

OCT 23 2017

**Before the Public Service Commission  
of the State of Mississippi**

MISS. PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

**MPSC Docket No. 2017-AD-112**



Testimony of

*Critical Technologies Consulting, LLC*

On Behalf of

Mississippi Public Utilities Staff

Prepared by

**Critical Technologies Consulting, LLC  
2369 Dogwood Trace Blvd  
Lexington, KY 40514**

**October 23, 2017**

**DISCLAIMER**

*This report was prepared by Critical Technologies Consulting, LLC ("CTC") expressly for the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff. CTC does not (a) make any warranty, express or implied, with respect to the use of any information or methods disclosed in this report; or (b) assume any liability with respect to the use of any information or methods disclosed in this report.*

*Any recipient of this document or any portion of it, whether by paper or electronic means, by their acceptance or use of this document, releases CTC, the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff, and their affiliates from any liability for direct, indirect, consequential, or special loss or damage whether arising in contract, tort or otherwise, and irrespective of fault, negligence, or strict liability.*

1 **SUMMARY, SCOPE OF TESTIMONY**

2  
3 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

4  
5 A: My name is Donald Grace. My business address is 2369 Dogwood Trace Blvd.  
6 Lexington, KY 40514.  
7

8 **Q: By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

9  
10 A: I am an independent consultant and subcontractor of Cost Plus Consulting, LLC ("CPC").  
11 CPC has been subcontracted by Critical Technologies Consulting, LLC ("CTC") for its  
12 expertise regarding technical, cost, and schedule issues associated with the Kemper  
13 County integrated gasification combined cycle ("IGCC") project ("Kemper Project").  
14 Members of CPC have prior experience working on the Kemper Project as consultants to  
15 Burns and Roe Enterprises, Inc. ("BREI").  
16

17 **Q: Is CTC the same firm that has previously testified on behalf of the Mississippi Public**  
18 **Utilities Staff ("MPUS" or "Staff") as Independent Monitor ("IM") for the Kemper**  
19 **Project?**  
20

21 A: No. BREI was initially contracted as the IM for the Kemper Project in March 2011,  
22 representing the MPUS. In July 2014, BREI was acquired by POWER Engineers, Inc.  
23 and became POWER Burns and Roe. The executive management of POWER Engineers,  
24 Inc. concluded that continuation of BREI's IM engagement with the Staff was not  
25 compatible with the company's long-term strategic objectives. Consequently, in May  
26 2015, POWER Burns and Roe withdrew from its role as the Kemper Project IM. To  
27 maintain the historical knowledge acquired of the Kemper Project since March 2011,  
28 several key POWER Burns and Roe personnel who had worked on the project since the  
29 inception of the BREI engagement were, as employees of CTC, contracted to serve as the  
30 Staff's new IM in May 2015.

1 CTC was created in 2008 and is a technical consulting firm experienced in project  
2 consulting services in the power arena, including IGCC, coal, nuclear, gas, and  
3 renewables. Typical activities include overall project management, as well as pre-  
4 construction studies such as labor analysis, cost studies and analysis, economic impact  
5 analysis, development of construction plans and procedures, nuclear plant outage  
6 coordination, project layout and conceptual design review, and constructability  
7 evaluation. CTC's post-construction activities include claims mitigation, analysis to  
8 determine prudence of performance, and acquisition due- diligence studies.

9  
10 **Q: Has CPC provided prior services to both CTC and BREI?**

11  
12 **A:** Yes. CPC is currently a subcontractor to CTC and is a technical consulting firm  
13 experienced in the design and construction of all types of projects including power,  
14 process, and industrial. It specializes in project cost development from conceptual or  
15 detailed information, including costs associated with first-of-a-kind ("FOAK")  
16 technology. CPC also specializes in providing expert witness testimony regarding claims,  
17 cost demands, and independent estimates and analysis of costs associated with such  
18 claims.

19  
20 CPC has previously subcontracted its services to BREI and performed a detailed cost  
21 review that is contained in the Independent Monitor's Project Schedule and Cost Audit  
22 dated August 15, 2012 ("IM Report"), which was filed in Docket No. 2013-UN-189  
23 contemporaneously with the April 15, 2014, Direct Testimony of Albert M. Ferrer  
24 ("Ferrer Direct"). CPC's personnel have worked with BREI employees on numerous  
25 projects including those involving FOAK technologies utilized in the IGCC, coal, and oil  
26 and gas arenas of the power industry.

1 **Q: Has previous testimony been offered by BREI or POWER Burns and Roe in any**  
2 **docket relating to the Kemper Project?**

3  
4 A: Yes. The Ferrer Direct, noted above, was filed in April 2014, and the Surrebuttal  
5 Testimony of POWER Burns and Roe, by consultant Greg Zoll, was filed on July 21,  
6 2014 ("Zoll Surrebuttal"), in Docket No. 2013-UN-189 - MPC's petition for a finding of  
7 prudence regarding the Kemper Project. Much of the IM testimony filed in that docket  
8 relates to the present evaluation of MPC's rate filing and the prudence review of costs  
9 associated with that filing. CTC has adopted all previous testimony offered by these two  
10 entities and, as needed, has referenced that testimony and its associated  
11 documents/reports in this testimony.

12  
13 **Q: Have you previously testified before the Mississippi Public Service Commission**  
14 **("MPSC" or "Commission")?**

15  
16 A: Yes. In Docket 2015-UN-80 related to the In-Service of the Combined Cycle Plant.

17  
18 **Q: Have you previously testified before any other regulatory body?**

19  
20 A: Yes. I have testified numerous times before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
21 ("NRC"). This occurred while I was serving as the utility-elected chairman of the Boiling  
22 Water Reactor Owners Group ("BWROG"). The BWROG was formed by nuclear power  
23 generating plant owners to address safety issues common to multiple types of boiling  
24 water reactor plants, to develop solutions to these issues, and to obtain NRC approval of  
25 the proposed solutions.

26  
27 **Q: Please describe your educational background and professional experience.**

28  
29 A: I graduated Cum Laude with a BS Degree in Marine Engineering from the U.S. Naval  
30 Academy in 1966. I then completed U.S. Navy Nuclear Power School (equivalent to a

1 commercial senior reactor operating license), and several other U.S. Navy schools, served  
2 as a nuclear-trained and qualified submarine officer, and was honorably discharged in  
3 1971. I was then awarded a fellowship to attend Harvard Graduate School of Business  
4 and graduated with a Master of Business Administration in 1973.  
5

6 With respect to my professional experience, following graduation from the U.S. Naval  
7 Academy, I served as a nuclear-trained and qualified submarine officer. Following  
8 graduation from Harvard, I worked for an electric utility, General Public Utilities  
9 ("GPU"), for 17 years. During my first year of employment I became certified as a  
10 professional engineer in the field of power generation, and after GPU I worked for the  
11 architect/engineering firm, BREI, for another 17 years. For the past 13 years, I have  
12 worked primarily as an independent consultant in the power industry.  
13

14 With respect to the nature of my professional experience, it can be generally summarized  
15 in terms of these three major subject areas:  
16

17 ***Directing Operations*** - I have over 47 years of hands-on technical, managerial, and  
18 executive experience in all phases of the power plant cycle (design, licensing,  
19 construction, start-up and testing, commissioning, operations, and  
20 decommissioning). I directed operations of a nuclear power plant while serving  
21 aboard a submarine in the U.S. Navy, and worked primarily on operating plants  
22 while working for GPU. Through my employment with BREI, I performed  
23 economic and technical analyses of projects, facilities and processes, including  
24 work with the government of Thailand (in particular Thailand's nationalized  
25 electric utility) to assess various electrical generation alternatives, such as  
26 Thailand's ability to develop nuclear power as an energy source and its plans for  
27 accomplishing that task.  
28

29 ***Developing New Facilities*** - In my 17 years with BREI, I worked on the design and  
30 construction of new power generation facilities in positions of increasing

responsibility, including Project Engineering Manager, Project Manager, Executive Consultant, and eventually President of Uranium Disposition Services (UDS), LLC, a company formed jointly by BREI and two other firms. Nearly all these experiences involved FOAK technology projects, including new nuclear power plants and FOAK chemical process projects.

***Directing Major Projects, Independent Reviews*** - During my time of employment, BREI was contracted by the U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") to assemble project review teams, which I then directed to provide independent project management reviews of multi-billion-dollar DOE projects. Nearly all the projects involved FOAK technology, and the reviews were full scope reviews (evaluating the DOE contractor's ability to achieve technical objectives within the forecasted costs and schedules). Also, as an independent consultant, I was contracted by the DOE to work as the technical lead of DOE teams that reviewed and certified DOE contractors' earned value management systems. Reviews were conducted according to the 32 criteria of ANSI (American National Standards Institute) Standard 748.<sup>1</sup>

**Q: On whose behalf are you testifying?**

**A:** I am testifying on behalf of the Staff.

**Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

**A:** Since the initiation of this engagement by BREI in 2011, the primary task has been to review and evaluate the major decisions and actions of the Kemper Project team that have taken place during the engineering/design, procurement and construction ("EPC") and

---

<sup>1</sup> The purpose of this standard is to establish criteria for implementing an earned value management system which can be relied upon to produce valid project cost and schedule information. Many organizations (including the DOE) audit their contractors against this standard, and require them to be certified as compliant with this standard.

1 operational phases of the entire project, including the combined cycle power plant ("CC")  
2 and all its ancillary systems and portions of systems required to support the operation of  
3 the CC, as described in this testimony. This testimony continues that work. Further with  
4 regard to this particular testimony:  
5

6 1. I will provide cost estimates for a CC. The primary estimate is a "yardstick  
7 estimate" for what a 730 MW net (winter time rating), Conventional Natural  
8 Gas Fired Combined Cycle Plant should have cost, if built at a competitive cost  
9 and at an optimal location within the MPC service area, with a Commercial  
10 Operations Date ("COD") of July/ August 2014. It is derived by combining two  
11 independent estimates that each produced similar results for the costs of such a  
12 comparable CC: (i) a detailed, "bottoms-up estimate", and (ii) a "top down"  
13 estimate, based on U.S. Energy Information Administration ("EIA") data.  
14 Secondly, I also provide an independent bottoms-up estimate for the actual  
15 "as built" CC at Kemper. For comparability, all these estimates deal strictly  
16 with the Engineering/Procurement/Construction costs ("EPC") plus the  
17 Owners' Costs and do not include Allowance for Funds used During  
18 Construction ("AFUDC"). I will compare the MPC proposed asset value for  
19 the Kemper CC (likewise limited to EPC plus Owners' Costs) to the CTC  
20 derived "yardstick estimate"; show that MPC's value is nearly 50% higher; and  
21 identify the main factors which have contributed to that large difference. This  
22 discussion will (a) identify what are now (since the Gasifier portion of the  
23 project has been terminated) some of the "non-valued features" which have  
24 been designed into the CC in order to enable it to operate on both Syngas and  
25 Natural Gas, (b) explain how the integration planning and construction of the  
26 CC with the planning and construction of Kemper's Gasifier Island contributed  
27 to cost growth, and (c) provide CTC's observations regarding how ineffective  
28 (and Imprudent) the initial planning of the project, combined with the  
29 inadequate implementation of Management Controls further contributed to the  
30 cost growth.



