

Dear Greenpeace,

The ad on your energy page asking us to join Greenpeace shows smokestacks being plugged, then knocked down, then replaced by wind mills telling us that smoke stacks (fossil fueled energy producers) will be replaced by wind mills (and just a few of them, at that) is a lie. Wind, a highly variable and intermittent source for low grade electricity, electricity as intermittent and variable as its source, can not replace and will not replace a base load electricity provider much as we all would like to see electricity provided more cleanly. You know that your representation is a lie...(and now you know that I know.) I have been reading your stuff for years and I know you are smarter than that.

I demand you remove such misrepresentations from your advertising. It does more harm than good to so misinform the public about energy. The fact is, there is no free lunch, there is a high environmental cost for "renewables" and the very best and cleanest energy is that which we do not use. Choose efficiency and conservation over new electricity production, especially since renewable energy production offers low grade, almost useless electricity (too variable) at the expense of the huge amounts of land it must occupy to harvest the wind's diffuse energy content.

We need real solutions if we are actually going to reduce CO2 generation by human activity. Get off the Big Wind silver bullet bandwagon and get behind sensible use of energy: efficiency and conservation. The average home uses 10 to 15 times as much energy to heat it as it uses in electricity in a year. Improve the insulation in a home to save a cord of wood or 230 gallons of heating oil a season and you earn that modern American home the energy equivalent of free electricity for the rest of the life of the home (your insulation improvement only has to be done once but works for you year after year after year.) Insulation is not fancy like a wind mill waving its arms over the countryside, for all to see but it is many times as powerful a tool in dealing with anthropomorphic CO2 emissions.

Best,

Paul Kenyon