

# NEWS



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## **SUNFLOWER RECEIVES AIR PERMIT FOR NEW POWER PLANT**

After more than one year of work with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Sunflower Electric recently announced it was issued an air quality construction permit for a new 600 MW coal-fired generating plant that will be built in Finney County, near Garden City, Kansas.

The permit authorizes Sand Sage Power, LLC, a subsidiary company owned by Sunflower, to install and operate a pulverized coal-fired boiler, one natural gas auxiliary boiler, and a new cooling tower. It also authorizes changes to the coal, lime, and ash handling equipment at Sunflower's existing Holcomb Unit 1.

Sunflower's President and Chief Executive Officer, Chris Hauck, said, "The issuance of this permit is an important achievement and underscores the viability of this project." He added, "This very important milestone in the development process could not have occurred without the exceptional cooperation Sunflower received from KDHE staff across the state."

The new plant will be environmentally-friendly when it comes on line in 2007. Wayne Penrod, senior manager, environment and production planning at Sunflower commented that, "The new plant will be one of the cleanest coal-fired power plants in the nation as a result of our control technology designs." He continued, "Unit 2 will be a shining example of how we have utilized clean-coal technology to mitigate the emissions from this new facility."

Sunflower and its project development partner, International Energy Partners, L.P. (IEP) of Bethesda, Maryland, are continuing their negotiations with load-serving utilities interested in long-term power supply contracts and they are working with regional transmission organizations (RTOs) to complete the necessary agreements to let power from the new plant flow across the regional transmission system. Noman Williams, senior manager, transmission services, remarked that, "We have to have continued cooperation from the RTOs and perhaps from the state of Kansas to give transmission providers like Sunflower the ability to reliably move power around the state and the region."

The new plant will be owned by investors and be built immediately adjacent to Sunflower's existing 360 MW coal-fired unit. The project will result in both units

utilizing common facilities already in existence to reduce capital and operating costs. Sunflower will operate and maintain both units with an experienced workforce that will be increased to accommodate the needs of the new facility.

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, a regional wholesale power supplier, owns and operates a 595 MW system of coal and gas-fired generation facilities and a 1,200 mile system of high voltage transmission lines. Sunflower's six member cooperatives serve 120,000 people in a 30,000 square mile area in western Kansas.