



Martins Creek generators begin long trip to new home in Louisiana

The main electrical generators from the two retired coal-fired units at the Martins Creek plant were

hoisted onto 160-foot-long flatbed trucks in September and began their long trip south.

The generators made their first stop at a plant in Tennessee to be refurbished before moving on

to their new home at a steel mill in Louisiana. PPL sold the generators to steel company Nucor last year.

Each half-million pound generator, hoisted by the Bigge Crane & Rigging Co., crawled along local roads to Easton, where they were transferred to a railcar to complete their 1,000-mile journey.

Martins Creek coal generators

- 15 feet high
- 20 feet long
- 438,000 pounds
- 54 and 52 years old
- 160-megawatt capacity

“It was sad to see the units shut down last year, but good to know that the generators will be back in service at a new site,” said Al Sutter, a Martins Creek field support supervisor.

Both generators were installed more than 50 years ago when the units were built.

The most visible part of the plant’s demolition will be the removal of the two exhaust stacks next year. The entire demolition is expected to be completed by March.

Martins Creek still has two oil- or gas-fired units that can provide up to 1.6 million kilowatts of power during peak demand, and the adjacent Lower Mount Bethel Energy plant can generate 600,000 kilowatts of power and is one of the cleanest burning gas-fired power plants in operation.

Ash Basin to be closed

PPL is working with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to close the north end of Ash Basin No. 1 at the Martins Creek plant.

This is not the ash basin that released a mixture of fly ash and water in August 2005. When that release occurred, PPL received permission from the DEP to divert fly ash to the north end of Ash Basin No. 1.

Ash Basin No. 1, which is no longer used, is already partially closed and contains a variety of vegetation. The basin provides natural habitat for deer, wild turkeys and other animals.

The work on this basin is in addition to the work PPL is completing to close Ash Basin No. 4, where the leak occurred in 2005.

PPL helps preserve Martins Creek stream banks

PPL’s donation of \$50,000 helped the Martins Jacoby Watershed Association complete two environmental preservation projects in Lower Mount Bethel Township this fall.

The association partnered with the Lehigh County Conservation District, Northampton County Conservation District, and the

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to repair eroding stream banks on Martins Creek and Little Martins Creek.

In addition to funding from PPL, the projects also received a \$50,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The two preservation projects

were completed in October.

Models of the two designs will be on display in the community center planned in Lower Mount Bethel Township to help other landowners learn about stream projects.

The association plans to complete additional restoration projects next year.

PPL Martins Creek
6605 Foul Rift Road
Bangor, PA 18013-4857

Enjoy educational programs at the preserve

PPL's Martins Creek Environmental Preserve offers free educational programs throughout the year. Upcoming programs include:

Energy Conservation Toolbox
7-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12
Bushkill Township Building

Have you been wondering how to save money on energy bills but don't know where to start? PPL's Fred Gast, an energy audit expert, will show you how to get the best bang for your buck. Learn which improvements to make first and how exactly to do it. Get hands-on experience with gadgets that you can buy from your local hardware store including

insulation, light bulbs, weatherstripping and programmable thermostats in order to lower your own carbon footprint and your energy bill. If you're lucky, you might even win a door prize. For more information, please contact Rick Wiltraut at 610-746-2810 or rwiltraut@state.pa.us.

2008 Christmas Bird Count
Sunday, Dec. 28
4:30 a.m. for owling
7 a.m. for general count

Join us for some pre-dawn owling if you don't mind the dark, or meet us after daybreak to observe songbirds, shorebirds, raptors and waterfowl in the area around our power plant and environmental

preserve. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable hiking shoes as we catalog the number of birds and different species we see throughout a variety of different habitats. Over 138,000 birds were counted last year, covering 63 different species. Bring binoculars and a field guide. We'll meet at the Cedars Pavilion on Foul Rift Road.

All programs are free and will be held at the Cedars Pavilion on Foul Rift Road. Registration is required. To register, contact us at 570-251-6196 or pplpreserves@pplweb.com.