

Astoria Generating Company, L.P.

Luyster Creek Energy Project

Fact Sheet No. 2

Project Description - Astoria Generating Company, L.P. (AGC), proposes to replace its oldest generating Unit at its Astoria Generating Station (AGS) with the Luyster Creek Energy Project (LCEP), a new, highly efficient, state-of-the-art combined cycle unit. The new unit, with a capacity of approximately 400 megawatts, will provide additional electric generation for New York City while reducing emissions.

Who is AGC?

AGC, a US Power Generating Company (USPowerGen), owns the existing AGS facility, and will develop, own and operate the new unit. USPowerGen is a private company that owns and operates electric generating facilities in New York and currently supplies approximately 20% of the New York City electric generating capacity.

Who's who at Astoria?

The Astoria Consolidated Edison (ConEd) Complex is a 600+ acre parcel that is bounded on the north and west by the East River, the east by Luyster Creek (Steinway Creek) and 37th Street, and the south by 20th Avenue. While much of the Complex is owned by ConEd, this large parcel contains other existing and future power generating facilities under different ownership, including:

- NRG Energy, Inc. owns a 15-acre parcel southwest of the LCEP that houses the Astoria Gas Turbines, and is developing a future repowering project for that facility.
- New York Power Authority owns the Charles Poletti Combined Cycle Power Project and the retired Poletti steam turbine plant to the northwest of the LCEP and on the East River.
- GDF SUEZ Energy North America, Inc. partially owns the Astoria I and Astoria II Projects to the south of the LCEP on the old Castle Oil property.

Where is the new facility located? Will it be visible from the community?

The LCEP will be located at the AGS Fuel Oil Tank Farm and occupy approximately 10 acres and be approximately 2,400 feet to the northeast of the existing units. The new unit may be visible from some parts of the community. For most residents, other existing buildings will obscure most views of the new unit.

What type and size of electric generating technology is proposed?

The LCEP will include the installation of a Siemens' H series, 400-megawatt, state-of-the-art combined cycle unit utilizing one combustion turbine, a heat recovery steam generator, and steam turbine. The unit will also have modern emissions controls and monitoring systems.

Will there be an environmental benefit?

USPowerGen has completed modeling of the New York City electrical grid to project expected operation of the new unit and its effect on the existing electric grid system. This model was used to predict the environmental benefits associated with reducing existing operations. Results indicate that the new unit will have an overall net reduction in the amount of emissions to the air. As part of the air permit USPowerGen will also retire one of the existing units and limit the emissions from others. Total future emissions, from the remaining and new units, will be less than the currently permitted levels.

Will there be reduced electric rates?

The new unit will produce electricity at lower cost than the virtually all existing units in New York City. However, relative to the total size of the New York City electric generation system, the LCEP is small. Therefore, the impact on the overall price is difficult to quantify and may not be noticeable on the average customer's bill. For a city the size of New York City, it may take several higher efficiency projects, such as this one, to have a noticeable impact on reducing electric rates.

What fuel will be used to generate electricity?

The new unit will primarily burn natural gas and be permitted to use ultra low sulfur diesel on a limited basis as a backup for system reliability. This back-up fuel is important for times in which natural gas is unavailable.

Will this Project bring more jobs to Astoria?

Yes, there will be hundreds of construction jobs created for approximately two years while the new unit is being built. There will also be several permanent positions to operate and maintain the unit. The expectation is that many of these positions will be filled by skilled labor in the community and surrounding areas.

Will the existing Astoria Generating Station remain?

The oldest unit (Unit 2) at the AGS will be retired as part of this project. The other units will remain, but the emissions will be capped at reduced levels on two of the units. The new unit will cause the older AGS units, as well as other less efficient plants in New York City, to run less while allowing newer, cleaner units to meet the continually growing electric demand within New York City.

How do you obtain project documents, provide comments or ask questions?

AGC has established a web site at www.uspowergen.com/projects/luyster-creek/ for project information and contact. Additionally a hotline has been established at **1-888-398-USPG**. Project Documents can also be found at:

- Queens Community Board 1
36-01 35th Avenue, Astoria
- Queens Borough Public Library
89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica
- Queens Borough Branch Public Library Astoria Branch
14-01 Astoria Boulevard, Long Island City
- NYSDEC Region 2 Office, Division of Environmental Permits
47-40 21st Street, Long Island City
- NYSDEC web site: www.dec.ny.gov/permits/66991.html

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) addresses the potential environmental effects of operating the new combined cycle unit, the potential temporary environmental effects associated with construction-related activity, and the environmental benefits of reducing operations of the existing units for a number of topics. The analysis in the DEIS determined that there are no significant effects to the following:

- Biological, Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology
- Climate and Air Quality
- Historic, Cultural and Archaeological Resources
- Aesthetic/Visual Resources
- Traffic/Transportation
- Socioeconomics
- Environmental Justice
- Public Safety
- Community Facilities and Services
- Communication Facilities
- Land Use and Zoning

In order to minimize or mitigate any potential effects from the construction or operation of the LCEP, a number of actions have been taken in the design or will be implemented during the construction and or operation of the facility as follows:

- The combustion turbine technology selected for the new unit is the most efficient commercially available which limits emissions including CO₂
- The new unit provides enhanced energy reliability during peak load conditions
- The highly-efficient technology in the new unit displaces other less efficient existing AGS Units to reduce CO₂ emissions
- The project uses State of the Art emission controls and uses natural gas as the primary fuel to further reduce emissions
- Retirement of the existing, inefficient AGS Unit 20 and emission caps on other existing AGS units
- Development and implementation of Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control and Soils Management Plans
- Modification of the current Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan
- Incorporation of noise control features into the Site design
- Best Management Practices for storm water runoff
- Installation of erosion control measures during construction
- Implementation of a post-construction Noise Monitoring Plan
- Maximization of equipment delivery via the use of waterborne methods during construction to limit traffic issues
- Use of equipment that is consistent in appearance and scale with existing, energy-related structures in the immediate vicinity to minimize any visual effects
- Incorporation of green design considerations including green building techniques and renewable/conservation energy strategies

Written comments on the DEIS may be submitted by September 9, 2011 to:

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