

# Cleanup Work Starts at PPL's Martins Creek Plant After Ash Basin Spill

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Cleanup work started Friday (8/26) at PPL's Martins Creek power plant in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Pa., from a leak in the discharge structure of one of the plant's ash basins.

The leak continues, but the amount of water flowing through a discharge pipe into the Delaware River has been greatly reduced. Plant workers continue to place sandbags in the basin's discharge structure to work toward stopping the leak. A large crane arrived at the plant today to support that work.

Throughout the day, an environmental contractor hired by PPL has been removing an ash-water mixture contained by floating booms on the river near the discharge area. The mixture is being pumped into tanker trucks and transported to another ash basin at the plant.

Plans are being developed to remove ash from areas where the ash-water mixture escaped from a manhole cover on the discharge pipe. The cover dislodged because of the water flow in the pipe.

PPL also continues to sample water from the Delaware River at locations downstream from the power plant to make sure the ash is not causing problems for people's drinking water.

"We have been taking river water samples regularly since Thursday afternoon, testing for arsenic and other chemical components of coal ash," said Tom Eppehimer, the power plant's manager.

"Safe drinking water is a high priority. We have tested water at the entry point to the water distribution system for the Easton Water Authority. The water meets applicable standards for a wide range of chemicals in coal ash. Samples from where the authority takes water from the river also meet the applicable standards," he added.

The Easton Water Authority draws water from the Delaware River about 10 miles downstream from the power plant.

All of the water samples are being tested by Analytical Laboratory Services Inc. of Middletown, Pa., an independent laboratory.

Cleanup work will continue throughout the weekend. PPL remains in contact with state, county and local officials in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

"We appreciate the cooperation we've received from all of the agencies and organizations that are working with us," Eppehimer said.

PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL), headquartered in Allentown, Pa., controls about 12,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the United States, 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 <http://www.pplweb.com/>.

SOURCE: PPL Corporation

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