

Sandhills Solar Facility

Location

Taylor County, Georgia

Fuel Resource

Photovoltaic Solar

Capacity

148 MW

Ownership

Southern Power



Southern Power announced plans to develop a 148-megawatt (MW) solar project in Taylor County, Georgia, in December 2014. Construction of the plant began in September 2015, and the project achieved commercial operation in the fourth quarter of 2016.

First Solar was the engineering, procurement and construction contractor for the facility. Southern Power serves as the operation and maintenance contractor alongside First Solar.

Electricity and associated renewable energy credits generated by the facility serve 25-year purchase power agreements with Cobb Electric Membership Corporation (EMC), Flint EMC, Sawnee EMC, Middle Georgia EMC and Irwin EMC.

Size

The solar facility is constructed on a 911-acre site in Taylor County.

Technology

The facility consists of approximately 1.6 million of First Solar's thin-film PV solar modules mounted on single-axis tracking tables.

PV modules generate electricity directly from sunlight through an electronic process that occurs naturally in certain types of material known as semiconductors. Solar energy frees electrons in these materials to travel through an electrical circuit, powering devices or sending electricity to the grid. Tracking systems produce more energy because they track the sun's movement throughout the day.

Southern Power, a subsidiary of Southern Company, is a leading U.S. wholesale energy provider meeting the electricity needs of municipalities, electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities, and commercial and industrial customers. Southern Power and its subsidiaries, some of which are owned in part with various partners, own or operate 49 facilities operating or under construction in 12 states with more than 11,864 MW of generating capacity in Alabama, California, Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas and Washington.

Southern Company (NYSE: SO) is a leading energy company serving 9 million customers through its subsidiaries. The company provides clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy through electric operating companies in three states, natural gas distribution companies in four states, a competitive generation company serving wholesale customers across America, a leading distributed energy infrastructure company, a fiber optics network and telecommunications services. Southern Company brands are known for excellent customer service, high reliability and affordable prices below the national average. For more than a century, we have been building the future of energy and developing the full portfolio of energy resources, including carbon-free nuclear, advanced carbon capture technologies, natural gas, renewables, energy efficiency and storage technology. Through an industry-leading commitment to innovation and a low-carbon future, Southern Company and its subsidiaries develop the customized energy solutions our customers and communities require to drive growth and prosperity. Our uncompromising values ensure we put the needs of those we serve at the center of everything we do and govern our business to the benefit of our world. Our corporate culture and hiring practices have been recognized nationally by the U.S. Department of Labor, DiversityInc, Black Enterprise, Forbes and the Women's Choice