

Voith's Fish-Friendly Turbines Installed at Holtwood Hydroelectric Facility

Voith supplied turbines, generators, and automation equipment for major expansion at nearby century-old plant

YORK, Pa., Jan. 7, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Voith Hydro proudly celebrated the recent completion of PPL Generation's expansion of the Holtwood Hydroelectric facility on the nearby Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. Voith supplied the turbines, generators, and automation components for the project, which more than doubled the century-old plant's electricity generating capacity. The \$440 million expansion will provide power to approximately 100,000 households. The project has been noted for its environmental enhancements, including improving both upstream and downstream fish passage.

(Photo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20140107/SF42129>)

"Holtwood is a terrific example of how hydropower development can not only provide jobs and clean energy, but improve the environment and surrounding habitats at locks and dams that have existed for decades," said Voith Hydro President and CEO Kevin Frank. "We are proud to have provided the fish-friendly turbines, generators, and automation equipment for this historic expansion of an iconic hydroelectric facility."

"This project, one of the largest expansions of its kind in the U.S., represents a major investment in clean, reliable, renewable energy," said Victor Lopiano, senior vice president of Fossil & Hydro Generation for PPL. "This project highlights the potential to upgrade existing hydroelectric facilities and expand capacity without the need to build new dams."

The new hydro powerhouse was built on the site of a previously retired coal-fired power plant. In addition to the increased capacity, PPL worked with local, state, and federal stakeholders to improve migratory fish passage, including numerous enhancements to the facility's fish lift system. The state-of-the-art Kaplan turbines that Voith supplied for Holtwood will enhance downstream fish passage as well.

"From the electricity users who will benefit from an increase in clean energy, to the workers who built the powerhouse and the turbines, to the surrounding environment and habitats, the benefits of expanding facilities like Holtwood are immense," Frank continued. "Voith looks forward to its continued leadership in hydropower innovation."

The Importance of Hydropower

Hydropower is the largest, oldest and also most reliable form of energy generation. Worldwide it makes an indispensable contribution to stable power supplies and hence to economic and social development – both in industrial countries and emerging markets. At the same time, hydropower significantly contributes to climate-protecting energy generation. Voith has been a leading supplier of this technology since the early beginning, and continuously develops it further.

About the Company

Voith sets standards in the markets energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transportation & automotive. Founded in 1867, Voith employs more than 43,000 people, generates EUR 5.7 billion in sales, operates in about 50 countries around the world and is today one of the biggest family-owned companies in Europe.

Voith Hydro is a Group Division of Voith and – with a workforce of over 5,300 employees and a sales volume of more than EUR 1.3 billion – is one of the worldwide leading full-line suppliers for the equipment of hydropower plants. With operating units in the global hydropower markets the company offers its services locally and close to the customer. In the U.S., Voith Hydro is headquartered in York, Pennsylvania, where it has manufactured hydropower equipment for over 135 years.

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