

SMUD News Release

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

• News Media Services

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Cogeneration plant increases output by up to 22 megawatts; improves efficiency

The 164-megawatt Procter and Gamble Cogeneration Project located in South Sacramento will soon be generating up to 186 megawatts (MWs), while reducing SMUD's nitrogen oxides (NOx) by up to 50 percent and the rate of greenhouse gas emissions for each MW hour (MWh) generated.

Three combustion turbines will be upgraded improving efficiency of the current eleven year-old units by up to four percent, meaning they will consume less natural gas for each equivalent unit of energy produced. The increased output is enough to power approximately 22,000 residential homes.

The three General Electric LM6000 engines will be upgraded in phases. The first upgrade will be completed this year and will allow the plant to generate an additional eight MWs. The second upgrade, expected to be completed in February 2009 will add another eight MWs. The final upgrade will add an additional five MWs and is expected to be completed by December 2009.

The improved efficiency coupled with the additional energy allows the plant to reduce the greenhouse gas emission rate for every equivalent unit of power generated. The upgrade will also reduce NOx emissions by 50 percent from 5.0 parts per million (ppm) to 2.5 ppm. NOx is recognized as a precursor to ozone, therefore cutting this pollutant in half is particularly important to this region. Though the current LM6000 units produce carbon dioxide (CO2) at a level below the industry emission performance standard of 1,100 pounds of CO2 per MWh, the new units will produce even less of this greenhouse gas per MWh. The greenhouse gas reduction rate is estimated to be between three and five percent.

Additionally, due to their efficiency, the upgraded units should pay for themselves within four to six years.

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This is one of many efforts underway to improve generation efficiency, reduce natural gas use and reduce emissions of SMUD power sources. SMUD also plans another LM6000 upgrade project at the Carson Ice Cogeneration Facility.

The Procter and Gamble Cogeneration Project is owned by the Sacramento Cogeneration Authority, a joint power agency governed by a commission composed of seven members of the SMUD Board of Directors.

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