

Investors Passive About US Coal Power Risks

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(Dow Jones) US electric utilities are facing "unprecedented risks" from their coal-fired power plants, adding risk to stocks historically seen as safe-haven investments, according to a white paper released today by **As You Sow**. Risks include proposed environmental regulations, higher commodity costs and availability of cheaper power-producing alternatives. Investors should look at these risks cumulatively, the paper says, and not just individually. "Despite the increasing risks, investors are rather passive about it," said Leslie Lowe, an author of the study and managing director of consulting firm UCI Environmental Accountability, in an interview. (naureen.malik@dowjones.com)