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Sutherland Project At Marshalltown Cancelled

Alliant Energy has announced that the utility will cancel the Sutherland Generating Station Unit 4 Project at Marshalltown.

Utility officials say the decision to cancel the project was based on a combination of factors including the current economic and financial climate; increasing environmental, legislative and regulatory uncertainty regarding regulation of future greenhouse gas emissions and the terms placed on the proposed power plant by regulators.

The project's other part-

ners were Central Iowa Power Cooperative, Corn Belt Power Cooperative, and the North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative Association.

Algonia Municipal Utilities had committed to 5 MW's of the plant at an estimated \$17.5 million. John Bilsten, AMU General Manager, said AMU is disappointed that Alliant is not moving ahead with the project. "We understand the economic and regulatory concerns that have prompted Alliant Energy to make this decision."

To date, AMU has spent \$339,772.96. "AMU believes that we should be reimbursed for those costs by Alliant Energy as per the project termination clause in the Sutherland Generating Station Unit 4 Joint Owners Agreement," said Bilsten.

AMU continues to look for clean, reliable and environmentally friendly sources of energy to meet Algonia's growing electric

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AMU Adds Transmission Line

AMU customers will soon have additional redundancy in the way energy flows into Algonia.

In late 2009, AMU let bids for a project totaling just over \$675,000.00 to improve reliability by adding a third transmission line that ties into the Corn Belt Power Cooperative electric transmission system to bring energy from Neal 4 and other power supply resources to meet Algonia's growing energy needs.

The new transmission line follows the existing

path of the 69,000 volt electric transmission line from McGregor Street north to the AMU West Substation located on North Ridgley Street.

"The new transmission line has been planned for several years and improvements to the Corn Belt Power Cooperative transmission system has allowed us to complete this important project," stated AMU General Manager John Bilsten.

This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of April 2009.

MEGAtalk Refill Machine At Chrome Truck Stop

If you're a customer of the i wireless MEGAtalk Prepaid cell phone plan, you now have another location to refill your MEGAtalk and Powersupplize cards when your local authorized dealer is closed for the day.

A MEGAtalk refill machine is now located at the Chrome Truck Stop at highways 18 & 169 in Algonia. The MEGAtalk refill machine is accessible 7 days a week between 5 a.m. and 11 p.m.

Unprepared DTV Homes Falls Below 4%

The number of US households not ready for the DTV transition has fallen below 4%, according to statistics provided by the Nielsen Company.

About 4.5 million homes, or 3.9% US households are at risk for a complete loss of service when the transition takes place on June 12th. That compares to almost 7% of US households that were unprepared for the DTV transition at the beginning of

the year.

Analog TV sets that are not connected to a cable TV or satellite service will need a set-top converter box to receive digital signals after the June 12th transition. The U.S. Commerce Department has launched a program to give households \$40 coupons to be applied toward the purchase of the digital converter boxes.

AMU Cable TV custom-

ers will not need a converter box to watch their favorite programs on local TV stations when the DTV transition takes place on June 12th.

Two stations, WHO and FOX 17 in Des Moines, shut down their analog signal on February 17th. The remaining TV stations on the AMU Cable TV system are waiting until June 12th deadline to shutdown their analog signal.

AMU Electric Distribution Project Near Completion

Work on a multi-year \$2,000,000 plus project to convert AMU's Electric Distribution system from 2.4 kV to 13.8 kV will get back underway this spring. 90% of the infrastructure has been installed, and work is to be completed by the early summer.

The critical final step in the project is in the hand of the homeowners to complete the electric work so AMU can connect them to the new system to avoid service interruptions. Customers who received letters about the project need to contact their electrician to get the conversions completed so the 2,400 volt system can be retired by next fall. To assist customers, AMU is providing a rebate to cover a portion of the cost of the work related to customer owned facilities. Contact AMU if you have questions.

ENERGY STAR TVs NOW AT STORES



There are 275 million TVs in use in the U.S. consuming more than

50 kWh of energy per year. That equals to 4 percent of all households' electricity use. That's enough energy to power all the homes in the state of New York for one year. Even when off, conventional televisions consume electricity.

In November, a new, much more stringent

ENERGY STAR specification for TVs went into effect that includes requirements for both standby and active (when they're on) modes.

TVs that earn the ENERGY STAR label under these requirements will be up to 30 percent more efficient than non-qualified models. Manufacturers have already started qualifying their models.

Earning the ENERGY STAR means a product meets strict energy effi-

ciency guidelines set by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

When choosing ENERGY STAR, you



promote cleaner air without sacrificing the product quality or performance you expect.

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needs. "Energy efficiency, the Iowa Stored Energy Park, and a commitment by the AMU Board of Trustees at their March 4th meeting to join the development of a large scale wind farm in Boone are examples of ways that we will meet our energy needs," said Bilsten. In addition, AMU continues to

invest in improvements to



John Bilsten
AMU General Manager

the Neal 4 Power plant.

Bilsten, however, said AMU must continue to look for new sources of energy. "Algona and Iowa will still need new base load generation resources to replace aging infrastructure and provide reliable constant electricity, especially when new sources of renewable energy cannot meet our needs or are not operational due to the lack of wind or other reasons."



*Community Owned
For
Community Benefit*

*That's Our
Commitment to You,
Our Customer
and Owner*