

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Rockport Plant employees take great pride in providing electricity while protecting air and water quality, recycling materials and maintaining an exemplary record of public and work safety.

- In 2015, the Rockport Plant completed a major environmental control retrofit project on each unit. In-Duct Dry Sorbent Injection Flue Gas Desulfurization (DSI FGD) technology injects up to 10 tons of sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) per hour to reduce SO₂ by up to 50 percent on each unit. Electrostatic Precipitators capture the injected sodium bicarbonate, which is then safely disposed in our landfill.
- I&M has begun installing a selective catalytic reduction system on Unit 1, with completion in 2017. With SCR, ammonia is injected, mixing with the flue gas and causing a reaction that converts nitrogen oxides (NO_x) to nitrogen gas (N₂) and water. This is very similar to how a catalytic converter works on the exhaust of a motor vehicle.
- The SCR is in addition to low NO_x burners installed in 2003 (Unit 1) and 2004 (Unit 2). Low NO_x burners control the way coal is burned to reduce the formation of NO_x.
- Ash and other products produced during coal combustion can be marketed for use in a variety of products
- Rockport Plant hosts the AEP system's premier installation of activated carbon injection (ACI) technology to reduce the plant's mercury emissions by approximately 90 percent. Mercury attaches to the carbon particles and is removed with the plant's particulate matter.
- Rockport Plant uses an automated Continuous Emission Monitoring System (CEMS) to monitor stack gas emissions.
- Cooling towers provide the plant with a closed cycle cooling system that allows water from the Ohio River to be re-circulated in the power generation process. Heated water is not discharged back into the river where it could disrupt the natural aquatic life. This also reduces overall water consumption.
- The plant's extensive recycling program dramatically reduces the amount of discarded material that would be landfilled.
- Rockport's wildlife team maintains woodlots, fence rows, fallow fields and wetlands to augment opportunities for wildlife. This enhanced habitat is certified by the Wildlife Habitat Council.
- The Maryland meadow beauty, an endangered plant in Indiana, can be found on the site. Employees help protect that area from development and maintain it as a meadow beauty habitat.

