

The Power Behind Your Local Electric Co-op

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Baseload Resources

Craig Nucla Escalante Laramie River San Juan Springerville

Craig Station is a key baseload resource providing the association with a total of 655 megawatts of relatively low-cost, reliable generation . Operated by Tri-State, approximately 300 people work at the 1,311-megawatt plant. Craig Station Units 1 and 2 make up the Yampa Project, owned by Tri-State and four other regional utilities. Tri-State is the sole owner of Unit 3.



In 2002, the association embarked on its largest environmental project upgrade in its 50-year history at Craig Station. It marked the beginning of a \$121 million, multi-year retrofit to Units 1 and 2 to address opacity concerns and the mitigation of particulate matter. The upgrades were prompted by a settlement agreement reached between the Sierra Club and the five owner utilities of the Yampa Project.

Plant Statistics

Plant operator	Tri-State G&T
Plant construction	1974 to 1984; construction was completed on Unit 2 in 1979, Unit 1 in 1980 and Unit 3 in 1984
Total project cost	\$1.2 billion

Total capacity	1,311 megawatts (net); Tri-State share - 655 megawatts (24 percent of Units 1 and 2; 100 percent of Unit 3)
Coal source	Trapper, Colowyo and other mines in the region
Plant site size	1,120 acres
Stack height	600 feet (each)
Water source	Yampa River; supplemental allocations from Elkhead Creek Reservoir (Units 1 and 2) and Yamcolo Reservoir (Unit 3)
Environmental controls	A wet limestone scrubber system removes 90 percent of the sulfur dioxide produced for Units 1 and 2, while a dry lime system is used for Unit 3; fabric-filter baghouse collects 99 percent of fly ash; state-of-the-art low-NOx burners and over-fired air reduce the formation of nitrogen dioxide; a continuous 24-hour emissions-monitoring system ensures that flue gas emissions comply with federal and state laws

Coal Supply

Craig Station receives its coal supply primarily from two sources: Trapper Mine, located one mile south of the plant and Colowyo Mine sited about 30 miles southwest of the station.

Trapper Mine, which is owned by Tri-State and certain members of the Yampa Project, delivers coal to the plant via 100-ton haul trucks from the mine site. Colowyo Mine delivers coal to Craig Station daily by train.

The station also augments these two sources of coal with spot coal purchases from other mines in northwestern Colorado.

Trapper Mine Statistics

Ownership	Trapper Mining, Inc.
Mine site size	10,000 acres
Annual yield	2.3 million tons

Daily production 7,000 to 10,000 tons

Colowyo Mine Statistics

Ownership Western-Fuels Colorado

Mine site size 12,000 acres

Annual yield 2.3 million tons

Daily production 10,000 tons