1  
2 2. I will review the Kemper CC's current status, readiness to continue  
3 operations, and rated capacity. This discussion includes comparison of past  
4 statements regarding the Kemper CC's Net MW Rating to the unit's  
5 documented performance.  
6

7 3. I will address the actual and forecasted "maintenance capital" expenditures  
8 following the previously-declared August 9, 2014 In-Service date.  
9

10 **Q: Is there a reason to focus on a "yardstick estimate" rather than the actual costs for**  
11 **building the "as-built" CC at Kemper?**  
12

13 A: The Direct Testimony of Staff witness Dr. Craig Roach explains, with references to the  
14 Order on Remand and other Commission orders, why it is appropriate to focus on what a  
15 comparable CC would have cost, if built at a competitive cost and at an optimal location  
16 within the MPC service area. My testimony's focus on the yardstick estimate quantifies  
17 that concept. For completeness, however, my testimony will also provide an independent  
18 estimate for the actual "as built" Kemper CC. I will also identify the key differences that  
19 have increased the actual "as built" costs far above the yardstick estimate.  
20

21 **Q: Please describe the means by which you developed a yardstick estimate for the**  
22 **Kemper CC.**  
23

24 A: This estimate combines two distinct estimating approaches, each of which produced a  
25 similar result. The first means can be described as a top-down benchmarking approach,  
26 based on EIA data for CC costs per installed kw of net capacity. The end result of this  
27 approach is a total cost (inclusive of the EPC costs, plus the Owners' Costs); and, within  
28 the context of this testimony, it provides a "yard stick" measure of cost. This estimate  
29 excludes AFUDC and related Regulatory Assets, which are outside the scope of this  
30 testimony.

1  
2 The second means is a detailed bottoms-up estimate independently developed by  
3 CTC/CPC. It is based on a typical owner/ EPC Contractor arrangement, the actual prices  
4 for the Kemper CC major equipment, labor rates (including premium rates to attract the  
5 necessary levels of qualified craftspeople), and bulk material quantities (as provided by the  
6 MPC developed computer model of the facility), etc. For more details on the basis of this  
7 detailed bottoms-up estimate, see Exhibit A.  
8

9 **Q: Please describe each of these methods and their results in greater detail, starting**  
10 **with the EIA-based, top-down benchmarking approach.**  
11

12 **A:** EIA periodically issues a report titled "Capital Cost Estimates for Utility Scale Electricity  
13 Generating Plants". The most recent of these reports provides this data in "overnight" 2016  
14 dollars, and the prior report provides this data in "overnight" 2012 dollars.<sup>2</sup> Greater detail  
15 on the EIA approach is within the report itself, but in general it can be summarized as  
16 follows:  
17

- 18 • Among the many different types of Power Plants, for Natural Gas Combined Cycle  
19 Plants it considers two types; i.e., "Conventional Combined Cycle Plant", and an  
20 "Advanced Combined Cycle Plant". Given the heat rates of the two types and the  
21 heat rate for Kemper, it is the former that is most comparable to Kemper.  
22
- 23 • EIA addresses EPC Contractor Costs, and assumes Owners' Costs to be 20% of the  
24 EPC Contractor Costs.  
25
- 26 • Costs are based primarily on recently completed construction experiences and are  
27 based on an assumed "generic site", which is optimally located based on factors  
28 such as (a) distance to required infrastructure (e.g., water and gas), (b) distance to

---

<sup>2</sup> "Overnight" dollars or costs represent the cost to build the plant "overnight", and, therefore, the costs do not take into account either escalation/inflation or de-escalation/deflation as they apply to the timeframe over which the money is spent.

the transmission grid, and (c) other potential factors (e.g., distance to major existing, and/ or forecasted loads). Because it assumes a CC plant will be optimally located, the EIA approach does not include allowances for getting infrastructure such as a transmission line, water, or gas to the site, but does deal with the tie-ins of these items to the facility.

- EIA provides a table of “Regional Factors” by which the cost/kw should be adjusted to reflect the fact that the costs of inputs to plant construction vary by location. For Kemper, this factor (to represent construction in the Southeast rather than at the “generic site”) is 0.93.
- As noted previously, EIA’s estimate does not include either AFUDC or related Regulatory Assets.

In following this EIA approach, CTC took the EIA Cost/kw for a Conventional CC in both the EIA 2012 overnight dollar costs/kw, and the EIA 2016 overnight dollar costs/kw, averaged them, applied the 0.93 Regional Factor, and then multiplied by the assumed 730 MW net CC rating. This calculation yields a EIA-based top-down cost estimate of \$643.26M. The basis of the 730 MW net nominal rating, and the derivation of the EIA Based top-down cost estimate are shown below in Tables 1 and 2, respectively.

**TABLE 1**

| <b>KEMPER NET MW RATINGS (WHEN OPERATING ON NATURAL GAS)</b><br>(Data Source: MPC Response to Data Request No. MPUS(CTC) 1-3,<br>Dated 8/21/2015) |                  |               |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| Season  | Temperature (°F) | Net MW Rating |
| Summer  | 95               | 696.4         |
| Fall/ Spring  | 65               | <b>730.0</b>  |
| Winter  | 40               | <b>730.0</b>  |

TABLE 2

| <b>EIA BASED TOP-DOWN COST ESTIMATE (for July/ Aug 2014 COD)</b> |             |                   |  |
|--|-------------|-------------------|--|
| Cost Category  | 2012 \$'/kw | 2016 \$/kw        | Average \$/kw                                    |
| EPC  | \$764       | \$815             | \$789.5  |
| Owners' Cost <sup>3</sup>  | \$153       | \$163             | \$158.0  |
| Total \$/kw  | \$917       | \$978             | <b>\$947.5</b>                                   |
|  |             | x Regional Factor | <b>x 0.93 = 881.175</b>                          |
|  |             | x 730,000 KW      | <b>x 730,000 kw= \$<br/>643.26 M<sup>4</sup></b> |

Note that as "overnight" cost estimates, these estimates do not account for changes in dollar purchasing power over the construction period. Although that straightforward approach is somewhat simplistic, it does not significantly impact the results, given the low-inflation conditions in the relevant time frame.

**Q: Please describe the basis for and results of the detailed bottoms-up estimate.**

**A:** As mentioned previously, this is a very detailed estimate based on a typical client/EPC contract approach, actual prices of major equipment, bulk quantities as derived from the MPC developed plant model, local labor prices, etc. Exhibit A to this testimony describes these estimate bases in more detail. This bottoms-up estimate starts by quantifying the costs of EPC. Owners' Cost is then added, following the EIA approach of estimating the "Owners' Cost" at 20% of the EPC costs. This results in a total bottoms-up cost estimate for EPC and Owners' Cost for a comparable, but optimally sited and competitively costed CC. That estimate is \$ 664.8 M.

The resultant \$664.8 million bottoms-up estimate represents the same scope and therefore can be used as another data point to validate the results of, and consistency with, the EIA approach. Combining the similar results of the bottoms-up and EIA approach produces a

<sup>3</sup> EIA calculates Owners' Costs at 20% of EPC Costs

<sup>4</sup> As noted previously, this EIA based top-down cost estimate does not include AFUDC, and does not include related Regulatory Assets. Also, this simply represents the EPC and Owners' Costs for a competitively priced 730 MW conventional CC and does not consider issues such as DOE off-setting funds, tax credits, or any other similar issues.

yardstick estimate for what a comparable CC should have cost MPC, and can be used as a basis of comparison with the Kemper CC's actual costs as claimed by MPC.

**Q: In summary, based on the two-independent means by which you calculated the competitive cost of a 730 MW net Conventional Combined Cycle Power Plant, with a Commercial Operations Date of July/August 2014, what would you say that cost should be?**

**A:** For the EPC Costs plus Owners Costs, CTC has determined that the cost should be in the range of roughly \$643 M to \$665 million. The average of these two estimates, \$654 million, is a good yardstick estimate for what such a CC should have cost MPC. Of course, that is an estimate, but if the precise cost is different, the difference should be relatively small, say 5% to 10%. To be clear, this estimate does not include AFUDC, related Regulatory Assets, DOE Credits or other external funding sources, tax credits, prior write-downs of the assets, or any other such accounting entries. In summary, it represents the estimated cost of actually building such a CC, and does not include off-setting accounting entries such as DOE funds, tax credits, etc.

**Q. Please explain your "as built" Kemper CC estimate.**

**A.** This estimate is the same as the detailed bottoms-up estimate I described earlier, except that this estimate includes what I term "non-value added" items related to the fact that Kemper was sited and designed to operate mainly on syngas. The siting-related items in this category include the costs for a water line and gas line, to the site. The design-related items in this category are features that were included in the current CC to make it capable of operating on syngas, adding cost, but which serve no useful function when operating only on natural gas. To provide a complete and precise estimate of these features' added cost would require a much more detailed technical and cost analysis, and is beyond the scope of this testimony. However, CTC has done a very "rough order of magnitude estimate" ("ROM") of some of these added costs. For details regarding some (but not

1 necessarily all) of the factors that need to be considered please refer to Exhibit B. The  
2 addition of the items discussed results in an “as built” Kemper CC estimate of \$776.6  
3 million.  
4

5 **Q Please summarize your testimony thus far.**  
6

7 **A** I have presented three cost estimates and have combined the first two of those estimates  
8 into a yardstick estimate. I first presented two different means for providing a competitive  
9 EPC Cost plus Owners Costs for a 730 MW Net CC for a commercial operations date of  
10 July/August 2014. These results are \$ 643 million (utilizing the top-down, EIA  
11 benchmarking approach) and \$ 665 million (utilizing the detailed, bottoms up estimating  
12 approach). These similar results validate the reasonableness of a yardstick estimate set at  
13 their approximate average, \$ 654 million. The third estimate is an independent estimate  
14 for the actual “as built” CC at Kemper, including the identified “non-value added” costs  
15 (which totals \$ 776.6 million).  
16

17 **Q: I understand your position that MPC’s cost recovery should be based on the yardstick**  
18 **cost for an equivalently capable CC. Setting that aside, have you reviewed what MPC**  
19 **is seeking in terms of cost recovery for the Kemper “as-built” plant, and do you have**  
20 **any comments in that regard?**  
21

22 **A:** Yes.  
23

24 **Q: Please provide a summary of the costs that MPC proposes to recover.**  
25

26 **A:** MPC’s latest valuation (summarizing forecasted costs through December 31, 2017) is  
27 provided in Table 3.

