



April 25, 2013

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your information is the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the FutureGen 2.0 Project* (DOE/EIS-0460D). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) prepared this document in accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA) and applicable implementing regulations. This draft environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzes the potential environmental impacts of DOE's proposed action to provide \$1 billion in cost-shared American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to the FutureGen Industrial Alliance, Inc. (Alliance) to support the planning, design, construction, and operation of a proto-type power plant - including the capture, conveyance, and sequestration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the plant.

The Alliance proposes to construct and operate a 168-megawatt gross output coal-fueled electric generation plant using advanced oxy-combustion technology. The plant would use existing infrastructure including an existing steam turbine generator (Unit 4) at Ameren Energy Resources' Meredosia Energy Center in Meredosia, Illinois. The facility would be designed to capture at least 90 percent (1 million metric tons per year) of the CO₂ that would otherwise be emitted to the atmosphere. Captured CO₂ would be compressed and transported via a new underground pipeline approximately 30 miles long and 12 inches in diameter to a geologic storage area in eastern Morgan County, approximately 4,000 to 4,500 feet below the ground surface. The project would also employ systems for the monitoring, verification, and accounting of the CO₂ being permanently stored in the Mount Simon geologic formation. A visitor and research center and a training facility also would be constructed near Jacksonville, Illinois. Overall, the proposed project would provide performance and emissions data, as well as establish operating and maintenance experience that would facilitate future large-scale commercial deployment of oxy-combustion technology and geologic CO₂ storage.

DOE invites interested parties to comment on this draft EIS during the 45-day comment period that begins when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes a notice of availability (NOA) in the *Federal Register*. During this public comment period, DOE will convene a public hearing in Jacksonville, Illinois, on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, to provide an opportunity for the public to talk with project representatives and government officials, and give comments on the project. The hearing will be held at the Jacksonville High School on 1211 N. Diamond Street in Jacksonville, Illinois, with an informal informational session from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and a formal presentation and public comment session from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Individuals wishing to provide oral comments on the draft EIS may register in advance by notifying DOE as indicated below or by registering at the hearing. To sign up to present comments at the hearing, to submit comments before or after the hearing, or to request copies of the draft EIS, please contact:

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DOE will consider all relevant comments received during the comment period in the final EIS. Comments received after the close of the comment period will be included to the extent practicable. DOE expects to issue the final EIS later in 2013 and will issue its record of decision no sooner than 30 days after the EPA publishes its NOA of the final EIS in the *Federal Register*.

Individual names and addresses (including e-mail addresses) received as part of comment documents on this draft EIS normally are part of the public record. DOE plans to reproduce comment documents in their entirety in the final EIS. Any person wishing to have his/her name, address, or other identifying information withheld from the public record of comment documents must state this request prominently at the beginning of the comment document. DOE will honor the request to the extent allowable by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

DOE will also post the draft EIS on its National Energy Technology Laboratory website at <http://www.netl.doe.gov/publications/others/nepa/index.html> and on DOE's website at <http://energy.gov/nepa/nepa-documents>.

If you would like further information, or to request additional hard copies, please contact me through one of the means listed above. Thank you for your interest in the FutureGen 2.0 Project and the draft EIS.

Sincerely,



Cliff Whyte
Director, Environmental Compliance Division

Enclosure