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SHARE PRICES ARE HIGHER

As eight of the ten markets comprising our International Index have risen over the course of the past twenty four hours, with the market in Germany rising the most seriously, reversing all of the serious weakness of the day previous and then a bit more, taking our Index 52 "points" higher, or 0.5%. For the year-to-date, the Index is up 450 "points" or 4.9%. We remain "pleasantly" bullish of shares generally for the trend, despite all of the theories to the contrary by the wisest of men and women who've been fighting the bullish trend for the past several years, remains clearly upward, moving, as we like to say, "From the lower left to the upper right" on the charts. As such we are, in the only account we manage directly here at TGL, or own retirement fund, still long primarily of aluminum shares and we are very, very modestly long of coal mining shares, buying that which the market has thus far found anathema.

We are primarily long of the largest aluminium miner and processor here in the US and we are short of out-of-the money calls against it, along with a few select derivatives, that bring our net long position to one that is just moderately bullish. In retrospect, we should have thrown caution to the proverbial winds late last week when the trend lines we've drawn on the S&P chart held amidst the panic associated with the "war" efforts in Gaza/Israel and with Russia/Ukraine, but we are not prone to throwing caution to the winds. That is not our style here, nor shall it ever be. But we are bullish; the trend is up and our tendency should be and shall be to err bullishly of shares generally. For those who care about such things, our retirement fund this year is up approximately 11.5% year-to- date:

S&P	up	13	1,947
CanS&P/TSX	down	11	15,263
FTSE	up	25	6,657
DAX	**up**	**130**	9,199
CAC	up	32	4,195
NIKKEI	up	141	15,326
HangSeng	up	238	24,868
AusSP/ASX	up	42	5,553
Shanghai	up	15	2,223
Brazil	down	861	55,581
TGL INDEX	**up**	**52**	**9,672**

Regarding our interest in coal shares, and regarding that which we wrote earlier this week comparing the cost of producing electricity via coal to that of nat-gas, our old friend, and "instructor" when it comes to such things, Mr. Robert Hefner III, who has written books on this question and has been intimately involved with the energy business for more than four decades, took the time to write to us yesterday. His comments were so spot-on that we've no choice but to reproduce what Robert was kind enough to write. He wrote:

Dennis:

I understand perfectly well your attraction to coal shares, as there is no question that if the nation's rules and regulations stay the same, coal shares may be putting in a bottom and on their way to higher levels. However, referring to your chart on Page 1, showing the price of coal versus the price of natural gas, you must remember that in no way do the prices compare to the cost of their use. In the case of coal, consumers, neighbors and taxpayers pick up substantial external costs that are not necessary

for them to bear if natural gas is used, because of the significant and important differences in their external costs. Natural gas is clean and carbon light, while coal is dirty and carbon heavy!

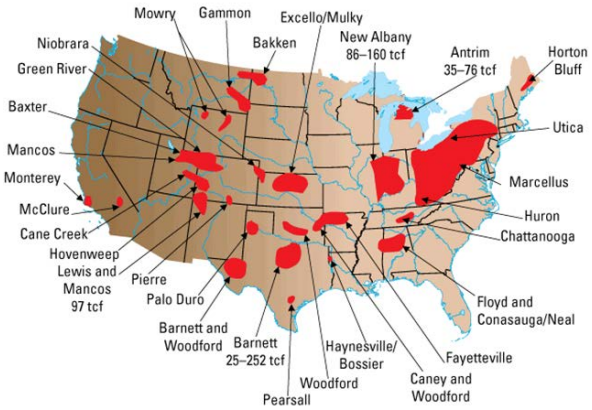
In case you are interested, let me recite some excerpts from my book, The Grand Energy Transition, and a section called "Coal's External Costs".

"To be sure, coal's hidden external costs are intangible and difficult to measure. Here, at home in the U.S., it is hard to assess the impact of a half-mile long train rolling through a town in northern Oklahoma, bringing commerce to a halt, while vehicles and people wait for the coal cars to pass. In Houston, where I once lived, what is the cost incurred by the economy as drivers on the way to work or home wait for the five minutes it takes for a long line of coal cars to pass on the rail line and before the inevitable traffic jam disappears and we start again? Certainly, that scene repeated over and over again for decades, has considerable effect on human productivity and adds substantial demand for oil while automobile engines idle and we wait for coal to be delivered. . . . .

So, we may finally have at least an intuitive feel for these coal costs: pollution, acid rain, mercury emissions, particulates, shortened life spans, lost productivity and crop growth, and commerce-debilitating smogs and fogs, all from coal use.

Coal is falsely "cheaper" – as long as we ignore its pollution, its health costs, diminished life expectations and contribution to global warming, which is to say nothing of the loss of forests to beetles because of decades of acid rain, diminished agricultural productivity and more important, human productivity. When these are included, coal is obviously more costly and has likely been more expensive than natural gas for decades. One study to quantify these costs notes they may vary from adding about $13 per megawatt-hour to the price of coal-fired power to possibly as high as adding $33 per megawatt-hour. In comparison, the cost of the externalities on a natural gas plant are estimated at only 40 cents per megawatt-hour.

Now it is time to go to work and bring this important research up-to-date, because all economic analyses of the cost of alternatives, natural gas, wind, solar and hydrogen, must include these costs of coal for an accurate and fair comparison. Economic forecasts must include all these costs – costs that will disappear as alternatives displace coal and by doing so, create real economic benefits."



We are grateful for what Robert has written; we are the wiser for it… all too obviously… and Robert reminds us often of the benefits to be derived from natural-gas and reminds us also to be grateful for the Eagle Ford, for the Marcellus, for the Barnett-and Woodford, for the Haynesville/Bossier and for the myriad other shale formations resplendent with natural-gas.