



Brian Schweitzer replies

Posted by [Yankee](#) on October 6, 2005 - 9:19pm

Topic: [Alternative energy](#)

Tags: [brian schweitzer](#), [coal](#), [fischer-tropsch](#), [synthetic fuels](#) [[list all tags](#)]

In a DailyKos diary, Jerome a Paris (who focuses on energy issues) [took on Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer's](#) recent [New York Times op-ed](#) about making synthetic fuels from coal using the Fischer-Tropsch process. Jerome had some probing questions for the governor, and today, [Schweitzer responded to Jerome](#) in his own diary. He doesn't exactly answer Jerome's actual specific questions, but he seems to be taking people's concerns seriously.

Some of the highlights of Schweitzer's claims include:

- Water needs, traditionally an enormous hurdle, have been all but eliminated with the advent of a process that actually produces water with its excess hydrogen and oxygen.
- Carbon emissions are a particularly important consideration, because unchecked resource exploitation will destabilize our planet. But, the elements not used in hydrocarbon synthesis are sequestered, making the production and combustion of synfuel remarkably carbon-free.
- While solid wastes are a concern, it is certainly better to sequester these toxins, and sell or dispose of them in a controlled manner, than to release them into air and water as is done now.



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