



West Georgia Generating Facility

Simple-Cycle Units

The West Georgia plant is a natural gas-fueled, simple-cycle combustion turbine electric-generating plant located near Thomaston, GA in Upson County. The plant is used to generate electricity for the South – the fastest growing region in the country. The four units went online in June 2000.



Location

Thomaston, GA

Current Capacity

600 megawatts

Ownership

Southern Power

Primary Fuel

Natural Gas

The West Georgia Generating Facility is owned and operated by Southern Power, the subsidiary of Southern Company that acquires, builds, manages and owns wholesale generation assets. Southern Power is among the largest wholesale energy providers in the Southeast, meeting the electricity needs of municipalities, electric cooperatives and investor-owned utilities. The company owns and operates more than 7,500 megawatts with facilities in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and North Carolina and has an additional 820 megawatts committed to construction in North Carolina and Texas.

Atlanta-based Southern Company is the premier energy company serving the Southeast and a leading U.S. producer of electricity. With 4.4 million customers and more than 42,000 megawatts of generating capacity, Southern Company owns electric utilities in four states and a growing competitive generation company, as well as fiber optics and wireless communications.

Size

The plant consists of 4 combustion turbine units with a combined capacity of 600 megawatts.

Technology

Simple-cycle technology is an efficient and environmentally-sensitive method of generating electricity. In a simple-cycle combustion turbine, air is drawn through the inlet filters and into the compressor. After the air is compressed, it is mixed with fuel in combustion chambers and is burned. The expanding burned fuel is directed through turbine blades, forcing them to turn. The turbine is directly coupled to the generator and jointly turns at 3,600 RPM. The combustion turbine produces electricity at 13,800 volts before being “stepped up” in a transformer to 230,000 volts for transmission.

Economic Impact

The West Georgia Generating Facility provides millions of dollars in economic benefits to the city of Thomaston, Upson County, and the state of Georgia.

Southern Power

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