



## **Aether DBS Delivers Results for Alliant Energy and the EPA**

In response to the December 2008 TVA Kingston, TN ash release, the EPA has been taking steps to assess coal-fired generating stations across the country. In March 2009, the EPA began investigating facilities that store coal combustion residuals (CCRs) onsite to evaluate which sites may pose a risk to the environment. As a proactive measure, Alliant Energy's Interstate Power and Light Company ("Alliant Energy") initiated a preliminary study for several locations, including its Burlington, Iowa facility. Alliant Energy contacted Aether DBS based on our expertise and previous work on the TVA project.

Early in 2011, the EPA contacted Alliant Energy about concerns at the Burlington site. Alliant Energy tasked Aether DBS to further investigate the CCR facility, evaluate existing conditions, and submit a report on the condition of wet CCR storage. Aether DBS' June report modeled the stability of the CCR settling ponds under 100-year storm flow conditions and for both seismic and rapid drawdown induced loadings. Aether DBS advanced soil borings in several locations critical for stability, and evaluated subsurface soil conditions. A static analysis was performed, and earthquake liquefaction and stability was also assessed. The finding of these studies was that the ash ponds at the Burlington facility safely met the required standards.

The EPA agreed with Aether DBS's findings, and as such, determined that an AOC (Administrative Order on Consent) was not necessary for further investigations at the site.

In a July 5 letter to Alliant Energy, the EPA stated,

*"The EPA very much appreciates Alliant's cooperation and prompt attention to this matter, as well as the quality of the work performed. Alliant's and Aether's openness, attention to collecting reliable data and presenting it in a professional, well-organized manner made these discussions go very smoothly."*

Based on the recommendations within the report, Alliant is moving forward with additional activities at the site which have been accepted by EPA.



### **Find Out More:**

[Click here to learn more from the EPA about CCRs](#)

[Click here to see the EPA's webpage detailing the Alliant Energy Burlington Facility](#)

[Click here to read the EPA's letter confirming Aether DBS' findings](#)

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