

BURR'S DIRTY AIR RECORD

OPPOSED SMOG REDUCTION DEADLINES

2003: Burr Voted Against Removing Delays To Smog Reduction Deadlines From The Energy Bill.

On 10/30/03, Burr supported a bill that attempted to allow polluted areas to have more time to cleanup but *without* having to implement stronger air pollution controls, placing a significant burden on states and communities down-wind of the urban areas subject to this provision. The measure failed 182-232.

[Thomas.loc.gov, HR 6, 10/30/03, #598, 182-232; National Environmental Trust; HR 6, Title XIV Sec. 1443 p. 43]

2003: Clean Smokestacks Legislation Sits Bottled-Up In Burr Committee. On 5/8/03. Rep Henry Waxman introduced the Clean Smokestacks Act, HR 2042, to the House. The bill amends the Clean Air Act (CAA) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to disseminate regulations to achieve specified reductions in emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, carbon dioxide, and mercury from powerplants by January 1, 2009 The bill was sent immediately to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. The Committee referred the bill to its sub-committee on Energy and Air Quality. Burr is vice-chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and he also sits on the Energy and Air Quality Sub-committee. [Thomas.loc.gov, HR 2042 Bill Summary; energycommerce.house.gov]

BURR HAS TAKEN THOUSANDS FROM COMPANIES THAT EMIT MERCURY INTO NORTH CAROLINA

Coal Plants Send 48 Tons Of Mercury Into The Air Annually. Coal-fired power plants are the nation's largest source of unregulated airborne mercury pollution, sending an estimated 48 tons into the atmosphere annually. The mercury can enter the food chain and threaten public health, especially for children and pregnant women who eat tainted fish. [[Washington Post](#), 12/3/03]

National Academy of Science: Mercury Prevents Development of Babies' Brain Cells. The National Academy of Sciences has declared that when consumed by pregnant women, usually in fish, mercury disrupts the development of brain cells in their babies. [[Cox News Service](#), 12/2/03]

2001: North Carolina Ranked #10 For Mercury Releases From Power Plants. Toxic Release Inventory Data from the Environmental Protection Agency for 2001 shows that North Carolina ranked number 10 in the United States for mercury releases from power plants with 4,233 pounds released into the air. [[Toxic Neighbors: A Report By Clean The Air](#)]

2001: Dominion Resources Ranked #5 In The Country For Mercury Releases. In 2001, Dominion Resources, a Virginia-based, electric utility company ranked No. 5 in the United States among companies with the most Mercury emissions. Dominion plants released 3,337 pounds of Mercury into the air. [[Toxic Neighbors: A Report By Clean The Air](#)]

- **Dominion Resources Is Burr's Eighth Largest Contributor.** In his 2004 campaign for the North Carolina Senate, Rep. Richard Burr has taken \$28,500 from Dominion Resources' PACs and employees. [Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 9/21/04]

2001: First Energy Ranked #7 In The Country For Mercury Releases. In 2001, the Ohio-based Electric Utility, First Energy ranked No. 7 in the United States among companies with the most Mercury emissions. First Energy Plants released 2,498 pounds of Mercury into the air. [*Toxic Neighbors: A Report By Clean The Air*]

- **First Energy Is Burr's 18th Largest Contributor.** In his 2004 campaign for the North Carolina Senate, Rep. Richard Burr has taken \$17,500 from First Energy's PACs and employees. [Center For Responsive Politics, Accessed 9/21/04]