

## **Lower emissions through DOE coal-fired station retrofit**

A US Department of Energy project has successfully demonstrated the cost-effective removal of multiple pollutants from the emissions of an older 100 MW coal-fired power plant in New York. The successful retrofit means the unit can meet increasingly stringent emissions regulations while continuing operations another 20 to 30 years. In addition, wide commercial acceptance of the new system could contribute to significant reductions in national emissions and help extend the life of more than 400 power plants with capacities of 50 to 300 MW, enabling them to continue to produce reliable electricity. DOE says these smaller existing units are a valuable part of the US energy infrastructure, constituting almost 60 GW – roughly 20 per cent of the country's coal-based generation capacity. Continued operation of such plants enables utilities and ratepayers to avoid the higher costs of building new plants to replace them. The aim of the Greenidge Multi-Pollutant Control Project was to demonstrate that the multi-pollutant control system could substantially reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide, sulphur trioxide, hydrochloric acid, and mercury, while affording lower capital and maintenance costs and smaller space requirements than leading conventional technologies. The project succeeded in all respects, says DOE.

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