Cottonwood

Four highly efficient combined-cycle units
• Fueled by clean burning natural gas
• Environmentally responsible and sustainable design
• One of the region’s newest, most efficient plants
• Began operations in 2003

Economic Benefits
• Highly automated requiring a full-time staff of only 32 people
• Modern plant offers economic dispatch options
• Increased capacity reduces cycling stress on coal plants
• Flexible generation optimal for region’s energy demands
• Unique configuration supports long-term growth
• Facility’s capability provides balancing, ancillary services

Community Involvement
NRG Energy supported the reinvigoration of a children’s playground in Deweyville, in southern Newton County, which had deteriorated from years of neglect and a lack of funding. The newly refurbished slides, swings, pavilion, picnic tables and basketball court will offer area families a safe and welcome place to enjoy themselves year-round.

Sustainability
The Cottonwood Generating Station, which began operations in December, 2003, was designed and constructed with many of the most environmentally and operationally advanced technologies currently available. The plant’s administration building was developed and certified under the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program, which helps building owners implement practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. It also supports sustainability with:
• Partnership with Gulf Coast Bird Observatory to monitor nearby bird habitat
• Advanced emission-control system that reduces NOx and CO emissions

NRG Owned (Net MW): 1,263
ISO (Customer): MISO
NRG Ownership: 100%

The NRG Cottonwood Generating Station is a 1,263 MW natural-gas fueled plant located in East Texas. It has four highly efficient natural gas-fueled combined cycle units, each consisting of one combustion turbine and one steam turbine. Cottonwood is capable of powering more than one million homes in its East Texas/Arkansas/Louisiana service area.

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