



Blount Stack Removal

MGE is removing one of the exhaust stacks on the west side of the Blount Generating Station, closest to Blount Street. Stack deconstruction will occur during the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday. We expect the project to last through October.

Contractors will construct a heavy-duty plastic enclosure around the stack top deconstruction zone to contain dust and debris from the deconstruction. Crews will start work at the top and work down the stack section by section. The debris regularly will be hauled by trucks to a landfill in plastic-wrapped enclosures.



About the stack

The stack, constructed in 1922, is no longer used or useful. The stack was retired in 2011 when MGE retired its oldest generating equipment, stopped burning coal at the plant and switched exclusively to natural gas.

The stack has been repaired and upgraded over the years. Now, however, removal is more economical than maintaining it. We reached this conclusion after our own analysis and after hiring an independent structural engineer who recommended the stack's removal.

Safety and environmental protections

Safety and environmental protections are among our main considerations as we deconstruct the stack. Our contractors have appropriate State of Wisconsin certifications and have attended an MGE safety and environmental program covering the work plans, equipment, abatement and environmental protections for this job.

MGE and its contractors have worked closely with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to ensure MGE meets all required compliance and monitoring for deconstructing the stack. We have also hired an independent, third-party environmental consultant to assess and monitor the air and water concerns before, during and after this project. The safety and protection of the public, our employees, the environment and property is paramount throughout this process.

Decsontruction updates

Nov 1, 2017



The deconstruction work on the Blount Generating Stack has officially wrapped up. Since mid-July, crews worked from the top down to remove the 244 foot stack. Safety and environmental protections were at the forefront during the entire removal project.

Sept. 7, 2017



Since they started deconstructing the stack in July, contractor crews have removed more than 200 feet. Only about 40 feet of the stack remain, which is below the roof line of the surrounding buildings. Safety remains a focus as crews continue to demolish the stack walls.

Aug. 30, 2017



The stack has been reduced to 60 feet tall which is below the roof line of the surrounding buildings. The crews are continuing to demolish the stack walls, which get larger in diameter and wall thickness as the stack nears the ground.

Aug. 15, 2017



The crews have made substantial progress. The height of the stack, which was originally 244 feet, is expected to be under 100 feet by the end of the week. The wall thickens as it gets closer to the ground so the deconstruction may appear to slow down in the coming weeks. Since the project has started, crews have removed over 23 dumpsters of material contained in heavy-duty plastic enclosures.

Aug. 4, 2017



We're starting to see progress on the removal of the Blount stack. Crews have been hard at work removing the top of the stack. As pieces are removed, the plastic enclosure is moved down to continue to contain the dust and debris. This process is expected to last through October.

July 21, 2017

The heavy-duty plastic enclosure has been placed at the top of the stack. The enclosure will contain any dust and debris while crews deconstruct the stack. The crews will begin working from the top down and debris will be hauled to landfills within plastic wrap.

July 18, 2017

Now that the scaffolding around the stack is complete, work is continuing inside to remove debris. Soon, the heavy-duty plastic enclosure is scheduled to be placed at the top.

June 30, 2017



The first phase of the project is nearly complete as contractors finish erecting the scaffolding surrounding the stack.