Table 3

| <b>“As-Built” CC at Kemper; MPC’s Forecast Booked Total Cost; on 12/31/2017<br/>(\$1,066.60; for total of EPC, Owners Cost, and AFUDC)</b> |                   |  |
|--|-------------------|--|
| <b>Item</b>  | <b>\$ M’s</b>     | <b>Remarks</b>   |
| <b>EPC</b>   | <b>\$804.91</b>   |  |
| Major Equipment  | \$356.53          |  |
| Engineering  | \$96.60           |  |
| Construction   | \$350.45          |  |
| Scope Additions  | \$1.33            |  |
| <b>Owners’ Costs</b>   | <b>\$131.23</b>   |  |
| Land   | \$18.83           |  |
| Fuel Facility; Gas Lateral   | \$10.88           |  |
| Pre-Commercial<br>Operations   | \$75.03           |  |
| Corp Development   | \$10.98           |  |
| Start Up<br>Fuel/Energy/By-Product   | \$5.28            |  |
| Ad Valorem   | \$10.23           |  |
| Contingency/Risk   | \$0.00            |  |
| <b>EPC + Owners’ Cost</b>  | <b>\$936.14</b>   |  |
| <b>AFUDC</b>   | <b>\$115.25</b>   |  |
| <b>Total of EPC+OWNERS<br/>COST+AFUDC</b>  | <b>\$1051.39</b>  |  |
| <b>Maintenance<br/>Capital/Retirements</b>   | <b>\$ 14.70</b>   | This includes \$21.55 in maintenance capital since the Kemper<br>CC went in-service and \$(6.94) in retirements. |
|  |                   |  |
| <b>Total included in MPC’s<br/>August 21, 2017 filing.</b>   | <b>\$1,066.09</b> | Total included in MPC’s August 21, 2017 filing.  |

The proper “apples to apples” comparison of MPC’s proposed costs to the CTC “yardstick” and “as built” estimates, is EPC + Owners Cost amount of \$936.14M included in the chart above.

1 **Q: You previously referenced non-value-added location and design features that added**  
2 **costs. Did other factors contribute to the difference between the costs being claimed**  
3 **by MPC and your yardstick estimate?**  
4

5 A: Yes. For example, Southern Company/ MPC decided to not hire a third-party EPC  
6 Contractor. Such an arrangement would have entailed well-defined contractual Terms &  
7 Conditions, which typically include technical and schedule warranties, and associated  
8 remedies if not met. In general, this approach provides for a much more disciplined and  
9 accountable means of executing what is basically another commercially available product  
10 (often referred to as an “nth-of-a-kind” project<sup>5</sup>). This decision was due in part to the  
11 complications expected in attempting to plan and execute the syngas aspects of the Kemper  
12 Project, which made it a high risk First of a Kind (“FOAK”) project. It led to Southern  
13 Company Services being assigned the responsibility to function as the over-all Project  
14 Management organization for the integrated planning and execution of the entire project,  
15 encompassing both the Gasifier Island and the CC. Consequently, Southern Company  
16 Services (“SCS”) functioned as the EPC Contractor, without the contractual risk mitigation  
17 that typically applies to a commercially available “nth-of-a-kind” project. Due to  
18 complexities, uncertainties, and schedule delays experienced with many of the FOAK  
19 Gasifier Island systems, the Gasifier Island work constituted the critical path to plant  
20 completion. Consequently, workers were often pulled off the CC and assigned to the  
21 Gasifier Island. All these issues were a complicating factor which undoubtedly accounts  
22 for another portion of the cost difference.  
23

24 **Q: Did additional factors contribute to that difference?**  
25

26 A: Yes, there definitely are additional factors that contributed to the increased cost for the gasifier  
27 and the CC. One such fact was with the decision to start project construction with so little  
28 engineering having been completed, in an effort to obtain DOE funding and tax credits. In the

---

<sup>5</sup> Within this context, “nth of a kind project” (e.g., a CC project) means that the CC is not the first of a particular design, but rather is one in a long line of previously built, and well-functioning, CC’s.



1 long run, this decision proved to cost much more than it could have saved. Beyond these poor  
2 initial planning decisions, other major contributing factors were inefficiencies encountered due to  
3 the inadequacy of the management controls implemented on the project. Although these controls  
4 (which include Risk Analysis, Project Controls/Earned Value Management Systems, Quality  
5 Assurance, and others) were in theory adequately defined via the project procedures, their proper  
6 implementation was severely lacking. This deficiency led to numerous problems, such as  
7 premature turnovers of incomplete construction efforts (in apparent response to management  
8 pressures to “show progress”), extensive re-work, not knowing the actual progress made and  
9 associated ineffective planning, systems that simply could not be made to achieve design rated  
10 conditions, etc. These problems were further compounded by the stretch-out of the schedule and  
11 the associated increases in overhead charges. Although many of the problems manifested  
12 themselves primarily in the Gasifier Island portion of the project, they also impacted the CC  
13 portion of the project, and therefore increased the costs for which MPC is now seeking recovery.  
14

15 **Q: At this point it appears that we have entered the topical area of prudence. Do you agree,**  
16 **and if so could you please continue to describe these additional factors in greater detail?**  
17

18 **A:** Yes, I agree with this observation. In reviewing these issues, I plan to first address CTC’s prior  
19 review comments, which serve to highlight some of the points already made (not necessarily in  
20 detail, but at least provide highlights of these past reviews). Following that, I will discuss in  
21 greater detail the additional factors noted above.

**PRUDENCE REVIEW OF ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE KEMPER  
PROJECT**

**Q: Earlier in the project your organization provided detailed comments associated with the EPC and startup phases of the Kemper Project's CC. Could you please highlight some of those prior review comments within this testimony?**

**A:** I have reviewed the previous testimony and reports filed by BREI and POWER Burns and Roe,<sup>6</sup> which have been adopted by CTC, and I concur that the analyses, descriptions, and conclusions expressed in those documents accurately characterize the nature of the difficulties and challenges experienced by the Kemper Project team during the planning, EPC, and start-up phases of the entire project (including the CC portion). The prior testimony and reports filed in Docket No. 2013-UN-189 and Docket No. 2015-UN-80 provide greater detail, but a summary of the EPC phase of the CC portion of the project is provided below.

The Kemper CC was designed, procured, and constructed as an integral part of the overall IGCC project. That overall project included (in addition to the CC, and among other things) a transport integrated gasification ("TRIG<sup>TM</sup>") process, systems to provide the necessary clean-up of the gasification processes, approximately 87 miles of transmission lines, approximately 32 miles of treated effluent pipeline, approximately 61 miles of CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline, and sulfuric acid and ammonia byproduct systems.

Like the other major areas of the plant, the CC experienced many of the same difficulties during the design phase of the project, such as the failure of the pile testing,<sup>7</sup> resulting in a re-design of the piling required for the entire site. This re-design caused a ripple effect of delays, beginning with the late delivery of completed design documents, materials, components, and equipment to the field construction personnel, which resulted in delays to

---

<sup>6</sup> Docket No. 2013-UN-189, Ferrer Direct and IM Report filed April 15, 2014, and Zoll Surrebuttal filed July 21, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> Zoll Surrebuttal, pp. 20-21.

1 the construction activities and, in many cases, a re-sequencing of component and  
2 equipment installations.

3  
4 The overall effect of these CC re-designs was an increase of inefficiencies in the  
5 performance of the CC construction activities.

6  
7 CTC maintains that a major issue impacting the Kemper Project was the minimal design  
8 upon which the original estimate and schedule were based. As explained herein, this was  
9 in part due to the premature start of the field portion of the project and compressed  
10 schedule, all to achieve tax credits and DOE funding. This deficiency led to multiple  
11 project issues as evidenced by the increased commodity quantities, causing a major growth  
12 in the required amount of linear feet of piping, associated hangers, steel, etc.; the additional  
13 time needed for installation by craft labor and delays resulting from insufficient capacity  
14 within certain vendors and suppliers for piping and hangers,<sup>8</sup> all resulting in scheduling  
15 delays and work inefficiencies.<sup>9</sup>

16  
17 Specifically, major difficulties were encountered during the design, fabrication and  
18 installation of the piping for the CC as well as the other areas of the plant. In many cases,  
19 the CC was not in the Kemper Project's scheduled "critical path" and thereby received less  
20 attention from senior project management. Modifications were made to the contracting  
21 strategies within the CC. Such modifications were primarily for commodity installations  
22 which resulted in a shift to the "labor broker" method of contracting, which allowed SCS  
23 supervision personnel to oversee and assign the daily tasks of the craftsmen supplied  
24 through subcontractors.

---

<sup>8</sup> IM Report, p. 52, §8.4 and p. 55, §8.5; Zoll Surrebuttal, p. 16.

<sup>9</sup> IM Report, pp. 66-69, §10.1; Zoll Surrebuttal, p. 56; Ferrer Direct, p. 23.

1 **Q: Getting back to the specific problem areas that you previously summarized, could**  
2 **you discuss construction quality issues as it relates to the CC?**

3  
4 **A:** Quality issues added to the challenges and difficulties encountered during the project's  
5 EPC activities and contributed to the CC's costs.

6  
7 For example, welding performance within the project's CC portion was poor month after  
8 month. Following industry-accepted standards, the Kemper project team considered weld  
9 rejections above 3% to be unacceptable. Each monthly "EPC Status Production Meeting  
10 Reports" contained a chart showing weld rejections by area, as well as an overall average  
11 for the project. The following example, covering December 2012 to March 2013, provides  
12 a representative sampling:

13  
14 **Table A-25-1 Combined Cycle Weld Rejections**

| <b>Timeframe</b>                 | <b>CC</b> | <b>Average of all<br/>areas</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| December 2012 Production Meeting | 5.4%      | 2.4%                            |
| January 2013 Production Meeting  | 6.0%      | 2.4%                            |
| February 2013 Production Meeting | 5.5%      | 2.5%                            |
| March 2013 Production Meeting    | 5.4%      | 2.5%                            |

15  
16 CTC is of the opinion the excessive weld rejections within the CC, which in this period  
17 more than doubled the weld rejection average for the overall project, are a direct result of  
18 the Gasifier and Gas Clean Up areas having a higher priority. This prioritization resulted  
19 in welders and other workers continually being reassigned to the higher priority areas, thus  
20 causing inefficiencies and added time and cost to the CC.

21 Another example is the failure of numerous hydrostatic pipe tests due to excessive leakage  
22 as a result of improper installation methods such as missing hanger hardware, torque values  
23 differing between contractors and incorrect gaskets used in pipe joints. Consequently, a  
24 large staff needed to be hired to review required Quality Assurance ("QA") records. In

1 many cases the records were so incomplete they required re-testing be performed in order  
2 to provide proper documentation. During re-testing, if the tests failed, this would require  
3 performing re-work (which, in some cases, could require turning a system back from the  
4 Startup Group to the Construction Group).

5 Implementation of an effective quality assurance/control management program was  
6 lacking throughout the project, resulting in the need for multiple components to be  
7 reworked and/or completed by the start-up group instead of the construction group. Thus,  
8 quality issues also led to the Kemper project team placing the burden of "completing"  
9 typical construction activities, which were either installed incorrectly or were not  
10 completed, with the Start Up Group after it received installations for testing.

