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Secretary of Energy Rick Perry and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott joined the CEOs of the Petra Nova carbon capture and enhanced oil recovery system partners — NRG Energy, JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corp., and Hilcorp Energy — to celebrate the operations of the carbon capture and enhanced oil recovery system.

Petra Nova, a 50-50 joint venture by NRG and JX Nippon, is a carbon capture system retrofitted onto an existing coal plant. It was constructed on-time and on-budget and commenced operations at the end of 2016. The project has delivered more than 300,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO_2) to the West Ranch oil field. The CO_2 is injected into the oil reservoir to increase oil production in an established process known as enhanced oil recovery.

"I commend all those who contributed to this major achievement," said Secretary Perry. "While the Petra Nova project will certainly benefit Texas, it also demonstrates that clean coal technologies can have a meaningful and positive impact on the Nation's energy security and economic growth."

"Everything is bigger in Texas so it is fitting that the largest post-combustion, carbon-capture facility in the world is right here in the Lone Star State," said Gov. Abbott. "Texas has become a global leader in innovation thanks to the pioneering spirits of companies like NRG and JX Nippon who are fueling the next generation of energy production through projects like Petra Nova."

"Petra Nova demonstrates our leadership on energy innovation at commercial-scale," said Mauricio Gutierrez, President and CEO of NRG Energy. "We have built the largest carbon capture system on an existing coal-fired power plant in the United States on-time and on-budget. This further shows what can be achieved when collaboration and competitive markets come together to make our existing domestic energy infrastructure more secure and sustainable."

"JX Nippon is very pleased that the construction of Petra Nova's Carbon Capture System (CCS) was completed on-schedule and on-budget," said Shunsaku Miyake, President and CEO of JX Nippon. "Also JX Nippon is delighted to say that shipping of oil produced through enhanced oil recovery by means of CO2 injection, is currently proceeding smoothly. This project enables us not only to decrease greenhouse gas from the coal-fired power plant, but also, at the same time to dramatically boost oil production. It is a great honor for us, as a Japanese company, to participate in this innovative project in Texas and we are grateful to Petra Nova Team for this incredible opportunity."

"We are excited to be a part of this project," said Jeffery D. Hildebrand, Chairman and CEO, Hilcorp Energy Company. "The CO2 delivered from Petra Nova to West Ranch will provide employment and long term economic opportunity for both the local economy and the State of Texas. We are proud of the fact that West Ranch has one of the most extensive monitoring programs for an enhanced oil recovery project in the United States, making sure that this project not only provides greater energy security for our nation and an economic benefit to the region but also is done in a safe and environmentally responsible manner."

Petra Nova captures more than 90% of CO2 from a 240 MW equivalent slipstream of flue gas off an existing coal-fueled electrical generating unit at the WA Parish power plant in Fort Bend County, southwest of Houston. The project can capture more than 5,000 tons of CO2 per day, or the equivalent of taking more than 350,000 cars off the road.

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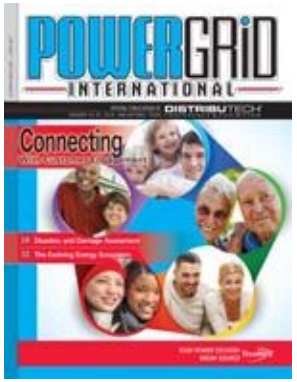

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Hilcorp, the operator of West Ranch oilfield, uses the captured CO2 to boost production at West Ranch oilfield, jointly owned by NRG, JX Nippon and Hilcorp. Both Hilcorp and the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology are monitoring the movement of CO2 deep in the oil reservoir. Over the next few years, oil production at the field is currently estimated to increase from approximately 300 barrels per day before beginning EOR operations to up to 15,000 barrels per day using captured CO2.

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