



Newman Power Plant Unit 5 Begins Commercial Operation

El Paso Electric has completed Phase 1 of the Newman Power Plant Unit 5 construction project. The two gas turbines began commercial operation on Friday, May 22.

Construction on the plant began in July 2008 and the first phase was completed on schedule in 10 months. Together, the two turbines will generate up to 140 MW. When the steam generator is added in 2010, the combined cycle unit will generate up to 288 MW, and it will be EPE's most efficient local generation unit.

"We're very pleased to be able to provide this added generation to help meet the demand of our fast-growing communities," said Andy Ramirez, Vice President, Power Generation at El Paso Electric. "The addition of the Newman 5 unit will enhance El Paso Electric's system reliability and will provide fuel savings through the operation efficiency of the new technology."