

Plant Franklin

Location

Smiths, Alabama

Fuel Resource

Natural Gas

Capacity

1857 MW

Ownership

Southern Power



Plant Franklin is a natural gas-fueled, combined-cycle electric generating plant located in Smiths, Alabama, near Phenix City, Alabama and Columbus, Georgia. The plant is used to generate electricity for the South – the fastest growing region in the country. The plant went online in 2002.

Size

The plant consists of three combined-cycle units – one 539 megawatts and two 659 megawatts. The plant has the potential to accommodate up to four units.

Technology

Combined-cycle technology is one of the cleanest and most efficient methods of producing electricity. With this technology, the power plant's combustion turbines make electricity by burning natural gas. Waste heat from the turbines is captured and reused to drive a separate steam turbine that produces additional electricity. Combined-cycle power plants produce high power outputs at high efficiencies and with low emissions.

The combustion turbine produces electricity at 18,000 volts and the steam turbine produces electricity at 21,000 before being "stepped up" in a transformer to 230,000 volts for transmission.

Economic Impact

Plant Franklin provides millions of dollars in economic benefits to the city of Smiths, Lee County and the state of Alabama. Nearby counties and the entire state also benefit by job availability and the economic development boost created by having immediate access to a reliable source of electric power.

Southern Power, a subsidiary of Southern Company, is a leading U.S. wholesale energy provider meeting the electricity needs of municipalities, electric cooperatives, investor-owned utilities and other energy customers. Southern Power and its subsidiaries, some of which are owned in part with various partners, own or operate 50 facilities operating or under development in 13 states with more than 11,920 MW of generating capacity in Alabama, California, Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington and West Virginia.

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