11 This tendency is evidenced in numerous IM meeting handouts. Representative direct  
12 quotes, reflecting the build-up of these problems, can be seen from the August 2015 IM  
13 meeting in which the Risk section of the meeting handout, Page 10 under Startup, it states:

14  
15 "Construction/Supplier Quality Lessons learned on initial train.  
16 Seeing rework issues materialize."  
17

18 On Page 12 of the August 2015 IM meeting handout by MPC, under the section  
19 "Fluidization Lines Pressure Testing" it states:

20  
21 "Needed after current valve and tubing rework/repair"  
22

23 Page 13 of the August 2015 IM meeting handout, under "Kemper Schedule" and subsection  
24 "Primary Risk/Drivers to Syngas", it states:

25  
26 "Rework from Fabrication and Construction Quality"  
27

28 Again, on Page 21 of the August 2015 IM meeting handout under "Startup: Risk List", one  
29 of the risks is called "Construction/Supplier Quality" and under the column called "Why  
30 an Issue", it states:

1  
2 “Seeing rework issues materialize. Experience to date has shown  
3 issues could continue.”  
4

5 The pervasive quality issues, which had been building and manifested themselves as these  
6 quotes from the August 2015 IM Meeting handout, are just representative examples, and  
7 contributed to the wide difference between the Kemper CC costs being sought by MPC  
8 and the yardstick competitive estimate cost for a comparable CC unit.  
9

10 **Q: Did the project experience inadequate prototype testing of critical Gasifier Island**  
11 **related systems?**  
12

13 A: Yes. The “Lignite Preparation” portion of the “Lignite Preparation and Feed System” is a  
14 very clear example of inadequate prototype testing and associated poor quality risk  
15 assessments. Since this system provided the fuel supply for the facility, it was clear that if  
16 it did not achieve its required feed rates, the Kemper IGCC would be unable to achieve its  
17 rated operations. The prototype testing led SCS to a conclusion of essentially “no risk” and  
18 to proceeding with, and having built, a “full scale facility” for which the problems still  
19 have no defined solutions. Even with its built-in redundancy of requiring only two of three  
20 trains per gasifier, the system was unable to consistently achieve the required lignite feed  
21 rate for any sustained period of time. For a graphic display of the issues encountered,  
22 please refer to Exhibit “C”, titled “Lignite Preparation Problem Areas”.<sup>10</sup>

23 In addition to providing an indication of design issues, Exhibit C also serves to focus  
24 attention on the previously discussed inadequate construction quality  
25

26 **Q: The Lignite Preparation and Feed System is not part of the Kemper CC. Is the**  
27 **inadequate testing of that system relevant to this proceeding?**

28 A. Yes. The consequences of that inadequate testing were not limited to the costs of the  
29 Lignite Preparation and Feed System. For example, they led to work being reprioritized

---

<sup>10</sup> NOTE: Except for the additional text provided outside the margins of that graphic, this graphic was prepared by MPC.

1 away from the CC in order to support the critical path Gasifier Island work, and diverted  
2 management's attention from the CC. Further, these problems led to CC schedule delays  
3 (discussed later in this testimony) which (due to schedule stretch-out and increased  
4 carrying costs) increased the CC costs that MPC is seeking to recover.  
5

6 **Q: Although Project Controls have been discussed in prior BREI and CTC testimonies**  
7 **and reports, would you like to add any additional comments about the Earned Value**  
8 **Management System ("EVMS") system?**  
9

10 **A:** Yes, and I will offer three further observations in this subject area, as follows:  
11

12 1. The industry standard by which organizations are reviewed and their EVMS is  
13 certified is American National Standards Institute ("ANSI") Standard 748 (this is a  
14 requirement for all US Department of Energy and US Department of Defense  
15 FOAK contracts, but to CTC's knowledge was not a requirement for the Kemper  
16 IGCC Project). Among the 32 criteria against which an organization's EVMS is  
17 reviewed is to minimize the use of Level-of-Effort tasks in determining progress  
18 versus plan (especially when "discrete measures" can be used). As an example,  
19 instead of having discrete tasks (e.g., plan on x linear feet of pipe, and measure the  
20 actual linear feet installed vs planned), when using Level-of-Effort one simply  
21 measures actual hours expended versus planned hours, which then provides no  
22 measure of specific task performance. At Kemper, situations existed where 100%  
23 completion was pegged to a certain number of hours charged, and when the hours  
24 exceeded that number, the credited complete number greatly exceeded 100%, thus  
25 distorting the actual status of that task which also contributed to an inflated measure  
26 of over-all project completion.  
27

28 2. In turn, construction was reported at 98% complete from late 2014 to late 2016.  
29 However, there were more than 1,000 craft laborers on site, and into June 2017  
30 (when Southern Company/ MPC decided to suspend the Gasifier Island/ Syngas

1 portion of the project) it still was not completed.

- 2
- 3 3. As further evidence of the problems with the EVMS, the project controls staff was
- 4 – per management direction - often replaced.
- 5

6 In short, the Kemper Project's EVMS deficiencies left the project team with no

7 effective method of tracking the project's progress and productivity. The project

8 team, in turn, was unable to accurately report and understand where it truly was,

9 and it could not make necessary and realistic adjustments in order to meet

10 milestones and ultimately achieve the planned schedule completion dates.

11

12 **Q: MPC has always maintained that all decisions relative to the EPC of the project were**

13 **prudent. Do you agree with their assessment?**

14

15 **A:** No. The decision to start the field construction activities in parallel with the start of detailed

16 design was an imprudent decision. CTC understands the motivation to achieve certain

17 schedule milestone dates in order to take full advantage of available tax credits and DOE

18 funding. However, pennywise may be pound foolish. In this instance, Southern Company

19 executive management should have known the risks and acted more appropriately to

20 protect against them. The risk associated with completing this FOAK project while

21 working to a compressed and unrealistic schedule should have been a key concern to the

22 executive/management core of Southern Company since in large part it did not "set the

23 stage" in a manner which could have provided the Project team the opportunity for success

24 in executing the EPC of the plant.

25

26 The risks associated with these decisions to prematurely start the project and to work to an

27 overly compressed schedule should have been recognized but were apparently dismissed.

28 Consider, as SCS should have, the schedule for the Southern Company IGCC project

29 originally planned for the Stanton Energy Center near Orlando, Florida. That project was

30 jointly owned by Southern Company and Orlando Utility Commission and was to be a



1 285MW IGCC facility, less than half the size of Kemper. The IGCC portion of the project  
2 was terminated two months after starting construction in Orlando in November of 2007,  
3 citing uncertainty about potential state regulations on greenhouse gas emissions. (See  
4 Exhibit D for the referenced Power Point Presentation titled "Orlando Gasification Project  
5 Demonstration of a 285MW Coal-Based Transport Gasifier," dated November 1, 2006).  
6 In that presentation, the schedule (time line) clearly shows the "preliminary" and "detailed"  
7 designs starting a minimum of 1 1/2 years prior to the start of field construction, allowing  
8 the design to mature and develop prior to commencement of field construction activities,  
9 thus avoiding the majority of work-a-rounds and late equipment deliveries (and late  
10 delivery of completed engineering) experienced by the Kemper project. The decision to  
11 change this planning and execution philosophy for the Kemper project seems to have been  
12 motivated by a willingness to take on massive risk, in a misguided chase after much smaller  
13 tax credits and DOE funding.  
14

15 **Q: Was the CC completed in accordance with its originally estimated schedule?**  
16

17 A: No. The CC area at Kemper was completed later than the original baseline schedule for  
18 that area, which in turn was lengthened (as compared to the typical schedule for a  
19 standalone CC) by the fact that that the CC was planned in an integrated fashion with the  
20 project's Gasifier Island portion. Although there may be disagreement with Southern  
21 Company/ MPC (due largely to the lack of detail and the resultant ambiguity in various  
22 milestones), CTC believes that the completion of the CC slipped by roughly 7 months.  
23

24 **Q: Was the CC completed in accordance with its originally estimated cost?**  
25

26 A. No. Based on Southern Company/MPC's prior representations, the CC portion of the \$2.4  
27 billion original IGCC project estimate was \$660.36 million. MPC is now seeking recovery  
28 based on a much higher asserted cost, \$936.14 million before the addition of AFUDC and  
29 maintenance capital.

1 **Q: Is the Kemper CC comparable to the other combined cycles owned and operated by**  
2 **Southern Company?**

3  
4 A: No. The Kemper Project CC is unique when compared to the other fifteen combined cycle  
5 projects designed and constructed by SCS, in that it was constructed as an integral part of  
6 the Kemper Project IGCC plant, which had exponentially more issues and challenges than  
7 any of the combined cycle units previously constructed by SCS.

8  
9 In my opinion, MPC's project management/project controls actions and decision-making  
10 processes were overly focused on financial/accounting considerations such as tax benefits  
11 and DOE funding. This misplaced focus on the financial and accounting considerations  
12 then adversely impacted the ability to effectively manage the project on a day-to-day basis.  
13 For example, it contributed to inaccurate progress monitoring, such as accepting premature  
14 turnovers to "report completion." It also contributed to poor decisions early in the EPC  
15 portion of the planning efforts, such as (i) the decision to begin the detailed design  
16 concurrent with the construction field activities and (ii) management's inability to  
17 implement and effectively use procedurally required project control scheduling tools to  
18 their fullest capabilities.<sup>11</sup>

19  
20 **Q: What is the Kemper Project CC's current status and available capacity record?**

21  
22 A: The Kemper CC is currently available for economic dispatch operation using natural gas  
23 only. Normal operation is two-on-one (two gas turbines and one steam turbine).  
24 Leading up to the planned September 2017 outage, the CC's 2017 year-to-date Equivalent  
25 Forced Outage Rate ("EFOR") was 1.22%. This EFOR represents the flip side of  
26 "availability" (i.e., time in a period that the CC could generate some net level of electricity  
27 should it be called upon to do so, divided by the time in the period, expressed as a  
28 percentage).

---

<sup>11</sup> See Exhibit B, IM Report, pp. 42-43, § 8.2.

1 A planned outage began on September 29, 2017, was scheduled to be completed by  
2 October 18, 2017, and was completed roughly 1-1/2 days behind schedule. The main  
3 purpose for this outage was to (i) remove, repair and replace valves in the Steam Turbine,  
4 (ii) remove, repair and replace valves in the Condenser, (iii) inspect and clean tube bundles  
5 in the Condenser, (v) perform internal and external inspections and maintenance of Gas  
6 Turbines, (v) perform external and internal inspections, cleaning and maintenance of the  
7 Heat Recovery Steam Generators ("HRSGs") and (vi) drain, clean and perform structural  
8 inspection of the CC Cooling Tower.

9 The next planned outage for the CC is scheduled for October 2018. It is planned to consist  
10 of hot gas inspections, and conversion of the Gas Turbines to Ultra Low NO<sub>x</sub> ("ULN") and  
11 F6 HGP components (ULN/F6 HGP conversion) (to improve heat rate and NOX control).  
12

13 Notwithstanding the Kemper CC's availability record, CTC has had continuing questions  
14 regarding its current actual net generation capability. This is important especially as it  
15 relates to the "competitive cost estimate" in that 730 MWs has been used as the major  
16 assumption in the yardstick cost estimate I discussed earlier.  
17

18 To further illustrate the above, the reported net rating for the CC operating on natural gas,  
19 as supplied by MPC, has changed over time. In support of the August 9, 2014 In-Service  
20 date, it was reported in fall of 2015 to be 730 MW net (fall/winter/spring) and 696 MW  
21 (summer). More recently, it has been reported at 746 MW (winter) and 680 MW (summer).  
22 Operationally, the Kemper CC has been reported to be operating at 681 MW Gross when  
23 at full load (i.e., two gas turbines at max load, duct firing and steam turbine). Accounting  
24 for the CC parasitic/ house-load of 19.4 MW, this then yields a Net MW Output of roughly  
25 661.6 M. To CTC's knowledge, the Kemper CC has not consistently performed at a net  
26 output in excess of 661.6 MW. Although data requests have been submitted to clarify why,  
27 from the answers received CTC still does not understand what the root causes are for the  
28 net MW Output being so limited.

