

PPL begins quarterly newsletter for Martins Creek facilities

Welcome to the first issue of a quarterly newsletter about PPL's facilities at Martins Creek. The newsletter will keep you updated about activities at the PPL Energy Center at Martins Creek, which includes the four-unit Martins Creek plant, the two-unit Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant and the PPL Interstate Energy Co. pipeline and tank farm facility.

"PPL is committed to responding to the concerns of our neighbors," said Tom Eppheimer, Martins Creek plant manager. "As a part of the community in this area of the Delaware River, we strive to do more than generate much-needed power.

"We try hard to resolve any concerns, and to deliver high-

quality educational and community programs."

The newsletter will be an important part of PPL's communications with area residents, he added. The company also has a Plant Advisory Committee made up of residents and community leaders from the nearby areas in Pennsylvania and New Jersey that meets quarterly.

"In the newsletter, we will cover all of our facilities here – the Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant managed by Mike Magnan and the Interstate Energy Co. pipeline and tank farm headed by Tom Dopsovic, as well as the Martins Creek plant and its Environmental Preserve," Eppheimer said.



Meet the Plant Managers **Thomas G. Eppheimer**

In this issue, you'll meet Tom Eppheimer, manager of the Martins Creek plant since 1995. Next issue, we'll introduce you to Mike Magnan, manager of the Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant.

In June 1973, Tom Eppheimer joined PPL as an engineer after receiving his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia. He began his career providing mechanical engineering design and support for operations and maintenance of PPL's fossil-fueled and hydroelectric generating plants.

Tom served as a project manager and supervising engineer before becoming manager of PPL's Fossil Plant Engineering group in 1994. He received his

professional engineer's license in Pennsylvania in 1978.

As manager of the Martins Creek plant, Tom is responsible for safety, environmental compliance and reliable operating performance of the four-unit generating plant, which can produce a total of 1,970 megawatts of electricity. One megawatt can meet the electricity needs of about 800 homes.

Martins Creek Units 1 and 2, which burn coal to produce electricity, began commercial operation in 1954 and 1956, respectively. They are scheduled to be shut down in September 2007. Units 3 and 4, built in 1974 and 1976, can be



fueled by either natural gas or oil.

Under Tom's direction, the Martins Creek plant was the first PPL facility to achieve the federal Occupational Safety

and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program "Star" award for its safety programs. It also was one of the first PPL facilities to have a Plant Advisory Committee made up of community leaders and plant neighbors.

In his free time, Tom likes to travel with his wife and three adult children. One of his most memorable trips was whitewater rafting with his sons on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon.

Events Calendar

Martins Creek Environmental Preserve consists of 750 acres of woodlands and fields along the shores of the middle Delaware River. The preserve has five miles of hiking trails, including scenic river views. PPL sponsors a variety of programs related to the preserve.

Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, Dec. 31, 7 a.m.

Cedars Pavilion on Foul Rift Road

Come for some pre-dawn owling or join in after daybreak to observe shorebirds and waterfowl roosting at one of the power plant's ash basins. Please dress for the weather as we catalog the number of birds and different species we see. More than 20,000 birds were counted last year. Bring binoculars and a field guide. For more information and registration, call John Drabic at

610-498-6254 or e-mail jmdrabic@pplweb.com.

Raptor ID

Sunday, Feb. 25, 2007, 1:30-3 p.m.
Martins Creek plant second floor conference room

Back by popular demand. Join the Pennsylvania Raptor and Wildlife Association for an encore program to talk about the natural history and biology of raptors. See live birds up close and learn what puts these winged predators at the top of nature's food chain. This program is geared toward more serious birders.

These programs are free. Preregistration is required. To register, contact PPL at 570-251-6196 or pplpreserves@pplweb.com.

PPL and local Boy Scouts adopt highway

PPL employees from the Peaking Power group, which operates the Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant, have teamed with Boy Scout Troop 102 of Bangor to adopt a two-mile section of Route 611 between Jacktown and Richmond roads as part of the Adopt-A-Highway program.

Jody Pysher, a technician at the power plant, is the leader of Troop 102. In July, 15 members from the troop, some of their parents and PPL

employees filled more than 50 garbage bags with trash and recyclables collected from the roadside.

Pysher noted that the Scouts not only got the benefit of providing a community service, they also earned merit badges for their efforts.

PPL employees and Troop 102 members will go out four times a year to help keep their stretch of Route 611 clean and attractive.

PPL conducts biological sampling

As a continuing part of PPL's monitoring following the August 2005 ash spill from the Martins Creek plant, biological samples were taken from the Delaware River in August and September.

Normandeau Associates, a firm with nationwide experience in assessing river habitats, took the samples as part of its continuing biological assessment. Sampling was done in the shallow water along both shorelines from Belvidere, N.J., to Kiefer's Island. Divers also took samples in the deep pools in the river.

The work is part of Phase IV of our response to the ash spill. This phase also included sediment sampling during

June along the banks on both sides of the river. Those samples were taken from the Martins Creek boat launch area to Easton.

Sampling also was done from Hendricks Island (near Center Bridge, Pa., and Stockton, N.J.) to Trenton.



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