

Basin Electric board approves further emission controls on Laramie River

Basin Electric - 01/22/16

The project was set in motion by the Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Haze Rule.

The [Basin Electric board of directors](#) approved the installation of emission control technology on one unit at [Laramie River Station](#) at its January meeting.

The emission control technology, selective catalytic reduction (SCR), is a process where an ammonia-based reagent is sprayed into flue gas, converting nitrogen oxides into nitrogen and water, which is then released through the air heater, scrubber and emissions stack.

The project was set in motion by the [Environmental Protection Agency's Regional Haze Rule](#), which superseded the state of Wyoming's original state implementation plan that required Basin Electric to install low-nitrogen oxides (NOx) burners and over-fired air (OFA) technology on all three units at Laramie River.

The EPA Regional Haze Rule set the NOx emission limit at .07 lb/MMBtu on a 30-day rolling average—a limit that can only be achieved using SCR technology in addition to the OFA and low-NOx burners installed on all three units at the plant.

According to Jim Lund, Basin Electric senior project manager, construction will begin in 2017, with the equipment operating by mid-2019. At the peak, there will be about 250 workers for this project on site. The project is estimated to cost about \$330 million.

Some of the more visible components of the project will be a 250-foot tall SCR reactor structure and an anhydrous ammonia receiving and shipping area. The project work will be completed and installed during two major outages, one at the beginning of the project and one at the end.