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Facts about:

Closing the Benning Power Plant

Pepco Energy Services (PES), a Pepco Holdings-affiliated company, is planning to close its Benning Road Power Plant. Operations at the power plant will cease by the end of May 2012 and the site will be cleaned, secured and maintained in a state of indefinite closure. There are no plans to redevelop the power plant site.

What is the Benning Road Power Plant?

The power plant was constructed in 1906 and several different generating units, running on different types of fuel, have been operated and subsequently retired over the plant's life. Currently, the plant has only two steam turbine units, one installed in 1968 and the other in 1972, that together can provide 550 MW of electricity; enough to meet the needs of around 180,000 homes. These units were designed to operate a limited number of days each year, and historically have operated for about 10 to 15 days per year on average, to ensure reliable power to Pepco's customers during periods of peak electricity demand. The power plant occupies less than twenty percent of the total footprint of the Pepco Benning Road Facility. All power plant equipment is located on the western portion of the Pepco property along Anacostia Ave.,

which separates the Pepco property from the National Park Service land along the Anacostia River.

Why Is Pepco Closing the Benning Road Power Plant?

PES announced its intention to close the Benning Road Power Plant in 2007 based on past and planned upgrades to Pepco's transmission grid that will eliminate the need for electricity generated by the plant. Pepco is making further transmission upgrades to ensure the reliable delivery of power to the company's customers after retirement of the power plant, and these are scheduled to be completed by early 2012.

What Is the Process for Closing the Plant?

PES must follow strict procedures designated by District of

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These cooling towers — part of the Benning Road Power Plant — will be dismantled and removed following closure of the plant. PES will arrange for the component materials to be reused, recycled or disposed of according to accepted environmental standards.



The fuel oil storage tanks that supply the Benning Road Power Plant will be dismantled and removed. Component materials will be properly reused, recycled or disposed of.

Columbia and U.S. Government agencies for decommissioning the power plant and its associated systems. PES is currently seeking the necessary permits and authorizations from District agencies to remove certain equipment, such as the fuel tanks and the cooling towers, upon closure of the plant. In addition, PES has identified the activities required to decommission the power plant in compliance with all safety and environmental regulations and is pursuing those activities that can be performed in advance of the power plant's closure. At the conclusion of power production operations, PES also will terminate the environmental permit to operate a power plant at the Benning Road facility. Until the power plant is closed, PES continues to operate in full compliance with the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act and all other applicable District and Federal regulations.

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