1 **Q: Moving from the Kemper CC's MW value to MWh, please discuss the plant's energy**  
2 **production.**

3 The Kemper CC's on-going cost competitiveness in terms of "economic dispatch" presents  
4 an important issue. An important measure of this cost competitiveness is the "heat rate"  
5 (i.e., a measure of how much fuel must be consumed to produce a kW-Hr of electricity).  
6 The Kemper CC has been reported as less efficient (i.e., a higher number) than it would  
7 have been had the plant been designed to operate strictly on Natural Gas. The proposed  
8 2018 Low NO<sub>x</sub> conversion should remedy this issue.

9 Also, MPC's calculating and reporting of the plant's "Capacity Factor" still uses 555 MW  
10 as its rated capacity, which appears to be an averaged net MW hold-over from when it was  
11 intended to operate on syngas. The use of the 555 MW figure tends to inflate the capacity  
12 factor measure.<sup>12</sup> It should be noted that even when using a 696 MW net rating (i.e., the  
13 summer rating), the resultant capacity factor is still greater than the EIA published average  
14 for conventional combined cycle plants, which is 56%. However, that capacity factor  
15 reflects the Kemper CC's heat rate relative to other, generally older resources in the  
16 Southern Company dispatch stack, and does not mean that the Kemper CC is efficient  
17 relative to other CCs of similar vintage.

18  
19 **Q: Does the current operations staff have adequate numbers of qualified personnel,**  
20 **training, operating procedures, and experience to successfully operate and maintain**  
21 **the CC?**

22  
23 **A:** Yes. The CC was placed in service on August 9, 2014, and MPC has shown that it has  
24 adequately trained and experienced personnel to (a) operate the facility, (b) maintain the  
25 facility, and (c) with adequate support from specialty contractors when required such as in  
26 making further modifications to the Combustion Turbines, manage capital modifications  
27 to improve the facility. My prior testimony in Docket No. 2015-UN-80 stated that MPC

---

<sup>12</sup> Capacity Factor, as opposed to Availability Factor, measures the amount of energy provided to the grid (measured in MW-Hrs) over a period of time, divided by the amount of energy the generating plant could have delivered had it operated at its rated capacity for this same period of time, expressed in percent.

1 had adequate procedures in place for the operation of the CC, and my conclusion remains  
2 valid.

3  
4 **Q: Are you aware of additional capital costs that have been or are expected to be booked**  
5 **to the Kemper CC, but which are attributable to its relationship to the Gasifier**  
6 **Island?**

7  
8 A: Yes. Above and beyond the capital costs that I discussed above, MPC has identified, and  
9 has included in its 2018 test year for recovery, an additional \$25 million of "Maintenance  
10 Capital." The \$25 million represents amounts spent for maintenance capital after the  
11 Kemper CC went in-service and also includes amounts to be spent through the end of 2018.  
12 I believe that this work planned includes efforts to isolate the CC from the Gasifier Island.  
13 Other work planned includes the Low NO<sub>x</sub> conversion to achieve an improved heat rate  
14 that is more in line with the efficient CC that MPC could have constructed absent the  
15 complications of the IGCC. The Low NO<sub>x</sub> conversion costs appear reasonable to be  
16 recovered from ratepayers since the conversion will also reduce the long-term maintenance  
17 costs of the Kemper CC.

18  
19 **Q: Are there any final issues not already addressed that you would like to address?**  
20

21 A: Yes, and the issue relates to determining costs for what the CC portion of the IGCC Project  
22 acquired land should be. CTC would like to address and challenge the reported cost of  
23 \$18.83M for the CC portion of the land.

24  
25 **Q: Do we know the total value of all land and the total acreage for the Kemper Project?**  
26

27 A: Yes. The total land cost, as reported by MPC, is \$29.36M  
28

29 The total acres for the overall project, based upon Greenleaf data request GCS 2-16, is  
30 2,968.0 acres, which translates to \$ 9,892.00 per acre.

1 Q: What is the value and acreage of the land MPC is requesting for the CC portion at  
2 Kemper?

3  
4 A. MPC is requesting \$ 18.83M for CC portion of Kemper. Using the \$ 9,892.00 per acre  
5 calculated above, MPC is requesting the equivalent of 1,903.6 acres to be included in rate  
6 base.

7  
8 Q: As a matter of understanding, did CTC determine how much land a typical Combined  
9 Cycle requires?

10  
11 A: Yes. A study in March 2012<sup>13</sup>, by the Natural Gas Supply Association, ("NGSA") shows  
12 a 0.3 acres / per 1,000 household, is needed.

13  
14 Additionally, an October 2016 study performed for the U.S. Energy Information  
15 Administration (EIA)<sup>14</sup> reveals that the Average Monthly Consumption in the State of  
16 Mississippi to be 1,218 kWh (1,218 X 12 months = 14,616 kWh per year or 14.616 MWh  
17 per year.)

18  
19 Based on these factors, a 730 MW Plant can support 437,521 households in Mississippi.  
20 (730 MW X 24 hours X 365 days = 6,394,800 MWh per year divided by 14.616 MWh)

21  
22 These 437,521 households are divided by 1,000, which equals 437.5 X the 0.3 acres per  
23 1,000 equals 131 acres for a 730 MW Plant.

---

<sup>13</sup> Natural Gas: Helping to Ensure our Energy Future, March 2012, Page 20.

<sup>14</sup> EIA Study Titled: Residential Energy Consumption 2015 avg. monthly.

Table A-34-1 - Land Cost Range

| Range Factors   | Cost Per Acre | High/Low Cost Range |
|---|---------------|---------------------|
| Acres at 56% Capacity<br>(74 Acres) per /EIA<br>Low Range | \$9,892.00    | \$732,008           |
| Acres at 100% Capacity<br>(131 Acres)<br>High Range       | \$9,892.00    | \$1,295,852         |

**Q: Is this your recommendation?**

A: No. CTC recommends that the IMs together with MPC physically visit the site with an independent licensed land surveyor and agree upon the area needed for the CC. This area would then be surveyed to establish the required acreage as well as provide a detailed legal description. Determining the acreage and multiply it by the actual average cost per acre will provide the recommended amount to be allowed in rate base.

**Q: As between MPC and Southern Company, do you have a view as to which entity was the hands-on cause of the difference between what the CC should have cost and the costs that were expended to build it as part of the overall Kemper Project?**

A: Yes, the latter.

It is my understanding that the Transport Integrated Gasification (TRIG™) Technology was developed as a result of emerging needs for cleaner coal in the United States and globally. Southern Company in conjunction with Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR) jointly developed the technology in response to this need on a much smaller scale in a testing facility located in Wilsonville, Alabama. Once they were sufficiently confident with the testing results, Southern Company took the project to the next level and planned a commercialized power plant (Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle - IGCC) to be designed and constructed near Orlando, Florida utilizing the TRIG™ technology. This project was in partnership with Southern Company, Orlando Utilities Commission, and the U.S. Department of Energy. The project was to be a 285 MW IGCC coal plant at the

1 Stanton Energy Center near Orlando, Florida.

2  
3 In November of 2007, Southern Company cancelled the IGCC portion of the project two  
4 months after groundbreaking took place, citing concerns of uncertainty about potential  
5 state regulations on greenhouse gas emissions.  
6

7 Due to the large amounts of Lignite Coal in Eastern Mississippi, Southern Company then  
8 pursued the opportunity to design, construct, and operate a much larger IGCC (roughly 830  
9 MW gross, and 586 MW net) facility near Meridian, Mississippi in Kemper County. MPC,  
10 with a customer base of approximately 186,000 rate payers and a subsidiary of Southern  
11 Company was used as the forefront of Southern Company's desire to build the FOAK  
12 project in Mississippi. After exhaustive approval measures, the project was approved by  
13 the MPSC and – in light of the high risks - with strict orders and requirements. As the  
14 implementation of the project took place, the risk continued to increase as the funding and  
15 schedule also increased with the gasifier portion of the project ultimately ending up being  
16 canceled in June of 2017, leaving only the combined cycle to operate on natural gas.  
17

18 Southern Company, who holds all equity ownership of assets within their system, was the  
19 spearhead behind the project as well as the developer of the TRIG<sup>TM</sup> technology, was  
20 planning to sell the technology to others and was the major decision maker in deciding to  
21 rush going forward with the project. Its subsidiary, SCS, served as the EPC Contractor,  
22 while MPC was minimally involved in the day-to-day decisions of the entire project.  
23

24 However, MPC acquiesced in decisions made by Southern Company and SCS, submitted  
25 the application for a CPCN, and signed off on proceeding with the plant under the  
26 conditions imposed by the Commission. Accordingly, I am advised by counsel that it is  
27 responsible for the rate consequences of those decisions.



**Exhibit “A”**

**“Basis of Estimate – Combined Cycle**

**CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES CONSULTING  
BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

**FOR THE**

**MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC UTILITIES STAFF**

**KEMPER IGCC PROJECT  
MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI**

**COMBINED CYCLE POWER PROJECT  
DESIGNED FOR USE WITH NATURAL GAS OR  
SYNTHETIC GAS PRODUCED ON SITE FROM  
GASIFICATION OF COAL**

**FOR A COMMERCIAL OPERATION DATE OF:**

**JULY 1, 2014**

## OVERVIEW

In 2017 Critical Technologies Consulting, LLC (CTC) was tasked by the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff (MPUS) with producing a detailed capital cost estimate for the Kemper IGCC project under construction located in Meridian, Mississippi. The plant consists of a combined cycle power plant that is designed to burn natural gas or synthetic gas made from coal gasification on site

CTC decided that July 1, 2014, would be a reasonable commercial operation date based on the start date of the project. CTC utilized information supplied by the Kemper project team including costs of major equipment components that were purchased earlier for the combined cycle plant that support the projected commercial operation date that we proposed. Where possible, bulk material quantities provided by the Kemper project team were sorted into categories to coincide with the preparation of the cost estimate. While pricing of the major equipment costs was available in most cases from the information provided by the Kemper project team, the bulk material costs were developed by the CTC cost estimating team since individual bulk material cost items were not available in the information provided by the Kemper project team. However, overall CTC's cost estimating teams total value produced was close to the total costs of major equipment items and bulk materials in the Kemper project team's information transmitted to CTC.

CTC determined that an Engineering, Procurement and Construction EPC approach to the project would be the best structure to use for the cost estimate. The CTC team decided that there would be one overall EPC contractor that would subcontract the work consisting of site work, concrete, masonry, metals, pre-engineered buildings, building architectural, major equipment installation, piping erection, electrical installation and instrumentation and controls installation. The EPC contractor would purchase the major equipment and major bulk material items while the subcontractors would purchase the balance of bulk material items.

