

Grand Coulee Third Powerhouse Excitation System Replacement

The Grand Coulee Third Powerhouse Excitation System Replacement project involves the replacement of generator excitation systems for 6 units.

The excitation systems are original and date back to their installation during the construction of the powerhouse in the 1970's. Because of their size, these units are critical to the FCRPS for power production, water management, system stability and ancillary services (condensing) to the main transmission grid. Beginning in 2012, each generating unit in the Third Powerhouse will undergo extensive rehabilitation, which will take almost a decade to complete. The timing of this excitation replacement project precedes the major rehabilitation of the Third Powerhouse generation units. By replacing these exciters that are in poor condition, the replacements reduce the risk of unit outages beyond those planned in the major unit rehabilitation. Having more than one unit down at a time during the unit rehabilitation period is unacceptable due to their contribution to the power system supply.

This project is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2014. Project cost estimates are business sensitive information and cannot be disclosed until the competitive solicitation, evaluation, negotiation and award processes with vendors is completed.