

North Carolina Municipal Power Agency

Location: Monroe, North Carolina

North Carolina Public Power is a municipally owned and operated electric service that supplies power to more than 70 communities and over 500,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in North Carolina. North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 (NCMPA1) is one of the state's two municipal power agencies and provides wholesale power to 19 cities and towns in western North Carolina.

A project was launched because during peak periods the NCMPA1 was running critically low on electric capacity, putting customers in danger of losing power. To remedy the situation, NCMPA1 decided to construct an additional power generation facility. A seven-acre site in the city of Monroe was selected as the best location for the new power plant.

After putting a project team together and consulting with engineering firms, NCMPA1 made the decision to install two highly efficient 12MW *Titan*™

130 *SoLoNOx*™ gas turbines designed and manufactured by Solar Turbines Incorporated. Perigon, an engineering firm based in Matthews, North Carolina, provided engineering, design, and construction administration.

The Monroe Plant began operation in early 2010, and is operating remotely on short notice during periods of high demand and high market prices. The city estimates that the two *Titan* 130 gas turbine generator sets will operate mainly during peak demand periods, usually in the summer, and provide enough power for 28 percent of the city's emergency power needs during this peak period. The twin turbines will be powered by natural gas from the Monroe city-owned gas system, but can also run on diesel fuel in the event of an emergency, such as a hurricane or ice storm. Another benefit of the plant is that it is expected to enhance the area's

ability to recruit and retain industrial firms to the area.

In more than 14,000 installations worldwide, *Solar*® gas turbines generate clean electrical power from natural gas with power generation packages designed to limit the impact on the environment, protect people who operate the equipment, and respect people who live nearby. Operating on the least carbon-intensive fossil fuel, our products can provide significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by displacing power generated from more carbon-intensive sources, while at the same time maintaining very low pollutant emissions levels.

For more information on peaking projects, please contact:

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