The subcontractors would be responsible for their construction equipment and the majority of their other required indirect cost items. The EPC contractor would be responsible for any indirect cost

1 items where it would be a cost advantage to have one company supply that indirect cost  
2 component. The EPC contractor is responsible for the overall project management, engineering,  
3 start-up and testing.

4  
5 Due to the large need for skilled craft that are not local to the project site area, the cost estimate  
6 includes a substantial amount for per diem and overtime costs in order to attract the massive  
7 amount of skilled field construction labor necessary to construct a project of this magnitude.  
8 Fortunately, the base labor rates for the skilled craft are not as high as some other areas of the  
9 country; although, we anticipate that field labor productivity would be below average.

10  
11 CTC developed bulk material costs and indirect costs based on prior experience contained within  
12 our cost database which was used in this EPC cost estimate. Included is work from similar projects  
13 where detailed engineering was performed. This information allowed us to adjust our cost estimate  
14 model in our database for the anticipated conditions for the project.

15  
16 The CTC EPC Combined Cycle cost estimate is based on an Engineering, Procurement and  
17 Construction firm taking on the full responsibility with all of the risks involved in producing a  
18 turnkey operating Combined Cycle facility to operate at the required output of electricity and heat  
19 rates required. The CTC EPC cost estimate also includes costs as associated with an EPC  
20 contractor and subcontractors such as General Liability Insurance, Umbrella Coverage and  
21 Payment and Performance Bonds.

22  
23 Major equipment items include 2 Siemens Gas Turbine Generators, 1 Siemens Steam Turbine  
24 Generator, 2 Heat Recovery Steam Generators, a Condenser, a Cooling Tower, 3 Generator Step-  
25 Up Transformers and 2 Auxiliary Transformers.

26  
27 A Distributed Control System is also included as the main component of the plant control systems.  
28 A Continuous Emissions Monitoring System is included for the 2 steel stacks in the Combined  
29 Cycle Plant in order to measure the plant emissions from each of the Heat Recovery Steam  
30 Generators.

Pilings for foundations have been included in the cost estimate based on site geotechnical information and detailed information received from the Kemper project team. The cost of land, interest during construction and owner's costs are not part of this EPC cost estimate. Any credit for Department of Energy funds that may be received are also excluded from this EPC cost estimate.

## **DIRECT COSTS**

### **MAJOR EQUIPMENT AND BULK MATERIALS**

Major equipment is priced based on the information received from the Kemper project team cost estimate database. Balances of plant material quantities were developed from the Kemper project team's information that was provided and sorted by CTC. When necessary CTC selected EPC cost estimate models, as well as information from other CTC similar projects, to supplement the Kemper project team's information.

### **CONSTRUCTION LABOR**

Labor rates used in our estimate model are based on the labor rates and associated costs such as fringe benefits obtained from published data received by CTC for the project site location. CTC then prepared a construction field labor calculation for approximately thirty-five various crafts composed as noted below.

CTC included the construction field labor rates and fringe benefits along with any special conditions related to field labor. CTC then blended these rates to the mid-point of construction for the cost estimate and entered them into the EPC cost estimate model.

The construction labor rates used in this EPC cost estimate are composite craft labor rates for the various craft and include all fringe benefits, workers' compensation costs and all other required insurances and taxes. Working foreman costs are built into the labor rates while non-working

1 general foreman costs are included separately in the Construction Management Indirect Cost  
2 section for each of the subcontractor packages contained within the cost estimate.

3  
4 Field labor productivity was calculated based on expected field construction labor conditions for  
5 the Kemper, Meridian, Mississippi site location. Labor productivity was adjusted based on the  
6 size of the project.

## 7 8 **INDIRECT COSTS**

### 9 10 **CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

11  
12 This section of the cost estimate includes a detailed listing of the planned construction management  
13 team costs for the EPC Contractor. Costs in this section include a Construction Manager; an  
14 Assistant Construction Manager; Civil, Mechanical, Structural, Electrical and Instrumentation &  
15 Control Instrumentation & Control Instrumentation & Controls Superintendents; a Field Office  
16 Manager; Engineering Support; Cost Engineering; Planning and Scheduling; Safety; Quality  
17 Assurance/Quality Control; and Field Purchasing. The costs are calculated based on the estimated  
18 project schedule.

### 19 20 **TEMPORARY FACILITIES AND UTILITIES**

21  
22 This section of the cost estimate includes a detailed listing of the elements needed in order to  
23 support the construction management staff and construction of the project. Items that are included  
24 in this section are site trailers, clean-up of trailer area, water, sanitary facilities, field office  
25 supplies, site security, fire protection, medical supplies, electrical power consumption, telephones,  
26 copy machines and computer hardware and software.

1 CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND OPERATORS

2  
3 This section of the cost estimate includes a detailed listing of the construction equipment and  
4 operating engineers required in order to construct the mechanical and electrical portion of the  
5 project. In addition to the construction equipment and operating engineer cost, this section  
6 includes the cost of Truck Drivers, Maintenance Engineers, Fuel, Oil and Grease, Small Tools,  
7 Consumables, and Scaffolding. In this EPC cost estimate most of these costs are included with  
8 the individual subcontractors that are performing the civil, structural, architectural, mechanical,  
9 electrical and I&C portions of the work.

10  
11 INDIRECT CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AND SUPPORT

12  
13 This section of the cost estimate includes a detailed listing of the services needed in order to  
14 support the construction management staff and field forces. Items contained in this section of the  
15 cost estimate include Continuous and Final Site Clean-up, Rubbish Removal, Safety Equipment  
16 and Supplies, various testing including soils and concrete, Survey costs, Weather Protection, Dust  
17 Control, Piping Radiography and other testing, Testing of the Grounding System and Mechanical,  
18 Electrical and I&C Journeymen Support during Start-Up.

19  
20 INSURANCE/TAXES/PERMITS/OTHER

21  
22 This section of the cost estimate includes a detailed listing of a variety of components required in  
23 the cost estimate that are not applicable for inclusion in other sections of the estimate. Items  
24 normally included here are Freight Costs for major equipment and bulk materials that are not  
25 included in the cost of the Major Equipment as supplied by the manufacturer or in the bulk material  
26 unit cost, Travel Costs, Off-loading of major equipment and materials, Heavy Hauling of major  
27 equipment components not delivered directly to the site, General Liability and Umbrella Insurance  
28 costs, Start-Up Spare Parts, Permits, and Payment and Performance Bonds. Payment and  
29 Performance Bonds for the EPC Contractor as well as any subcontractors are part of this EPC cost  
30 estimate.

1 ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING

2  
3 Architectural Engineering costs were calculated based on current information contained in the EPC  
4 cost estimate model used for this project and adjusted as required to support the Commercial  
5 Operation Date. CTC based the cost for engineering hourly rates at an average cost for this service  
6 for work provided in the United States.

7  
8 START-UP AND TESTING

9  
10 The costs associated with the start-up and testing of the facility are included in the EPC cost  
11 estimate developed for this project. Journeyman stand-by time for mechanical, electrical and  
12 instrumentation and control support is included within these sections or in the Indirect Services  
13 and Support Section of the cost estimate. Start-up and test costs are based on no major issues  
14 arising during operations testing operations such as significant major equipment issues.

15  
16 EPC CONTRACTOR CONTINGENCY

17  
18 The CTC EPC cost estimate includes the anticipated contingency that will be applied by the EPC  
19 contractor based on the conceptual level of the information that is normally available at the time a  
20 Request for Proposal ("RFP") is issued for an EPC contractor as well as the risk involved for a  
21 project of this magnitude. The contingency percentages used in the cost estimate by CTC are  
22 based upon engineering judgment concerning the reliability of the data developed.

23  
24 EPC CONTRACTOR PROFIT

25  
26 CTC evaluated current profit margins of constructors of a suitable size that could adequately  
27 perform on a project of this size. CTC used 15% for overhead and profit for all items except for  
28 major equipment which is marked up 5% for EPC contractor overhead and profit. All of the  
29 subcontractors are marked up at a total of 15% to cover overhead and profit costs with the  
30 exception of major equipment which we estimated at 5%. Based on today's market conditions it

1 is assumed that the EPC contractor would subcontract all work to specialty subcontractors, take  
2 responsibility for the entire project and manage the work.

## 3 4 **OWNER'S COSTS**

### 5 6 **OWNER'S SITE MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL STAFFING**

7  
8 These costs are not included in the EPC cost estimates provided.

### 9 10 **OWNER'S INSURANCE**

11  
12 These costs are not included in the EPC cost estimates provided.

### 13 14 **OWNER'S ESCALATION**

15  
16 These costs are not included in the EPC cost estimates provided.

### 17 18 **OWNER'S CONTINGENCY**

19  
20 These costs are not included in the EPC cost estimates provided.

### 21 22 **ANY OTHER OWNER'S RELATED COSTS**

23  
24 These costs are not included in the EPC cost estimate provided. This includes, but is not limited  
25 to, permitting and licensing, the cost of land, taxes, owner engineering services, interest during  
26 construction and legal costs.



**NON-VALUE ADDED FUNCTIONAL FEATURES OF THE "AS-BUILT"**  
**KEMPER CC**

This Exhibit serves as a list of some of the features of the "as-built" Kemper CC which were engineered and constructed in order to enable the Kemper CC to be fueled with either syngas or natural gas. Given, however, the decision to abandon fueling the CC with syngas, and to fuel it only on natural gas, these features provide no value. Further, unless one had direct contact with the equipment manufacturers, it is very difficult to quantify the costs of the engineering, fabrication, and installation of these additional features. Further details, however regarding some of the "non-value added" features are provided below.

1. The single Steam Turbine and the associated Steam Turbine Generator, were sized to power the very large (230 MW) station load of the Gasifier Island. Each were designed to accomplish the following:
  - a) Utilize heat energy (obtained through the necessary cooling of the syngas) to generate additional Super-Heated Steam to be sent to the Steam Turbine, and
  - b) Enabled the Steam Turbine Generator to generate additional electricity.

As a result, both the Steam Turbine, the Steam Turbine Generator, and the associated support systems appear to be over-sized. For syngas operations, the gross output of the two Combustion Turbine Generators plus Steam Turbine Generator had to be 830 MW, but – to achieve the current net rating of 730 MW – it need only be roughly 750 MW.

2. Another point with respect to the Steam Turbine, it had to be modified from a "stock issue" Steam Turbine so that it could accept and effectively utilize the additional Super-Heated Steam that was coming from each of the two gasifier trains "Syngas Coolers".

3. Each of the two Combustion Turbines and the air compressors associated with each were sized to provide compressed air not only for the two Combustion Turbines, but also for the large gasifier island demand for compressed air. Therefore, it appears the Combustion Turbines and associated Air Compressors are larger than they need be.

4. Another point with respect to the Combustion Turbines is that they required different (from "stock issue") combustors (to prevent the backflow of hydrogen when fueled by syngas).

