Clean Fossil Power – UK Boilermaker's Perspective

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Presented at

Fossil Power Generation for Europe –

Options for Sustainable Power Generation

Brussels, 11 June 2003

Mitsui Babcock

Mitsui Babcock Energy Limited

- Designs, Constructs, Services and Decommissions Thermal and Nuclear Steam Generating and Petrochemical Plants
- Operates internationally, often in Alliance with Owners, Operators, Other Contractors
- Over 110 years old based in UK, owned by Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding Ltd of Japan since 1995
- 4,000 Employees, £300M Annual Revenue
- Now has 30% Revenue from New Build and 70% from After Sales Services
- Profitable



Cleaner Fossil Power Business

- Leader in NO_x reduction equipment worldwide
- Supplied world's largest FGD plant to Drax
- Leader in R&D for clean coal technologies
- Participant in EU ISB2000 and Thermie 700 projects
- Leaders in Safety Technologies for fossil, nuclear and petrochemical
- Leaders in Quality, Health, Safety & Environment performance





Clean Coal in a Global Context

- Important to see Coal-fired Power Generation in Europe as part of a wider global scene
 - UK burns only 2% of the coal used for power generation worldwide
- Clean Coal Technologies are necessary globally if emissions reductions to be achieved
- If the appropriate cleaner technologies are demonstrated in Europe then we can export them
- Home market and exports lead to quality skilled
 employment



Coal in the UK- Energy White Paper 2003

- 36% of UK power generation is from coal (28GW currently installed)
- Most of the CO₂ reductions envisaged by Government are through replacement of coal- fired generation by renewables or gas
- Drivers will be the increased costs of LCPD and EU CO₂ cap and trade
- Amount of coal fired generation will reduce.....perhaps significantly (20-40%)
- 60-80% will need to be replacedeventually





- Advantages of coal for long term security and grid control are recognised
- Must be cleaner, now in terms of CO₂ as well as SO_x, NO_x and particulates
- Government committed to develop a detailed implementation plan for carbon capture and storage/EOR in the North Sea

Clean Coal Technologies – multitrack approach Options

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- Efficiency improvement (more MW/Tonne CO₂)
 - also Biomass cofiring
- CO₂ capture and sequestration

Technologies

- Pulverised coal firing
- Coal gasification

Pulverised Coal or Gasification?

- pf is better accepted by market place
- Similar efficiencies
- Advanced supercritical pf better suited to replacement and export market
- Gasification better suited to hydrogen production in the longer term
- Both can be retrofitted for CO₂ capture



Pulverised Coal Firing

- Replace existing boiler/turbine technology at existing stations with Advanced Supercritical technology
 - Economic options with massive export opportunities
 - Less expensive per tonne of CO_2 saved than Renewables
- Demonstrate CO₂ capture
 - Longer term more expensive option





Co-Use of Biomass and Coal

- Range of technologies
- 20% could be co-fired in pf coal units
- Relatively inexpensive, retains advantages of central power plant for security of supplies
- Useful capacity for CO₂ reductions but only as quickly as fuel can be found



Pulverised Coal Firing – support actions needed

- Continue Clean Coal R&D (national and EU)
- Support continuation of ADD700 project
- FP6 support of current CO₂C+S proposals
- EU Demonstration projects for CO₂ reduction
 - Re-introduce former Thermie instruments
 - Systems and full scale plants
- Level playing field of support/subsidy for all CO₂ saving methods
- Clarity of Carbon trading mechanisms



Conclusions

- Important role for coal in future for reliability of supplies
- Must be cleaner
- Technologies exist for cost effective CO₂ reduction
- EU and national Governments need to support their introduction

