

Mississippi PUC certifies more than 9,000 MW of new merchant plant generation, much of it for export

Merchant power plants are sprouting up across Mississippi, but Mississippi like other southern states are unsure that the plants are necessary to meet demand. Fourteen merchant plants totaling 9,045-MW have already been certified for construction and eight projects are already underway.

So far Mississippi has seen much of the flip side of the construction boom that has resulted in many cancellations elsewhere (*GMW, 8/6*). Only El Paso's 750-MW plant project has been canceled after reaching the certification stage.

Mississippi is not alone in seeing a surge of merchant plant development. South Carolina, Loui-

siana, Kentucky and Tennessee have all done or proposed studies to determine the impact of merchant plants (*GMW, 8/5*). Mississippi PSC has said it is considering a formal study of the potential impact of so much merchant power because of its concerns, but it has not initiated one.

Currently, Mississippi requires plants to be approved by its Public Utilities Commissions, which is a lengthy process. Kentucky and Tennessee have issued moratoriums on new plant applications, but both moratoriums expired in the spring – and Kentucky has now created a new state board on generation and

transmission siting.

Mississippi's PSC said some of the proposed plants might be able to meet demand efficiently in certain regions of the state, but overall the PSC expects to see much of the power exported out of the state.

"I would venture to say that most of the power would be sent elsewhere," said Brian Ray, spokesman for Mississippi Public Service Commission.

Ray also said that the proliferation of plants may strain existing infrastructure.

"If all of these plants were operating it's going to be hard transporting all that energy," said Ray. "Water is also a major concern." AE

Mississippi Merchant Plant Generation

Company Name	Status	Location	Type	Estimated Cost	MW
AES Pecan Grove, LLC	Pre-Construction	West Point	SCG	\$200M	500
Attala Generating Company, LLC	Operating	McAdams	CCG	\$160M	510
Caledonia Generating, LLC	Under Construction	Lowndes	CCG	\$400-\$525M	820
Calpine-Lone Oak Energy Center, LLC	Pre-Construction	Lowndes	CCG	\$450M	805
Cinergy Corp.	Operating	Caledonia	SCG	\$135M	475
Clarksdale Public Utilities	Operating	Clarksdale	SCG	\$115M	320
Duke Energy Enterprise, LLC	Operating	Enterprise	SCG	\$230M	640
Duke Energy Homochitto, LLC	Pre-Construction	Lucien	CCG	\$250M	620
Duke Energy New Albany, LLC	Operating	New Albany	SCG	\$105M	390
Duke-Hinds	Operating	Jackson	CCG	\$160M	510
Duke-Southaven	Operating	Southaven	SCG	\$180M	640
El Paso	*Canded	Saltillo	CCG	\$350M	750
Enron Power	Pre-Construction	Fulton	SCG	\$55M	260
Magnolia Energy, L.P.	Under Construction	Benton	CCG	\$250M	900
NRG	Operating	Batesville	CCG	\$300M-\$400M	830
NRG - Shaw Group. Transfer	Under Construction	Holmesville	CCG	\$600M	1,100
NRG Batesville, LLC (expansion)	Under Construction	Batesville	CCG	\$200M	300
Panda Black Prairie	Pre-Construction	Clay County	CCG	\$400M	1,300
Reliant - Choctaw Gas Generation, LLC	Under Construction	Choctaw County	CCG	\$400M	720
Reliant Energy Choctaw County, LLC	Under Construction	French Camp	CCG	\$300M	250
Southaven Power, LLC	Under Construction	Southaven	CCG	\$300M-\$400M	830
TECO McAdams	Under Construction	McAdams	CCG	\$200M	640
Tractebel Power (CGI)	Operating	Chester	Lignite	\$500M	440
Warren Power, LLC (Entergy)	Operating	Vicksburg	SCG	\$140M	300
				Planned	9,045
				Total Merchant	15,000