



TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.

" A Commitment to Service and Savings "

A Commitment For the Future Energy Needs of Our Members



The above picture is of the 620 MW Jack County generating station unit 1. A second station similar to unit one is under construction at this time and scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2011. Unit 2 will be located on the same property and double the output of electricity. Planning for the future power needs of our members is critical for maintaining power quality.

Tri-County Electric Cooperative and its power supplier Brazos Electric Power Cooperative are building a commitment to the energy needs of our members. The continued growth within the North Central Texas service area will require new generation to meet the demand for electricity made by the members of Tri-County Electric Cooperative and the other fifteen cooperative members of the Brazos Electric Power Cooperative.

Brazos Electric completed construction of a 620 megawatt, natural gas-fired, combined-cycle generation station located in Jack County Texas in January of 2006. A contract for the construction of unit 2 was awarded to Fluor Corporation on December 1, 2008. The second 620 megawatt generating station will be similar to unit 1 and is scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2011.

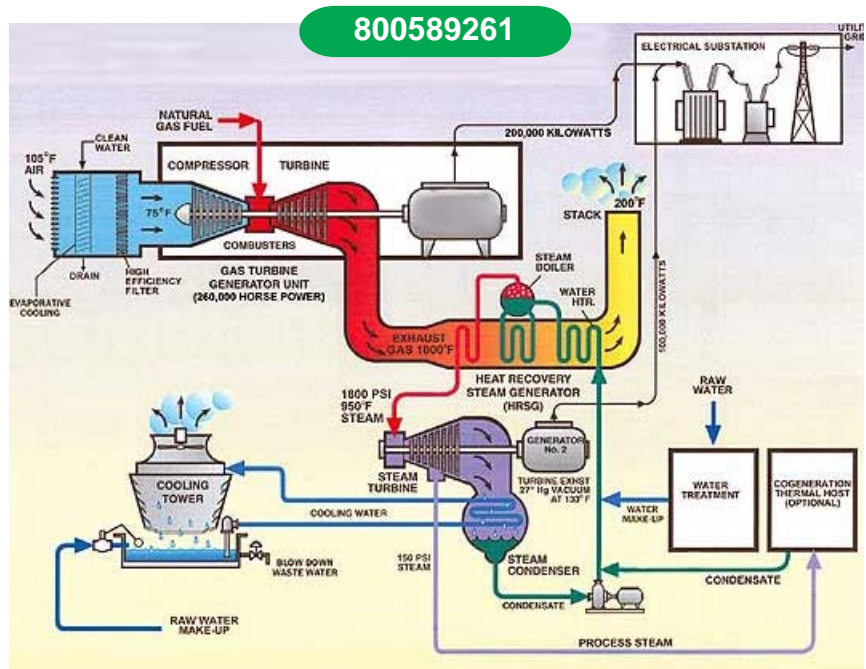
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A conventional natural gas fired power plant used natural gas to boil water to make steam. The high pressure steam was piped to a steam turbine which

was responsible for turning the generator. Power plants of this design would frequently be scheduled for operation based on anticipated load for that day. Plant operators kept the boiler hot in anticipation of bringing the generators on line to meet demand. A tremendous amount of gas was consumed to maintain the plants ready to operate status. Increasing natural gas prices prompted engineers to design the combined-cycle generation station.

A combined-cycle power plant uses a gas fired turbine to spin the generator and can be brought on line in a matter of hours. This eliminates the need to burn natural gas like the older boiler plant. Hot exhaust gases from the gas turbine are sent to a heat reclaimer and used to make steam. When the boiler comes up to operating temperature the steam will be used to spin a steam turbine and we are making electricity again with the same natural gas. This new design significantly improved the operational readiness of power plants and reduced natural consumption.

Staying on pace to meet the energy needs of our members is an investment in our future.



This diagram illustrates how a combined-cycle generating station makes electricity. Better response times and reduced natural gas consumption are key components of the new design.

Your Thermostat Is The Best Tool For Cost Reduction



The thermostat on the wall of your home or business is one of the quickest ways to lower electric air-conditioning costs. For every degree of increase in temperature your operating cost can be reduced by as much as 3 percent. Make sure your thermostat is level and tightly mounted to the wall. A mechanical thermostat that is out of plumb will cause inaccurate operation of equipment.

Remember to service the air filter on a regular basis. If the area in which you live is dusty, it may need attention more frequently. Take note of the condition of the filter each time you remove it for maintenance. If you are on a monthly schedule and note that the filter is extremely dirty, you need to shorten the number of days between maintenance. Remember that during the hot summer months your unit is required to run longer to maintain the temperature. Longer run times means that the filter is seeing more cubic feet of air per day. Another condition affecting maintenance schedules is air quality. Hot dry conditions will result in more dusty conditions around the home.

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Make sure the outdoor condensing coil is clean and free of grass and other debris. This will improve efficiency and also prevent costly equipment failures.

Inspect doors and windows to make sure they are closing properly. A missing or torn weather seal can cause increased air infiltration resulting in higher operating cost. Keep windows latched as the locking mechanism frequently results in a tighter



Dirty coils increase operating cost and can cause serious equipment failure. Keep them clean and save!

seal. Use the dollar bill inspection around doors. Close the dollar bill in each side and several locations around the door. If the seal is working properly you should meet firm resistance when you close the door and attempt to pull the dollar free. No resistance indicates a defective door gasket.

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From The Cooperative Kitchen



This month's recipe was provided by Beatrice Pope from Weatherford. She will receive a 60 Years of Home Cooking Cookbook, compliments of TCEC. Consider sending in your favorite recipe for a chance to win your own copy of 60 Years of Home Cooking.

ZUCCHINI JAM

*** Ingredients ***

6 - Cups of Peeled and Grated Zucchini

6 - Cups of Sugar

2 - Tablespoons of Lemon Juice

1 - 20 oz. Can of Crushed Pineapple (Drained)

2 - 3 oz. Boxes of Apricot Jello (or Peach)

1 - Cup of Water

*** Directions ***

Add water to zucchini in a large sauce pan and bring to a boil. Allow about six minutes for cooking time.

Add sugar, lemon juice and pineapple. Cook for an additional six minutes.

Add Jello and cook for six more minutes.

Pour into hot sterilized jars and seal.
DELICIOUS!!!

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It Pays To Stay Informed!

Find your account number in our Member Information Bulletin and you will receive a \$20.00 credit on your electric bill. Simply contact one of the offices listed to the left and make them aware of your discovery.

It pays to stay informed!

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TRI-COUNTY
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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