

# 5 Important Drawbacks of using Fossil Fuels

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## Acid Rain

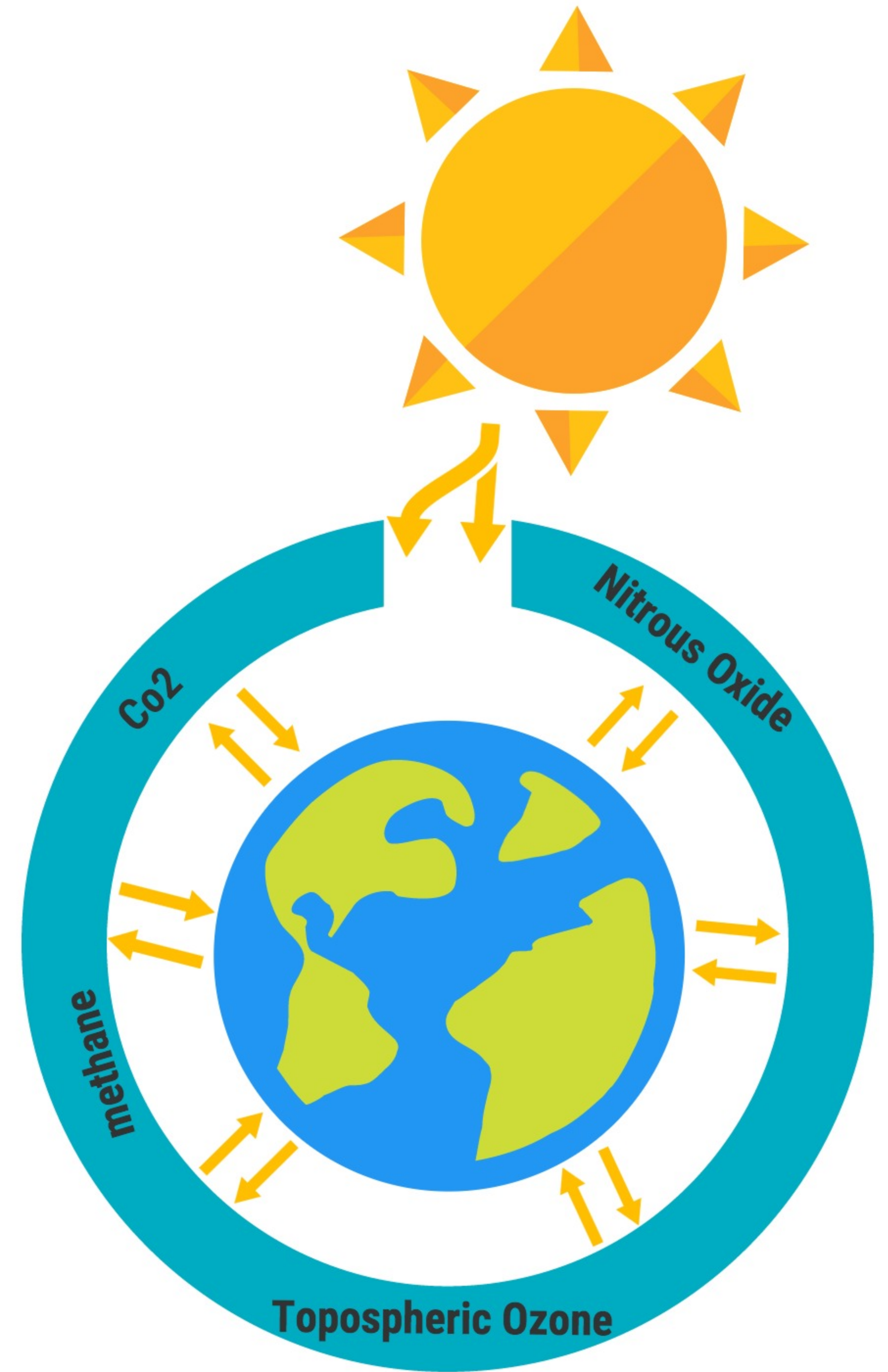


Burning fossil fuels releases gases that react to water and oxygen and create sulfuric and nitric acid to be released in the form of rain. (5)

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## Contribution to the Greenhouse Effect

Co<sub>2</sub>, methane and other gases trap heat from the sun, keeping the earth warm.



The earth naturally cycles between a glaciation period and a warming period approximately every 100,000 or so years.

