

backed by such organizations as Friends of the Earth, WorldWatch Institute, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Barry Commoner, Amory Lovins and Barbara Ward (alias Lady Jackson). The Sun Day festivities have gotten official backing from Energy Secretary Schlesinger, who in an internal memorandum urged department personnel to cooperate and help organize the event.

* The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in its just-released annual report advocates integration of "soft" energy alternatives into a national energy program. "The promise of abundant, en-

vironmentally benign nuclear power in the long-term future is no more than a promise; unsolved technological, economic and social problems are formidable." The CEQ, which is an advisory body to the White House, is dominated by avowedly anti-nuclear environmentalists including Executive Director Gus Speth, formerly of the Washington, D.C.-based Natural Resources Defense Council. "Soft" technology is a concept made popular a year ago by British-based anti-nuclear advocate Amory Lovins, head of the British chapter of Friends of the Earth, to refer to various forms of solar, geothermal, and biomass energy.

We Need Coal And Nuclear Power Development

Fusion Energy Foundation Director Dr. Morris Levitt is releasing the following statement at a press conference in Pittsburgh March 3. He will be in Pittsburgh for a lecture at the University of Pittsburgh.

It was former United Mine Workers president John L. Lewis who argued powerfully on numerous occasions that the only sound basis for the coal industry was continual introduction of advanced technology into the industry as well as into the economy as a whole. That perspective has never been more timely or more correct.

Properly resolving this issue of advanced technology will also immediately demonstrate that there is no conflict between coal and nuclear energy development, but rather that the two sources fit together perfectly in a rational national energy program.

From the beginning of the tenure of James Schlesinger as Secretary of Energy to the present critical juncture in the coal strike, Secretary Schlesinger and his allies have attempted to put through a no-growth energy policy by pitting nuclear against coal as primary energy sources. Under a zero growth regimen, which is Schlesinger's actual objective, both industries and their related industrial and labor infrastructures will be permanently ruined. Legislators in West Virginia who just voted for a moratorium on nuclear reactor construction would do well to reconsider the implications of their action.

Coal and nuclear are actually natural allies for at least three basic, related reasons. First, they are

best used for different purposes in electrical generation and in steel-making and other basic industrial processes. Second, readily realizable nuclear exports on the order of \$50 billion annually can stabilize the dollar and catalyze vast growth of foreign markets in general. Third, to achieve economic and energy growth rates of about 10 percent a year, minimally required to provide skilled jobs and full employment to a more productive workforce, we need both: thousands of nuclear plants and a several-fold increase in coal production.

The two technologies also fit together in a more profound way: they both have a vital role to play in development of the unlimited energy potentiality of controlled fusion power and subsumed plasma physics technologies which will end scarcity of any resource forever.

In the case of coal, what is required in addition to modern, safe methods of high-productivity coal mining, is development of the most advanced form of coal combustion and energy conversion, magnetohydrodynamics, or MHD. This process — under study in both Pittsburgh and Morgantown — turns coal into a plasma, eliminating pollution and costly pollution controls, and doubles the thermodynamic efficiency of electrical generation. On the nuclear side, fission and breeder reactors are the natural and necessary stepping stones to the development of the technologies required to harness fusion power.

The necessary policy is straightforward: coal and nuclear!