KYGER CREEK PLANT TO REDUCE EMISSIONS THROUGH NEW SCRUBBER SYSTEM

GALLIPOLIS, Ohio, Oct. 28, 2011 – The Ohio Valley Electric Corp. (OVEC) announced that its Kyger Creek power plant in Cheshire, Ohio, will begin operating the first of two new flue gas desulfurization (FGD) scrubbers in early November, start-up is anticipated the weekend of November 5th. These state-of-the-art environmental control systems will reduce sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions by up to 98 percent – providing cleaner air for all of us. This $660 million investment is in addition to other investments in environmental control technologies in recent years that reduced our emissions of nitrogen oxides by some 95 percent and our particulate (fly ash) emissions by more than 99 percent.

“The scrubber system is an investment in cleaner air for southeastern Ohio,” said Annette Hope, Kyger Creek plant manager. “This technology will allow us to continue producing safe and reliable power while meeting environmental regulations and providing critical employment for the surrounding communities.”

The Kyger Creek plant has five separate 217-MW generating units. The first scrubber will be connected to three of the units at the plant. A second scrubber, connected to the other two units, will begin operation in early 2012.

A new stack – 838 feet high and 75 feet in diameter at the base – was built for the FGD system. Hope noted that the scrubber technology increases the amount of water vapor emitted through the stack, causing the plume to be more visible. “The new plume will have a white billowy appearance. Although it will look very different from the
old plume, it is mostly water vapor and is a sign that the scrubbers are working effectively, providing cleaner air for everyone," she said.

The scrubbers use both chemical and mechanical processes to remove and capture SO₂ from the combustion boiler’s flue gas. The SO₂ in the flue gas interacts and is absorbed into a finely ground limestone slurry. Once dissolved, the SO₂ reacts with the calcium in the limestone to form a solid compound. A mechanical process removes the water from this slurry, and the resultant material, synthetic gypsum, is suitable for disposal in an appropriate landfill. It also can be used as a raw material in building products.

Construction of the FGD system began in 2007 and employed over 500 local and regional union trade workers at the peak of construction. The new system requires 30 additional full-time employees at the Kyger Creek plant.

Hope noted, “Kyger Creek’s first unit began generating electricity in 1955 and this latest environmental improvement ensures many more years of operation for our facility.”

OVEC was organized in October 1952 by 15 sponsoring utilities. Parent companies of the sponsoring utilities are American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP), Buckeye Power, Inc., DPL Inc. (NYSE: DPL), Duke Energy Corp. (NYSE: DUK), FirstEnergy Corp. (NYSE: FE), PPL Corporation (NYSE: PPL), Vectren Corp. (NYSE:VVC) and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative, Inc.