

OR THIS?




100 mile view from Look Rock on a clear day


Although annual natural visibility is over 90 miles, a 90 mile view is very rare in the park. A clear day like the one pictured above occurs only about one percent of the time.

The Great Smoky Mountains is shrouded by air pollution from many different human-made sources including power plants, factories, and motor vehicles.

To effectively address the visibility problems in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, we must reduce air pollution from coal-burning power plants.

Cleaning up the old coal-burning plants across the nation would yield:

 A 71 percent reduction in nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions which cause smog, damage to forest soils, and fish kills from acid rain.

 A 77 percent reduction in sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions which cause reduced visibility, deadly soot, and acid rain.

And would result in many more clear days.

For more information on the Tennessee Clean Air Task Force, contact:

**National Parks and Conservation Association
Southeast Regional Office**

101 South Main Street, Suite 322
Clinton, TN 37716
(423) 457-7775
(423) 457-6499 (fax)

Tennessee Valley Energy Reform Coalition

P.O. Box 1842
Knoxville, TN 37901
(423) 637-6055
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Task Force Members include:

American Lung Association of Tennessee

Audubon Society, Memphis Chapter

Black Children's Institute

League of Women Voters of Tennessee

National Parks and Conservation Association

Sierra Club, Tennessee Chapter

Tennessee Environmental Council

Tennessee Valley Energy Reform Coalition

For news releases and reports from the Tennessee Clean Air Task Force, see our website, <http://www.TnGreen.com/air>.



Clearing the Air in Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Our Crown Jewel Under Threat

Each year, nearly 10 million people come to view the spectacular scenery in the Great Smoky Mountains from Clingman's Dome to Cades Cove to Newfound Gap.

Unfortunately, air pollution is obscuring the scenic vistas, harming the natural environment, and threatening our health.


WHAT WILL YOU SEE TODAY? **THIS....**





Less than 25 mile view from Look Rock on a hazy day

Annual average visibility in the Great Smoky Mountains is 25 miles, and summer visibility is often much worse.

Did you know that...

 *Air quality monitors in the Great Smoky Mountains have recorded some of the highest ozone pollution levels in the Eastern United States. In 1998, there were 44 days when it was unhealthy to breathe in the park.*

 *Over the past half-century, air pollution has reduced visibility in the Great Smoky Mountains by an average of 40 percent in the winter and 80 percent in the summer.*

 *Rainfall in the Smokies is, on average, 5-10 times more acidic than natural rainfall.*

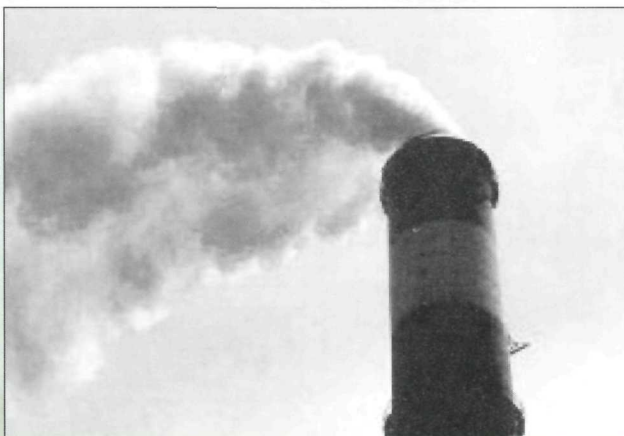
Did you know that approximately 77 percent of the haze problems in the Great Smoky Mountains stem from emissions from coal-burning power plants?

Nationwide, older coal-burning power plants are allowed to pollute more than newer power plants. This exemption allows older plants to emit 4-10 times more air pollution. Requiring all power plants to meet the same emission standards is viewed as the single most effective way of cleaning up our nation's air.

The Tennessee Valley Authority, a federal government agency with 11 coal-burning power plants in close proximity to the Smokies, is one of the country's largest sources of air pollution.

Currently, none of TVA's 11 coal-burning power plants meet new source standards.

Furthermore, while most other utilities have been reducing haze-forming sulfur emissions, sulfur emissions from TVA's four eastern-most plants—those closest to the Park—increased by 108,000 tons between 1983 and 1997.



What can YOU do?

Join us in our efforts to encourage our federal and state representatives to protect the air in and around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park by requiring old dirty power plants to clean up and meet modern pollution standards.

Contact your Senator and Representative!

Senator Bill Frist
Russell Building
1st & C Street NE
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3344

Senator Fred Thompson
Dirksen Building
1st & C Street NE
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-4944

For more information on how to contact your Congressmen, contact the Capitol switchboard (202) 224-3121, or go to <http://www.congress.org/search.html>.

Contact your Governor!

Governor Don Sundquist
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-0001
(615) 741-2001
(615) 532-4644 (fax)
dsundquist@mail.state.tn.us

For information on how to contact your Governor, call the National Governor's Association (202) 624-5300, or see <http://www.nga.org/Governor/GovernorsAddress.htm>.

The problem continues to grow...

- ❖ *In 1999, monitors in the Park recorded 52 days of air unhealthy to breathe.*
- ❖ *The park is on schedule to surpass the 1999 record high levels of pollution, with 12 days of ozone exceedance by June 14, 2000.*
- ❖ *For the second consecutive year the Great Smoky Mountains NP has ranked on NPCA's "Top 10 Most Endangered Parks List".*
- ❖ *Park researchers have documented damage to 30 plant species from ground-level ozone and another 60 species of plants with ozone-like damage.*

The threats continue...

Older, coal-fired plants continue produce 65 to 70 percent of the sulfur dioxide that causes haze and acid rain in the Smokies. TVA's 11 facilities still do not meet current Clean Air Act emission standards and continue to operate through the lethal loophole.

You can be the solution...

You have the power to clean the air in the Smoky Mountains. We must challenge federal and state representatives to amend the loophole and clean up dirty power plants. Contact your Senator, Representative, and Governor to protect the Park