5. There are additional interfaces which are no longer necessary. For example, there is no longer a need for the process steam resulting from the hot exhaust gasses from the CT which was originally used by the gasifier island.

**Exhibit “D”**

**“Orlando Gasification Project Demonstration of a 285MW  
Coal-Based Transport Gasifier”**

**(Attached Separately)**

REDACTED

*CTC*

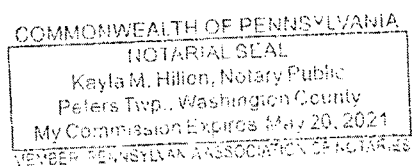
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

DONALD N. GRACE, with Critical Technology Consulting being first duly sworn, deposes and says that the statements contained in the foregoing Testimony to the Mississippi Public Service Commission, in Docket No. 2017-AD-112 are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Ronald N. Grace  
[NAME]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2017.



Kayla M. Hilion  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 05/20/2021

---

# **Orlando Gasification Project Demonstration of a 285 MW Coal-Based Transport Gasifier**

## **MIT Carbon Sequestration Initiative**

### **November 1, 2006**

# OGP Overview

- **285 MW IGCC comprised of two distinct projects:**
  - **1x1 combined cycle (Owned 100% by OUC)**
  - **Jointly owned gasifier island (Owned: 65% Southern/35% OUC)**
- **Located at OUC's Stanton Energy Center in Orlando, FL**
- **PRB coal**
- **Electricity from the facility will serve OUC's customers**
- **Southern Company responsible for operation of the IGCC with a blended OUC and Southern Company staff**
- **KBR responsible for Gasification Island EPC**
- **DOE is participating in the project under CCPI2 and providing \$235 million of co-funding**
- **June 1, 2010 COD for the IGCC**

# Project Status

---

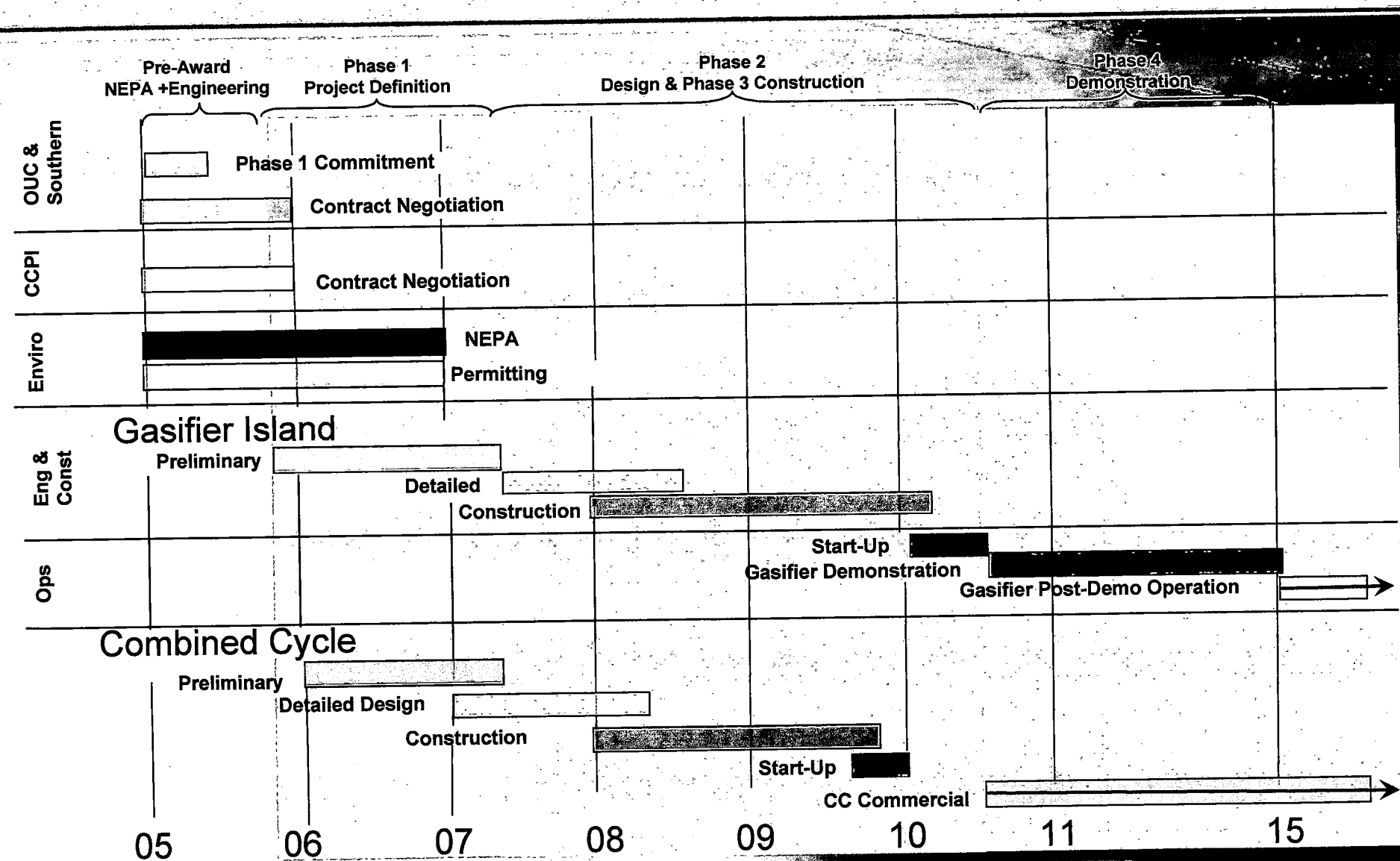
- **All contracts with the Major Participants are in place**
  - **DOE/Southern Company Cooperative Agreement**
  - **EPC subcontract with KBR for Gasifier Island**
  - **Commercialization Agreement between Southern Company and KBR**
  - **GE contract for CT supply and syngas testing**
  - **All contracts between OUC and Southern Company**
    - **Including ownership, capacity purchase and O&M**

# Project Status

---

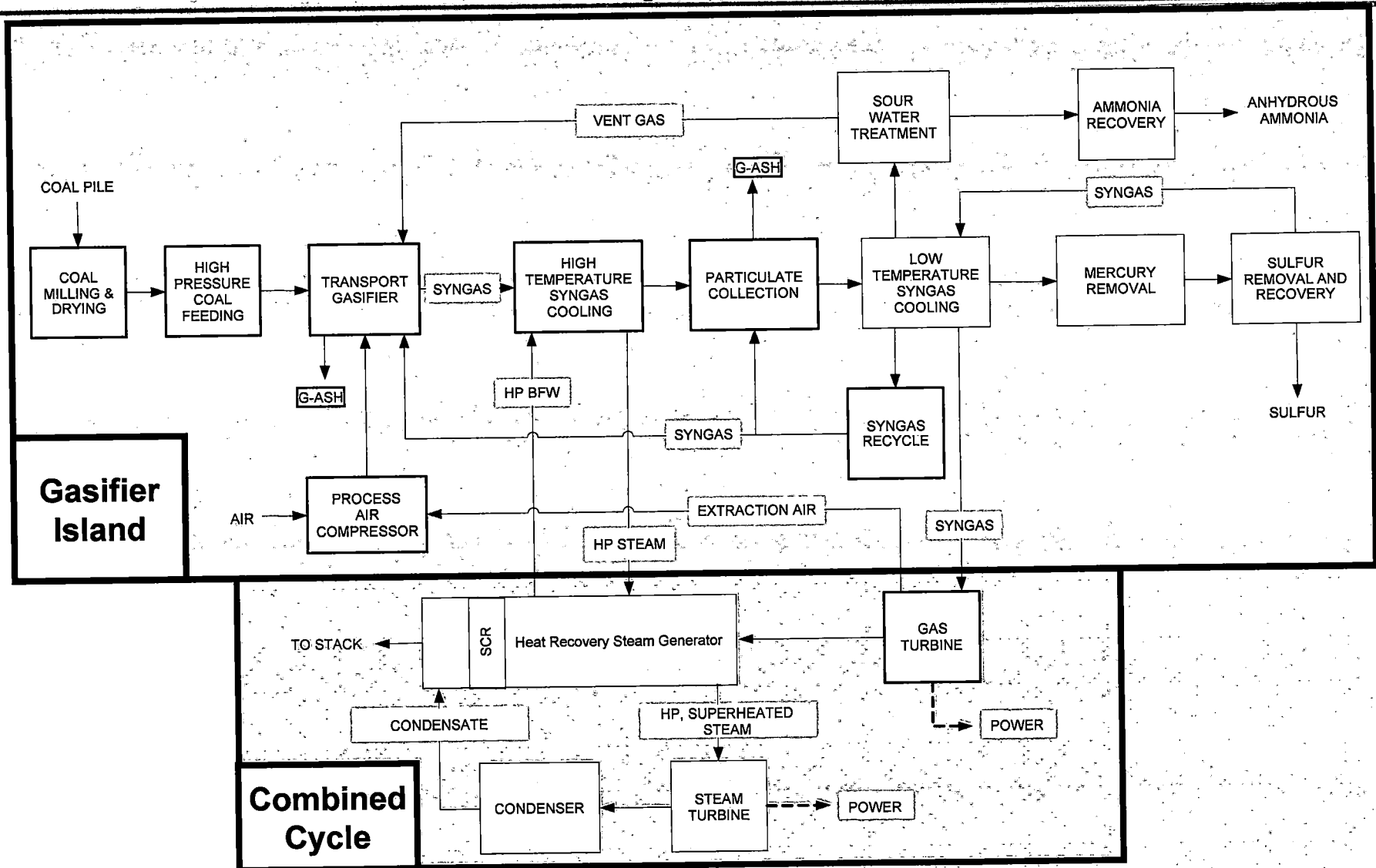
- **Activities for 2006 include NEPA, SCA, Need for Power and FEED.**
- **OUC's Need for Power Application was approved by the Florida Public Service Commission on 5/24/06.**
- **The Supplemental SCA was submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) on 2/17/06. The Site Certification process is expected to be completed this year.**
- **NEPA completion is expected in February 2007.**
- **FEED is progressing and will be completed 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 2007**
- **Detailed design and equipment procurement will begin in April of 2007**

