

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 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.

This Clean Texas designation is a demonstration of FPP's commitment to its communities that it will continue to put in the extra effort to go beyond what is required to be good neighbors and good stewards of the environment.

More info?

For more information about FPP, visit www.lcra.org or call LCRA Communication Services at (512) 944-6719.

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 1,640 megawatts of electricity and helps LCRA and its wholesale electric customers provide electricity 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)

- Since receiving a flexible air quality permit in 2002, LCRA and Austin Energy have been adding flue gas desulfurization technology or “scrubbers” that will remove about 95 percent of SO₂ emissions from the plant's two older units, which have been in operation since 1979 and 1980, respectively.
- LCRA also is upgrading the scrubber that cleans SO₂ emissions from the plant's third unit, which has been in operation since 1988.
- Once completed, the new and upgraded scrubber units will be capable of removing more than 90 percent of SO₂ emissions plantwide.

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 by the flexible air quality permit.

Mercury

- The scrubber being installed for units 1 and 2 will remove about 20 to 25 percent of mercury emissions from the two units combined.
- In February 2006, the U.S. Department of Energy selected FPP for two pilot projects to test new methods capable of reducing mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. LCRA continues to evaluate the

study results.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

- FPP is exploring new, zero-emission technologies and ways to reduce existing carbon emissions.
- LCRA is partnering with entities — such as the Clean Coal Technology Foundation of Texas and the Bureau of Economic Geology's Gulf Coast Carbon Center — 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 most of the ash produced in the coal-burning process. All ash will be handled this way after LCRA replaces the remaining wet ash systems this fall.

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

- FPP uses an external contractor to market coal combustion products and has sold nearly 2.8 million tons of these products since 2001.
- Over the past five years, FPP has reused or sold 100 percent of the coal combustion products it produced. During some years, the plant has been able to sell or reuse more than 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 about 80 percent during a recent 12-month period.
- The recycling program in 2005 received a Coal Combustion Products Partnership Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Environmentally Responsible: LCRA and its customers are committed to providing power in an environmentally responsible manner. FPP Unit 3 already is among the cleanest coal-fired power plant units in the state and the nation. The scrubber improvements will bring units 1 and 2 up to those standards.

Reliable and Efficient: EUCG Inc., an electric utility industry group, in 2005 and 2006 named FPP “Best Performer” internationally among 92 large coal-fired power plants operated by 16 utilities. The designation recognized FPP for high performance in the areas of reliability, cost, 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.