

The bids received from other contractors for excavation, loading, hauling, and placing pond ash using traditional means were significantly higher than the accepted bid using the vacuum well-point system. Although the vacuum well-point system could not be used for the entire project, the work that was completed using the vacuum well-point system was done at a lower total cost than would have been required to complete the same work using traditional means and methods.

3) Has the vacuum well point system been used at any other AEP sites, and if so, what were the results?

No. Each fly ash impoundment is unique due to its geography, geology, coal ash characteristics, operational constraints, and other considerations. The Big Sandy Fly Ash Impoundment Closure is one of three such projects that AEP has managed. The Amos Project was completed in 2017 and the contractor that performed the work lacked the technology to use the vacuum well-point system. The Big Sandy Contractor is also currently closing the impoundment at Gavin Plant in Cheshire, OH for AEP. The vacuum well-point system has not been used to date at Gavin. Use of a well-point system at Gavin continues to be evaluated and may be an option for dewatering some portions of that project in the future.

Well-point systems have been successfully used for dewatering by the Big Sandy and Gavin contractor in several petrochemical waste pond applications. In evaluating the contractor's bid, AEP construction personnel visited a petrochemical waste pond site to observe the execution of the technology and were satisfied that it could be successfully implemented on AEP projects.

The bid received using the vacuum well-point system in connection with the closure of the Big Sandy Ash Pond was the lowest bid received for the project. The bids from other contractors, who proposed using the more traditional trench excavation, stockpiling and drying techniques to stabilize the ash, were significantly higher.

Witnesses: Robert E. Brunner and Stephen F. Wells

