

is unwilling to burn light fuels because of the high market values. For those who may not know, heavy fuel is the cheapest but the worst for the environment, thus we save money by burning the cheap kind and selling the expensive clean fuels, creating financial reserves abroad. To be fair, it's a financially sensible decision, but it is conducted at the expense of our children's health and ours. If you want to see what I'm talking about, take a look at the sea by Kuwait Bay just before sunset and notice a slightly yellow haze rolling in to cover the city.

Moreover, the smart folks planned the stations' locations to coordinate with the three wind directions. How? I'll tell you. If the wind blows from the North, Kuwait city is covered with the smoke and pollution from the Doha Power Plant; if the wind comes from the East, it carries with it the pollution from the Sabiyah Power Plant; and if the hot wind from the South blows in, then the pollution from the Shoaiba Power Plant honors us with its presence. And from this arises our main topic, where according to the press, the State is beginning to import natural gas to control the pollution rate, but only after Malta has fallen, as the saying goes. (This phrase has been adopted into Kuwaiti and refers to trying to correct a problem only after irreparable damage has been done.) The increase in the prices of electricity and water is the issue. The government has approved the increased rate schedule, but the impact of applying it is still being tossed around between rumors and interpretations.

So I am asking and wondering: Is the Ministry of Electricity competent enough to collect these fees?

And most importantly, how can we redeem our lost health and our children's?