

## Brighton Beach Generating Station Efficiency Upgrades Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some frequently asked questions and answers about the Brighton Beach Generating Station (BBGS) efficiency upgrades. If you have a question that is not shown below, please send us an email at [brightonupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:brightonupgrade@aturapower.com) and a project representative will respond to your inquiry.

### **Why is Atura Power making these efficiency upgrades?**

After years of strong energy supply, Ontario is entering a period of growing electricity system demand (a predicted energy supply gap) and actions are needed to ensure the continued reliability of the electricity grid.

To close this gap and meet the projected demand, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is moving forward with a procurement process to meet near, medium, and long-term energy needs while maintaining the province's focus on cost-effective reliability. The upgrades to BBGS are part of Atura Power's efforts to address this supply gap. The upgrades will mean BBGS will produce more electricity for a similar amount of natural gas consumed.

### **What is causing the energy supply gap in Ontario?**

Ontario's electricity sector is undergoing a period of major transformation. New decarbonization policies coupled with rapid growth in the mining, greenhouse and industrial sectors are accelerating electricity demand growth across the province and heightening needs in certain regions.

The IESO's most recent Annual Planning Outlook (APO) reflects these trends. It projects a steady rise in electricity demand that highlights the strengths of Ontario's communities and economy to navigate the challenges of the pandemic, pursue electrification and support economic growth.

### **I thought we wanted to stay away from coal and/or natural gas. Why are we upgrading a natural gas power plant?**

To address this changing environment, the IESO established the Resource Adequacy Framework in 2021 to provide a flexible and cost-effective approach for competitively securing the resources necessary to meet demand. These upgrades are part of the plan IESO put in place to meet Ontario's energy needs.

### **What will the upgrades include? What changes will be made?**

We will be replacing rotating and non-rotating components within the gas turbine (blades, seals, nozzles, etc.). These upgraded parts are more efficient due to the advanced materials used to allow the turbine to run hotter and more fuel efficiently, extracting the maximum amount of power possible.

### **How long will the upgrades take?**

The upgrades will be done as part of our annual spring plant outage in 2025. The upgrade specific work will take approximately four weeks per unit to disassemble, replace parts and reassemble the gas turbines. There are two units and they will be completed one at a time.

## Will there be more upgrades in the future?

These are the only current upgrade plans for BBGS, as this is the latest technology available. That being said, Atura Power always strives to be on the leading edge of technology and will be open to future advancements that make the engines run more efficiently.

## Who will be undertaking the upgrades?

General Electric (GE) Gas Power – Services will be providing the new parts and performing the work using local skilled trades from Ontario.

## What environmental effects will the upgrades have?

No environmental effects are anticipated given that the upgrades will take place within the existing facility and GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has provided guarantees that the air pollutant and noise emissions are not expected to change as a result of the upgrades.

BBGS will continue to meet the relevant Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) air quality regulations and will continue to operate in accordance with the environmental permitting requirements.

## Will the upgrades increase the noise at the plant?

GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has confirmed that noise levels from the facility are not expected to change as a result of the upgrades.

## How much more air pollutants will be released because of these upgrades?

GE Gas Power – Services, the manufacturer of the equipment being installed for the upgrades, has confirmed that there will be no change to the in-stack concentrations of air pollutants (NO<sub>x</sub> and CO) as a result of the facility upgrades.

## What is a Screening Stage assessment?

A Screening Stage assessment is a specific environmental assessment process that certain projects that fall under the Ontario Electricity Project Regulation must complete to meet the environmental assessment requirements under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

## Will I get to review the Screening Report?

Yes, the assessment process includes a 30-day review period during which time anyone, including members of the public, can review the Screening Report. Information on the availability of the Screening Report will be published in the same publications used to announce the project in July, 2023: the *Windsor Star*, *River Town Times*, and *Southpoint Sun*. Information will also be posted on our project webpage at [aturapower.com/brightonupgrade](http://aturapower.com/brightonupgrade).

## Who can give me answers about this project?

Comments and questions about the project can be sent to [brightonupgrade@aturapower.com](mailto:brightonupgrade@aturapower.com) at any time. A project representative will respond to your inquiry.