

Power Plant Protected

Project: Georgia Power Generating Plant

Location: Rome, Georgia

Owner: Georgia Power

Engineer: URS Corporation

Product: Stormceptor® (submerged)



A Submerged Stormceptor unit installed in a partial tail water condition due to site constraints is helping a Georgia Power generating plant keep its cool. Located on the banks of the Coosa River in northern Georgia, Plant Hammond has provided coal-powered electricity for over 40 years.

To reduce harmful emissions, Georgia Power installed a Wet Flue Gas Desulphurization System to remove sulfur dioxide from gases released to the atmosphere. The system's operation involves the transport and storage of large amounts of crushed limestone and gypsum which generates a high concentration of dust and sediment particles. Stormwater pipes from this area lead into a stormwater sump which feeds a nearby retention pond used by the plant for cooling its turbines and generators.

Suspended solids carried in stormwater runoff could quickly damage the sump pump and pollute the detention pond, jeopardizing the plant's ability to safely cool the turbines.

Conscious of the site's sensitivity, lead site engineer Charles Crowell, PE, from Atlanta-based URS Corporation decided a Submerged Stormceptor system was needed. He was confident Stormceptor would effectively treat runoff pollutants amid these demanding site conditions.

"We've had a lot of success with Stormceptor in the past. From ease of installation, ease of design, and then the product itself always functions very well," said Crowell. "Not a lot of products can handle a submerged installation, whereas Stormceptor has standard submerged applications," said Crowell. The pipe's positioning required that the inlet pipe and outlet pipe be set at exactly 91 degrees – the Stormceptor system's design flexibility made this simple and "installation went off without a hitch," said Crowell.

And because the area is subject to frequent truck loading and unloading, the unit is designed to capture oil from stormwater runoff as well as any dry weather spills. "We wanted to be sure the stormwater we were pumping would also be oil-free," said Crowell. "And that's why Stormceptor was a perfect fit for this site," he added. "It met all of those needs with one unit without having to install multiple pieces of equipment to carry out different functions."

With its simple design, easy installation and versatility, Stormceptor allows this power plant to focus its energy on its core business with a long-term solution to combat stormwater pollutants.