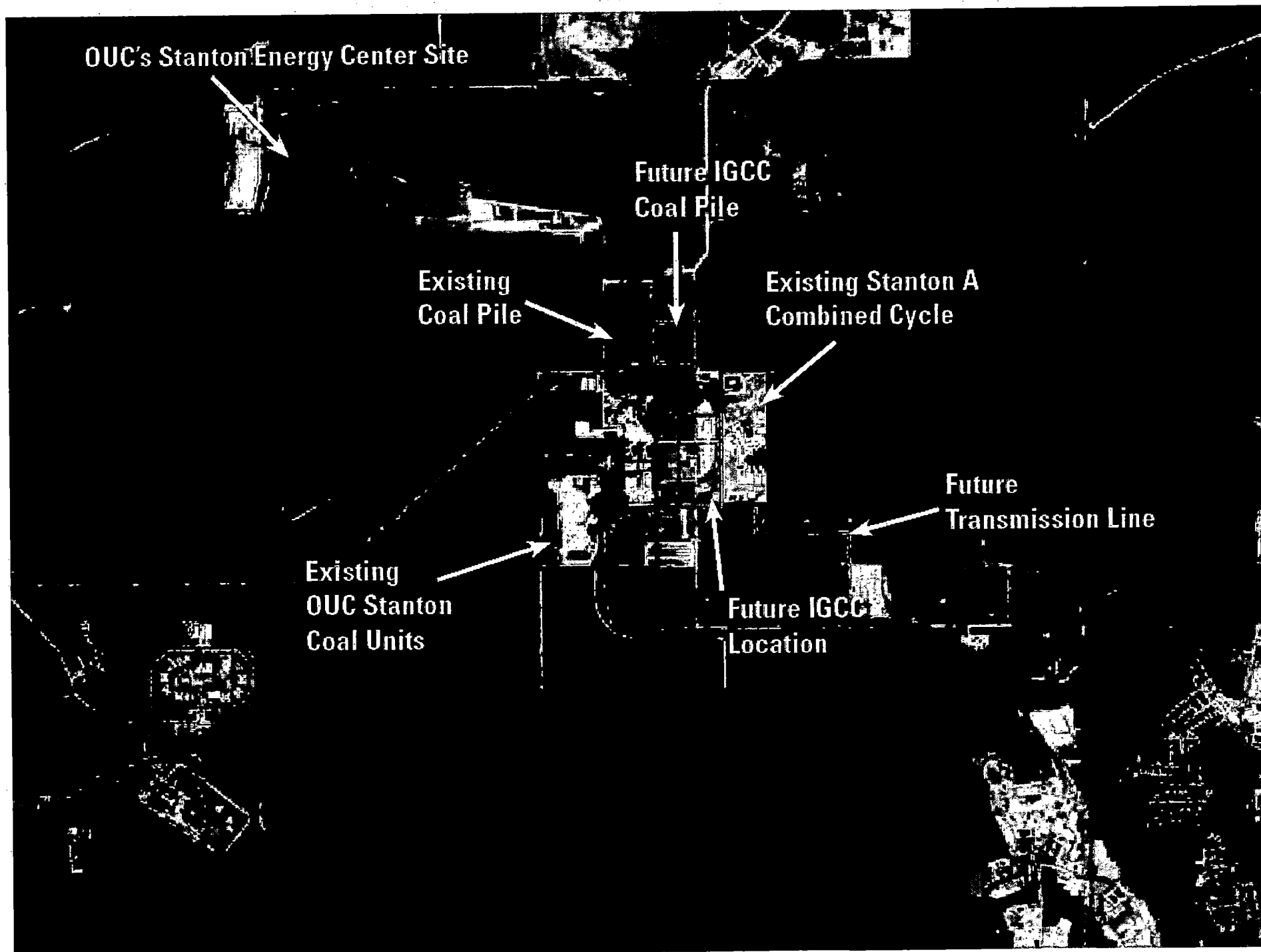
# Orlando Project Timeline



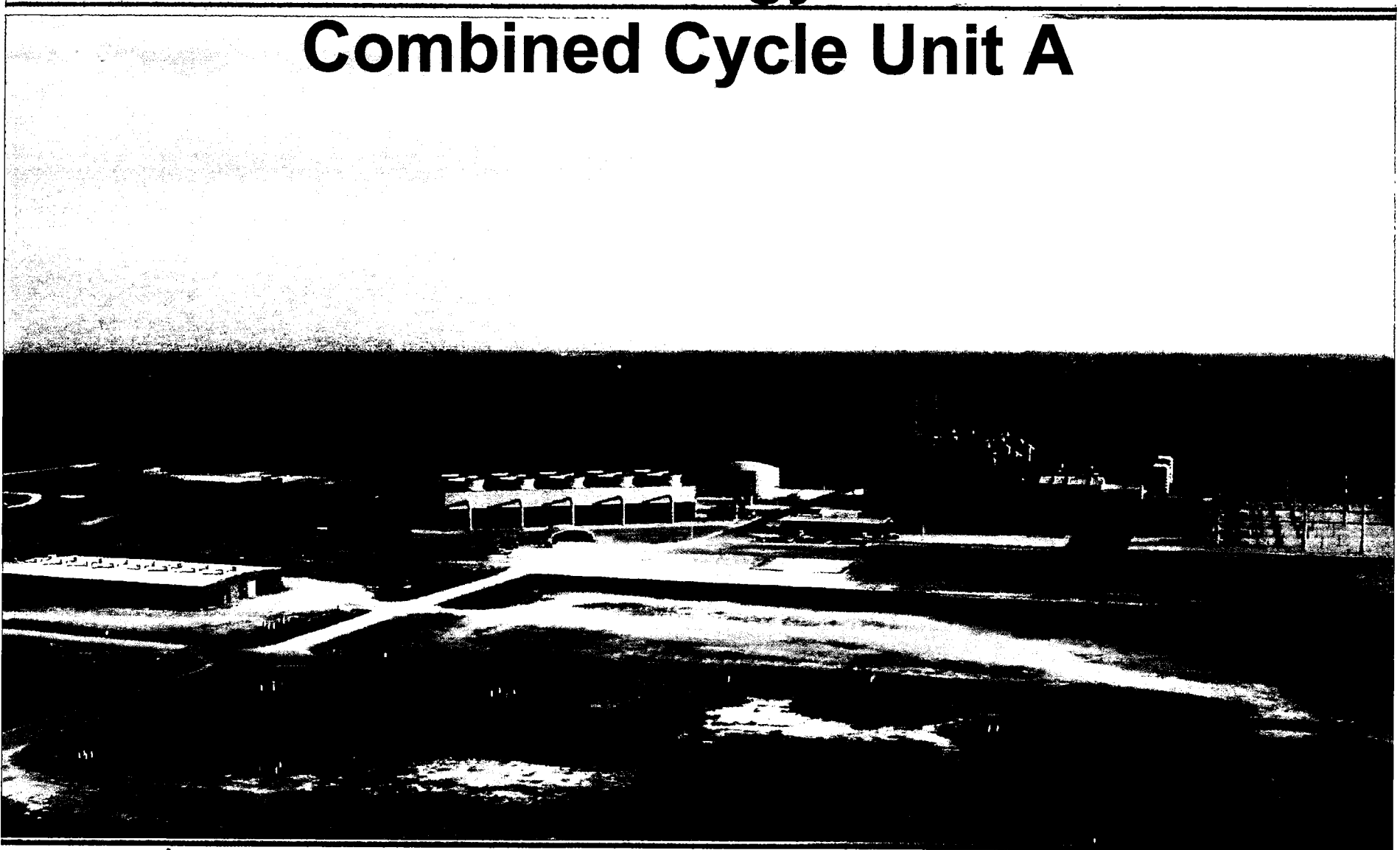


# Summary Flow Diagram





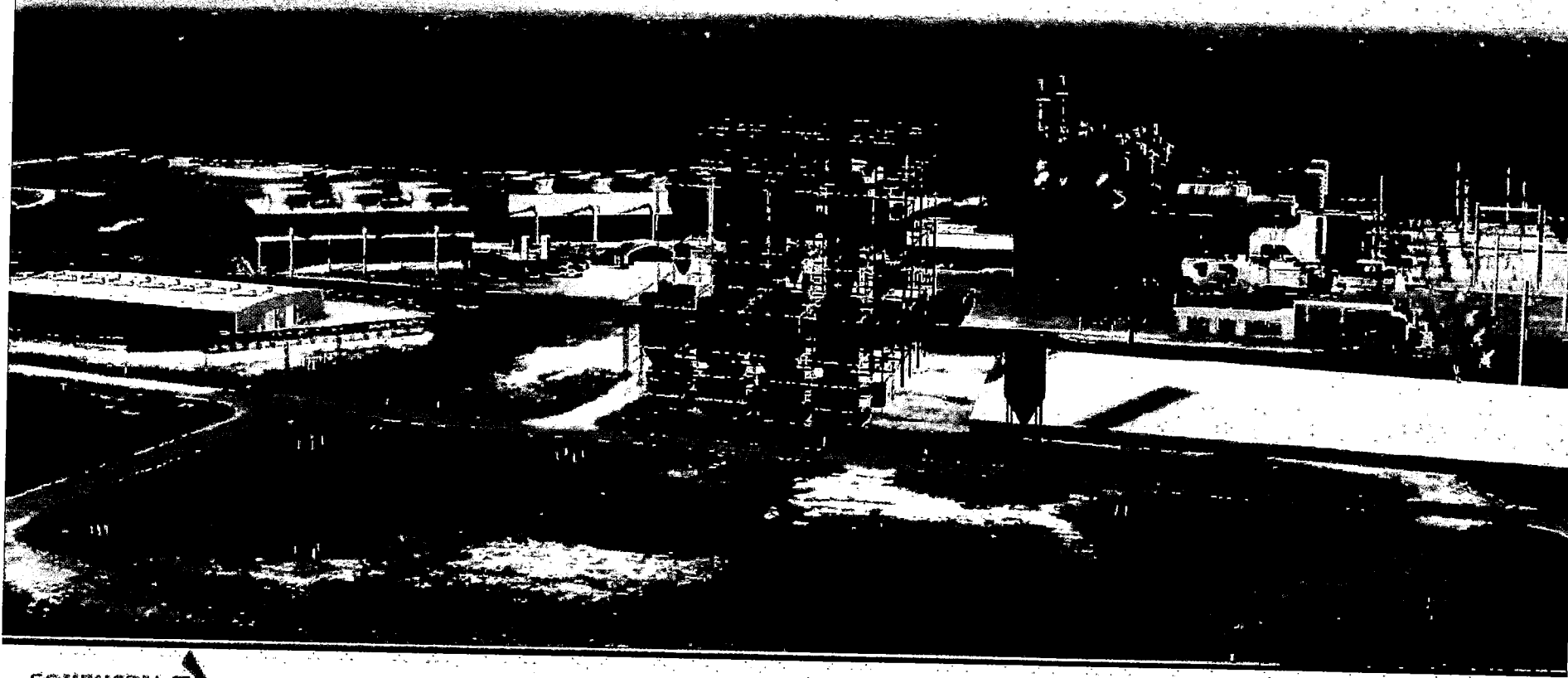
# Stanton Energy Center Combined Cycle Unit A



SOUTHERN  
COMPANY

**KBR**

# **Air Blown Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) at the Stanton Energy Center**



**SOUTHERN  
COMPANY**

**KBR**

# TRIG™ Cost Studies

---

A series of conceptual power plant designs incorporating the Transport Gasifier were developed to:

- Compare oxygen-blown and air-blown gasification
- Evaluate the impact of capturing carbon dioxide
- Calculate plant performance, complete capital and O&M costs, availability, and emissions

# TRIG™ Cost Study - Conclusions

---

- For power production from a Transport Gasifier IGCC, fed with low-sulfur PRB coal, air-blown gasification is more economic than oxygen-blown
- Impacts of carbon dioxide capture are significant, but air-blown gasification is still more economic than oxygen-blown
- Complete results are available at [http://psdf.southernco.com/tech\\_papers.html](http://psdf.southernco.com/tech_papers.html)