

Apex Power Group plans 1,100-MW Guernsey gas plant in Ohio

Developer hopes to project in operation during summer 2020

04/06/2016 by Wayne Barber

Apex Power Group has announced plans to develop a 1,100-MW natural gas power plant in southern Guernsey County, Ohio.

Apex said the Guernsey power project will consist of two modern, natural gas-fired combustion turbine generators and one steam turbine generator fired by heat recovered from the combustion turbines.

With planned construction in Valley Township alongside Interstate 77 approximately six miles south of Interstate 70, **Guernsey Power Station, LLC** will provide enough power to serve roughly 1 million average-size homes.

Apex is targeting summer 2020 to have the plant in commercial operation.

The project is designed to support both current and future electrical demand in areas of Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, as all three states are serviced by regional transmission operator **PJM Interconnection**.

In addition to employing the latest technologies, the generating plant will benefit from the abundance of local natural gas from the Utica and Marcellus shale.

“Having the Rockies Express interstate gas pipeline bisect their proposed site along with 765kV electric lines overhead has made this the perfect location for the project,” **Community Improvement Corp.** (CIC) Executive Director Norm Blanchard said in an Apex news release.

Apex has proposed connecting to those 765kV electric lines, which will allow power to easily flow where it will be needed most. Apex Managing Partner Michael King says that the **Guernsey Power Station LLC** project will create about 500 construction jobs for the two-year construction period and about 25 full time positions when operational.

When contacted by *GenerationHub*, an Apex official said that the company has signed an option on the agricultural property where the plant would be built. Apex has retained **Kiewit** as its chief contractor. The cost of constructing the project is expected to be in the neighborhood of \$900m to \$1bn, a company official said.

Guernsey Power Station LLC has applied for electrical interconnection and will apply for Ohio EPA and Ohio Power Siting Board permits later this summer or early fall. Subject to securing financing, Guernsey Power Station expects to start construction as early as spring 2018 and be on-line by summer 2020.

Apex Power Group was formed in 2007 after the Principals had worked together on the successful development of the Panoche Energy Center in Fresno County, California. More recently, Apex developed the Pio Pico Energy Center, a 300 MW peaking facility in San Diego County, California, which is under construction and will achieve commercial operations in September of this year.

Apex Power Group will hold public meetings in Guernsey County later this spring to present the project to the community, as required by the Ohio Power Siting Board.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Wayne Barber, Chief Analyst for the GenerationHub, has been covering power generation, energy and natural resources issues at national publications for more than 20 years. Prior to joining PennWell he was editor of Generation Markets Week at SNL Financial for nine years. He has also worked as a business journalist at both McGraw-Hill and Financial Times Energy. Wayne also worked as a newspaper reporter for several years. During his career has visited nuclear reactors and coal mines as well as coal and natural gas power plants.

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