

THE PRICE OF POWER

**Electric Utilities
and the Environment.**

**The Council on
Economic Priorities.**





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and the
Environment**

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THE PRICE OF POWER

Electric Utilities and the Environment

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Electric Utilities and the Environment

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the boardrooms of major corporations decisions are made daily that can profoundly affect the quality of life in the U.S.: decisions on how environmental problems are to be handled may determine how clean our air and water remain; others regarding opportunities for employment and upgrading of minority group members may affect their ability to become wholly integrated into society; decisions on the goods to be supplied to the Department of Defense may determine the extent of our military commitments; decisions regarding the conduct of overseas operations may affect the lives of foreign nationals and the image of the U.S. abroad.

The Council on Economic Priorities was formed two years ago to analyze such decisions, to evaluate the practices of individual corporations, and to detail which companies have the most responsible records.

The Council's research findings are published in bi-monthly Economic Priorities Reports as well as in longer in-depth studies which are now read regularly by over 3500 subscribers. (See back page for subscription information.)

With such information, concerned Americans can assess the impact of corporations on their own lives, and can express their approval or criticism of corporate policies and practices as shareholders, students, businessmen, and consumers.

THE PRICE OF POWER is the Council's second in-depth study in the environmental area. While it was written by a team of three Council writers, the research for the study could not have been compiled or adequately evaluated without the help of many members of the utilities industry, state and federal government officials, environmental groups, and technical experts on the problems of the utilities industry. We are also deeply indebted to the Staff of Edison Electric Institute, the Staff of the Atomic Energy Commission Public Information Office, the Staff of Natural Resources Defense Council, Louis Slesin, Dr. Sidney Socolar, and Dr. Glenn Paulson of Scientists' Institute for Public Information; special thanks go to Hazel Henderson, Robert Heilbroner, Tom Asher, and John and Alice Marlin for help in reviewing the manuscript; and for help in editing and typing the copy, thanks are due to Joyce Berry, Louise Skow, Constance Peters, Ranne Warner, Jean Halloran, and all the members of the Council.