



PO Box 700
Jamestown, NY 14702-0700

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NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release June 26, 2001
CONTACT: Susan Jones, Communications Coordinator

Jamestown Board of Public Utilities
Enters Into Agreement With the New York State Department
of Environmental Conservation to Further Reduce Opacity Emissions

On June 26, 2001 the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities agreed to an Order on Consent with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to further improve opacity emissions at the S.A. Carlson Generating Station. "Opacity" is the technical name for the darker smoke emissions that are occasionally emitted from utility stacks. The Agreement provides for increased monitoring of opacity emissions, additional preventative maintenance, a detailed analysis of the cause of each exceedance, installation of a real-time precipitator monitoring system, and appropriate corrective measures.

The BPU has an exemplary record of compliance with the opacity rules. Over the last three years, the BPU has been in compliance with the opacity emissions rules approximately 99.9% of the time. The rare exceedance of the rule has largely been attributable to the unique nature of fossil fuel fired utility generators, which, during certain operating and emergency conditions, cannot avoid exceedances. However, the BPU has sought to reduce even these emissions. When all exceedance periods were totaled, the time out of compliance amounted to less than 1 1/2 days in the last three years.

As noted in the Order, the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities "has worked diligently to address the opacity performance of the Facility."

The BPU currently employs a wide-ranging opacity control program, including constant monitoring, regular preventive maintenance and corrective action. The BPU is looking forward to working with the NYSDEC to further improve its performance and reduce these emissions.

Any questions concerning this press release should be addressed to William Wright, Esq. at 483-1123 or Michael Darroch, P.E. at 661-1671.