

Fayette Power Project

Efficient, Reliable, Environmentally Responsible

Clean Texas Partner

FPP in 2009 became the first coal-fired facility in Texas to be recognized at the gold level by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Clean Texas Program.

Acceptance at the Clean Texas program's gold level acknowledges steps FPP is taking beyond regulatory requirements to reduce its impact on the environment, including reducing emissions.

This Clean Texas designation is a demonstration of FPP's commitment to go beyond what is required to be a good neighbor and steward of the environment.

Fayette Power Project (FPP) is a three-unit, coal-fired power plant in Fayette County, Texas. LCRA and Austin Energy co-own units 1 and 2, and LCRA owns Unit 3. The plant provides about 1,625 megawatts of electricity and helps LCRA and its wholesale electric customers provide power for more than 1 million Central Texans.



Fuel Source: FPP uses low-sulfur coal from the Powder River Basin of Wyoming, which burns cleaner than other types of coal or lignite. The coal is delivered by rail.

Emissions: LCRA has taken steps to upgrade and operate FPP more efficiently so it produces fewer emissions per kilowatt-hour. FPP has a history of operating in an environmentally responsible manner, generally keeping emissions well below those allowed by law.

Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)

- LCRA and Austin Energy invested about \$400 million to add flue gas desulfurization equipment or “scrubbers” that are removing more than 95 percent of SO₂ emissions from the plant's two older units, which have been in operation since 1979 and 1980.
- The scrubber for Unit 1 became operational in January 2011. The scrubber for Unit 2 came on-line in March 2011.
- LCRA also is upgrading the scrubber that cleans emissions from the plant's third unit, which has been in operation since 1988. The upgrade will be complete in spring 2012.

Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)

- In 2005, FPP completed improvements to the boilers on each of the plant's three units to reduce plantwide NO_x emissions by 65 to 70 percent, a goal that the facility met six years before it was required.

Mercury (Hg)

- The new scrubbers on units 1 and 2 are removing about 20 to 25 percent of mercury emissions from the two units.
- In February 2006, the U.S. Department of Energy selected

FPP for two pilot projects to test new methods of reducing mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. LCRA is evaluating the results.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

- FPP is exploring new, zero-emission technologies and ways to reduce existing carbon emissions.
- LCRA is partnering with the Clean Coal Technology Foundation of Texas to support development of carbon capture and sequestration technologies.

Coal Combustion Products and Storage

Storage: FPP uses a dry process for storage, processing, and disposal for all of the ash produced in the coal-burning process. FPP is closing the ash pond where it stored a portion of the coal combustion products before the power plant transitioned to a dry system. FPP no longer uses the ash pond for storage.

Recycling: Most of the coal combustion products from FPP are recycled and used for products such as cement, ready-mix concrete, road base, wallboard and other construction materials.

- FPP uses an external contractor to market coal combustion products and has sold more than 3.3 million tons of these products since 2001.
- Over the past five years, FPP has sold an average of 88 percent of the total products it produced.
- During some years, the plant has been able to sell 100 percent of the products produced by pulling from previously stored resources.
- Due to economic conditions and the effect on the construction industry, sales dropped to an average of 81 percent during the past 24 months.
- The coal combustion products recycling program at FPP received a national Coal Combustion Products Partnership award in 2005.

Environmentally Responsible: LCRA and its customers are committed to providing power in an environmentally responsible manner. The addition of emission-reduction scrubbers to FPP units 1 and 2 will help the plant maintain its position among the cleaner coal-fired power plants currently operating in Texas.

Reliable and Efficient: International benchmarking studies have shown FPP operations are among the best in its peer group. FPP has been recognized for high performance in safety, reliability, cost, efficiency and continuous operation.

Community Involvement: Through an established citizen advisory committee, FPP management meets quarterly with power plant neighbors and other community members to discuss and respond to environmental issues and other topics of interest. FPP has involved La Grange residents in community events including household hazardous waste collections, recycling, and park clean-up events. Most of the plant's 283 employees live in the Fayette County region.