

JDI to Provide Construction Support Services for Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station

October 1, 2007, Cohasset, MN

JDI Contracts Inc., in a partnership with Barr Engineering Company, has been selected to provide comprehensive construction and site management services for Great River Energy's Commercial Coal Drying project at the Coal Creek Station, located in Underwood, North Dakota.

Also known as the Lignite Fuel Enhancement Project, the Commercial Coal Drying project effort is a full-scale production deployment designed to demonstrate an economic process of moisture reduction of lignite, thereby increasing its value as a fuel in power plants. The demonstration activities focus on using low grade waste heat in the plant to lower the moisture content of the coal by about 10 percentage points (e.g., reduce the lignite moisture from 40 to 30 percent). In response to the first round of the Clean Coal Power Initiative, Great River Energy submitted a proposal for a full-scale test of a lignite-drying technology that they had been developing since the 1990s. The previous work included bench-scale research and development, field trials, and preliminary drying studies. These studies convinced GRE of the technical feasibility and economic benefits of lignite drying and prompted the submittal of their proposal. The Department of Energy evaluated and selected their proposal, and a cooperative agreement was awarded on July 9, 2004.

The project team for the Lignite Fuel Enhancement Project consists of GRE, participant and site provider; the Electric Power Research Institute, collaborator; Lehigh University, collaborator; Barr Engineering, lignite handling, project engineering; JDI Contracts Inc, controls engineering and construction management; and Falkirk Mining and Couteau Properties, lignite supplier. The project is sited at GRE's Coal Creek Station in Underwood, North Dakota. Coal Creek Station is a mine-mouth plant, burning approximately seven million tons of lignite per year and consisting of two 546 MW, tangentially fired Combustion Engineering boilers.

As the Construction Services provider, JDI will provide a series of comprehensive services, including overall project scheduling, project phase transition planning, construction and site management support, materials management, and expediting. A combined project leadership team began work in mid-2007 to complete scheduling, transition, and construction plans, led and facilitated by JDI. Construction to build the new plant infrastructure commenced in late 2007, and will continue through 2008. JDI will also provide control systems engineering services for the expansion, allowing the construction team to transition into a startup and initial operation support role in 2009.

Jeff Hammes, GRE Coal Drying Project Manager, comments "JDI offered an experienced team with a strong combination of technical and business backgrounds. Their ability to lead multiple stakeholders through an extremely complex development effort has proven them a valuable resource to Great River Energy." John Lee, Barr Engineering Project Manager and Vice President, offered similar comments. "JDI brings complimentary experience and skills to our team at Barr Engineering. Their process and approach, drawn from experience

in multiple process industries, has given us a clear path from engineering into field deployment activities.”

Roger Hoyum, a Principal Owner of JDI, stated: “Barr Engineering has a long history in material handling and complex engineering projects. Our experience in power project development and construction is a good fit for this project. We felt our partnership could bring many benefits to Great River Energy and their project process.” JDI will staff at the site throughout all construction activities, supporting numerous contractual efforts between engineering and construction, as well as assist and participate in startup efforts. “This project represents an extremely innovative approach to improving lignite value, while simultaneously addressing environmental and operating concerns, with a keen eye towards the future. We look forward to a safe, successful, startup of this important GRE effort.”

Additional information regarding the lignite enhancement project concept can be found at http://pepei.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?ARTICLE_ID=327484&p=6.

Great River Energy is a generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative that provides wholesale electric service to 28 distribution co-ops that serve more than 620,000 members. Their 2,800-megawatt generation system comprises an effective mix of base load and peaking power plants, including coal, refuse-derived fuel, natural gas and oil plants, as well as wind generation. Additional information can be found at www.greatriverenergy.com.

Barr provides engineering, environmental, and information technology services to clients across the nation and around the world. Barr was incorporated as an employee-owned firm in 1966 and trace our origins to the early 1900s. Today, our nearly 400 engineers, scientists, and technical support staff in Minnesota, North Dakota, Michigan, and Missouri work with clients in numerous industries, as well as at all levels of government. Additional information can be found at www.barr.com.

JDI Contracts Inc. provides professional business and technical consulting services to industrial and commercial companies. Their services fall into four distinct categories spanning the project life cycle, including development, engineering, construction, and startup and/or operations support. Recent experience includes efforts in owner representation, leadership, and support roles for capital and operations initiatives in multiple industries.

Acting as a strategic partner or a gap resource, through all or part of a project life cycle, the JDI team is committed to work with clients to identify clear business and technical objectives, supplying appropriately skilled personnel to work independently or embedded in a client team to develop comprehensive solutions. For additional information, please contact JDI at 218-328-0040.

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