The burning of fossil fuels has artificially prolonged the earth's warming period. (2)

## Gas Pipeline Risks

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Explosion and fire hazard (3)



47% (U.S.) not updated to modern legal standards (3)

Release of methane gas into the atmosphere (3)



## Oil Pipeline Risks



Contamination of drinking water supply (3)

Habitat destruction (4)



Potential for cancer and leukemia (4)

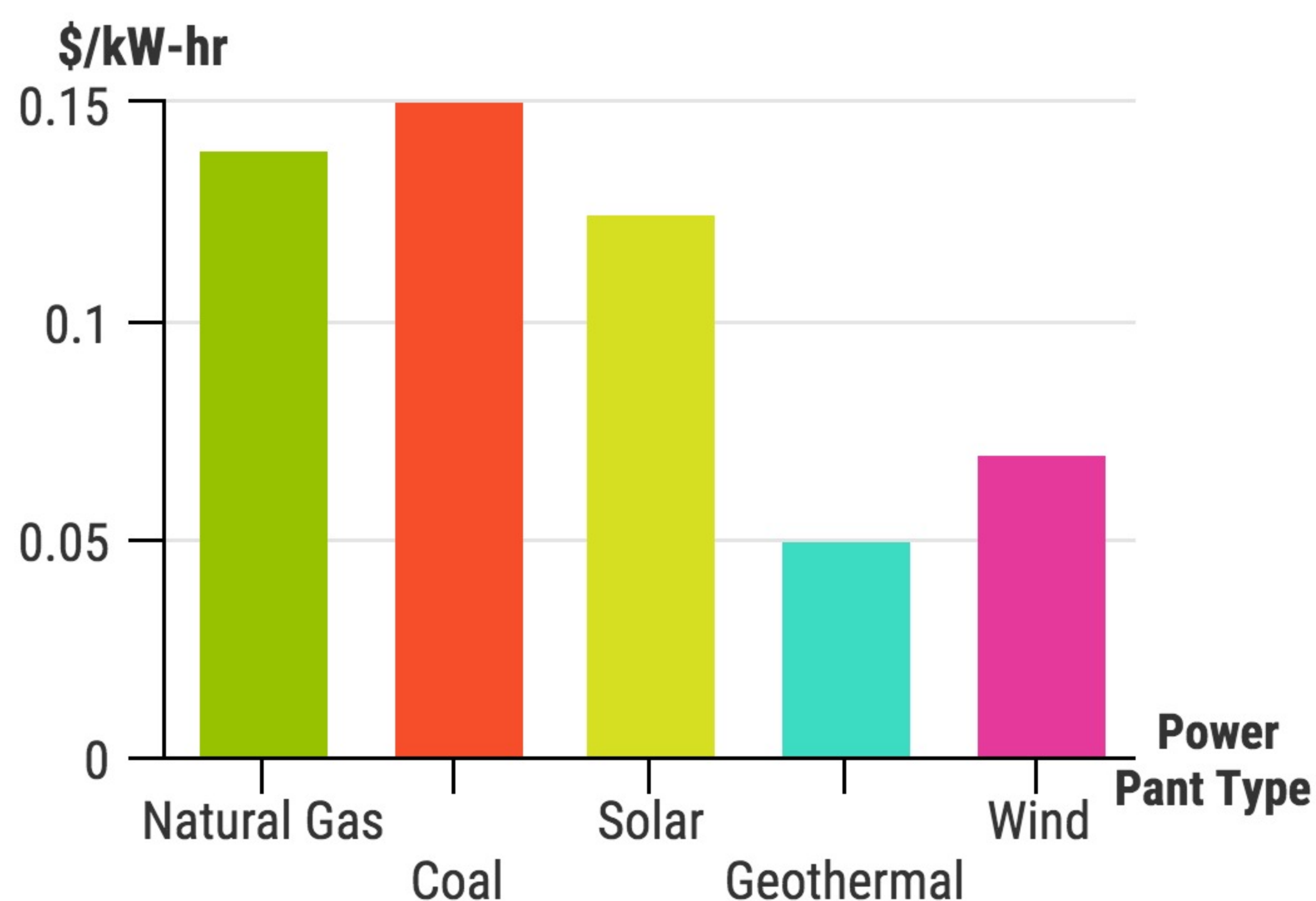


Serious monetary losses (4)



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## Fossil Fuels Less Cost Efficient



According to a report from the US Department of Energy it costs 0.10 cents per kilowatt per hour more to use coal than it does to use geothermal energy.

Taking into account the national average cost of energy (8.83 \$/kW-hr) a reduction of 0.10 cents per hour would significantly reduce the cost of energy production. (1)