PPL's Newest Power Plant Now in Operation

PRNewswire-FirstCall LOWER MOUNT BETHEL, Pa.

PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL) has added 600 megawatts to its electricity generating capacity with the completion of start-up testing of its Lower Mount Bethel Energy natural gas-fired power plant in eastern Pennsylvania.

With the Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant now in operation, PPL controls more than 12,000 megawatts of generating capacity in Pennsylvania, Montana, Arizona, Illinois, Connecticut, New York and Maine.

"The Lower Mount Bethel plant is among the most efficient and environmentally sensitive power plants in today's market," said Dennis Murphy, vice president of PPL's Eastern Fossil and Hydro unit. "The design uses a combination of natural gas and steam to reliably provide electricity to high energy demand areas with little environmental impact."

The plant will be capable of generating enough electricity to power about 600,000 homes and will help meet the growing energy demands in the area served by the PJM Interconnection, which operates the electric transmission system for eight mid-Atlantic states.

"A reliable, efficient and readily available power supply is a key to these states' economies," Murphy said. "The majority of the electricity produced by the new plant will be used in Pennsylvania and New Jersey."

The new plant is located on a 25-acre site adjacent to PPL's Martins Creek power plant in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County, Pa.

Construction on the Lower Mount Bethel plant began in December 2001. As a combined cycle power plant, it uses the waste heat from two gas turbines to create the steam that drives a steam turbine to generate additional power.

The exclusive use of natural gas as its fuel source means that the plant emits very low levels of sulfur dioxide. Selective catalytic reduction - the best available technology - keeps nitrous oxide emissions at a minimum. The plant also is equipped with technology that limits emissions of carbon monoxide.

Additionally, because the new plant is adjacent to PPL's Martins Creek plant, it is able to share some services including water supply, power transmission and wastewater disposal facilities, further minimizing its effects on the environment.

PPL Corporation, headquartered in Allentown, Pa., sells energy in key U.S. markets and delivers electricity to nearly 5 million customers in Pennsylvania, the United Kingdom and Latin America. More information is available at www.pplweb.com.

SOURCE: PPL Corporation

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