SLIDES: JISEA Natural Gas Study: Potential U.S. Electric Power Futures

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JISEA Natural Gas Study: Potential U.S. Electric Power Futures

Drawing the Blueprint for a Sustainable Energy Future

Denver Museum of Science and Nature

Jeffrey Logan

January 18, 2012
Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis

- JISEA conducts leading-edge interdisciplinary research and provides objective and credible data, tools, and analysis to guide global energy investment and policy decisions.
- The founding institutional partners of the Joint Institute include NREL, MIT, Stanford, CU Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, and Colorado State University.
Natural Gas and Electric Power Study

• Initiated in summer 2011 with 8 sponsors and JISEA team
• Preliminary results ready in March 2012, final report summer 2012
• Three main areas of focus:
  – Lifecycle GHG assessment of unconventional gas
    • Harmonization of published results and potential bottom-up LCA
  – Trend assessment of regulations and BMPs in 6 basins
    • Incremental cost of operating at higher environmental standards
  – Electric power sector scenarios
    • How will gas supply, other policies and technology outcomes affect the transformation of the U.S. power sector (focus on achieving low carbon future)
Impact of EPA Rules and LNG exports on Natural Gas Demand

Coal Plants Potentially at Risk of Retirement from EPA Regulations

Incremental NG Demand

Source: NREL 2010. For illustrative purposes only. Some of these “at risk” plants are now considered safe given the relative looseness of the 316(b) rule.