

## More jobs, work at Dave Johnston Power Plant

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In the face of national criticism of coal-fired power plants, PacifiCorp plans to do major emissions control work on Dave Johnston Power Plant beginning in 2008. Meanwhile, maintenance overhauls will take place on two of the plant's four units.

The power plant projects will bring hundreds of workers to the area beginning next year. Those workers will be in addition to crews who will at the same time begin construction on a 132-turbine wind farm near Glenrock and Rolling Hills.

"The emissions project will have a peak work force of 350 people, but of course it will be less than that when the project ramps up and ramps down again," PacifiCorp Spokesman Jeff Hymas said.

"Currently the company is still planning on how and where to house the workers," he added. "We do our best to mitigate any impacts to the community. Our plans include housing and transportation. "

The emissions control, called retrofitting, falls under the company's Clean Air Initiative which seeks to improve environmental performance by reducing emissions from power plants in its operation network, Hymas explained. All power plants in Wyoming are scheduled for upgrades and the total cost of all improvements under the plan will be \$1 billion, he said.

"There are plans to retrofit equipment in Units 3 and 4 at the Dave Johnston power plant with emission control equipment. This will significantly reduce emissions from the plant. Initial work to install the equipment will begin in fall 2008, with the bulk of the work completed by 2010," Hymas said.

"We also have maintenance overhauls, which is a separate project, planned for Units 1 and 2 that will take place next year," he said. "The overhaul of Unit 2 will take place in the spring and will include work on the turbine and generator which is actually the smaller of the two overhauls."

The retrofitting will include new scrubbers and baghouses at a cost of \$133.2 million for Unit 3 and \$177.9 million for Unit 4, according to Pacificorp's 2007 Integrated Resource Plan.

A baghouse is a generic name for air pollution control equipment that is designed around the use of engineered fabric filter tubes, envelopes or cartridges in the dust capturing, separation or filtering process.

"The purpose of the retrofit is to ensure the coal fueled plants meet Regional Haze Rule (RHR)," Hymas said.

In 1999, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a major effort to improve air quality in national parks and wilderness areas. The RHR calls for state and federal agencies to work together to improve visibility in 156 national parks and wilderness.

The rule requires the states, in coordination with the EPA, the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and other interested parties, to develop and implement air quality protection plans to reduce the pollution that causes visibility impairment.

Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) guidelines were established as a result of RHR. These guidelines provide guidance for states when determining which facilities must install additional controls and the type of equipment that must be used. Facilities eligible for BART installation were built between 1962 and 1977 and have the potential to emit more than 250 tons/year of visibility-impairing pollutants.

"The state of Wyoming has not yet determined BART for Dave Johnston," Hymas said. "With uncertainty over potential legislation about coal fire plants we are being proactive in getting our plants up to where they need to be ahead of any mandates."