low-sulfur coal, which often requires a change in coal source for a utility.
- Costs for specific power plants are expected to vary markedly (up and down) from the typical costs modeled in this study.
- Artificial constraints on use of low-sulfur coal will increase the overall control cost of a given strategy because low-sulfur coal tends to be less expensive than scrubbing. Such constraints could be imposed to prevent loss of coal demand from areas having predominantly high-sulfur cost (e.g., the midwest, northern Appalachia).
- The costs for FGD are low. FGD costs in CEUM are only slightly low, but FGD costs in USM are significantly too low. Additional analyses with more accurate costs are underway.
- Certain costs may be overstated, for example, benefits from coal cleaning from lower O/M costs and transportation costs were not included. More generally the benefits from pollution control were not considered in the cost-effectiveness measures.