



NRG Waukegan Generating Station

NRG’s Waukegan Generating Station has been an integral part of the community for more than 90 years and produces enough electricity to meet the needs of about 668,000 households. The facility provides many significant economic benefits to the surrounding areas and has installed a full suite of state-of-the-art environmental controls.

Supporting the environment

In 2014, NRG announced a \$567 million dollar investment in its Illinois fleet that would result in significant emission reductions statewide, including more than \$100 million in additional emissions controls on Units 7 and 8 at the Waukegan plant. When all elements are complete in late 2016, this fleet plan will achieve a 60% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, the equivalent of taking four million cars off the road and enough to single-handedly achieve 56% of all the statewide CO₂ reductions necessary under the Obama Administration’s Clean Power Plan. It will also reduce sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions by 90% and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 65% across NRG’s Illinois fleet.

Waukegan complies with all state and federal environmental regulations and meets the requirements established by the Illinois EPA and Illinois Pollution Control Board, including the Combined Pollutant Standard. The plant has delivered a steady decrease in emissions, including reducing its Mercury emissions by 96%, SO₂ by 81, NO_x by 76%, and particulate matter by 70% between 2005 and 2015. The recently completed controls on Waukegan Units 7 and 8 are providing additional and significant emission reductions.



\$567 MILLION DOLLARS
Investment in Illinois fleet which will result in significant emission reductions.



CO2 REDUCTIONS
Equivalent of taking four million cars off the road and will achieve 56% of all necessary statewide reductions.



INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY
Waukegan produces enough electricity to meet the needs of about 668,000 households.



\$3 million

NRG donated \$3 million to install an approximately 1 MW solar power system across seven Waukegan school buildings.



98 full-time staff

Waukegan employs 98 full-time staff and typically about 20 full-time contractors.



giving

NRG Waukegan Station employees are active members of many local organizations.

Recently installed controls:

- Equipment that monitors opacity, mercury, SO₂, and NO_x emissions and ensures compliance with all environmental laws, permits and regulations
- Activated carbon injection (ACI) that controls mercury emissions
- Dry sorbent injection (DSI), which combined with the use of low-sulfur coal, controls SO₂ emissions significantly
- Low NO_x burners and combustion tuning to reduce NO_x emissions

The electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) on Unit 7 was also converted from "hot side" to "cold side," which significantly reduces particulate matter. Waukegan Station's coal ash ponds are fully lined, with new liners installed in 2004 and 2005, to prevent groundwater contamination. An extensive network is in place that monitors groundwater at many locations on the station property.

Supporting the community

Waukegan employs 98 full-time staff and typically about 20 full-time contractors, as well as additional skilled trades during planned outages. In 2014, almost 500 contractors were utilized to complete the environmental upgrades on Unit 7. The facility is also the third largest taxpayer in the City of Waukegan.

NRG Waukegan Station employees are active members of and support numerous local organizations. In addition, NRG donates generously to the Lake County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Waukegan Chamber of Commerce, Lake County Partners, Lake County Workforce Investment Board, Friends of the Genesee, United Way of Lake County and Waukegan Park District. Employees directly support organizations including PADS Lake County, Waukegan Main Street Association, Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group (CAG), League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Coalición Latinos Unidos de Lake County (CLULC), and the Waukegan Public Library, as well as local schools. Waukegan Station also partners with The Field Museum of Chicago, sponsoring a Peregrine Falcon nesting box on the roof of its facility. This nesting-box program helps reintroduce endangered birds to the Midwest.

NRG donated \$3 million for an approximately 1 MW solar power project for Waukegan Community Unit School District 60. The donation covered the equipment, design and installation for solar photovoltaic arrays on seven school roofs, and will also provide for 20 years of operations and maintenance. The project, completed in 2016, will deliver energy savings of about \$70,000 annually for the district. NRG Waukegan Station also donated \$19,000 to the Andrew Cooke Magnet School to develop an aeroponic garden, which will serve as an educational tool for students while feeding Waukegan families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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