

Fuel Flexibility & Test Burns 2023 Class Outline

This workshop will cover three important areas key to help you expand your coal specifications.

Plant Design, Design Fuels, and Equipment limits
Using Engineering to Calculate Coal Quality Impacts
Designing and Conducting Successful Test Burns

I. Plant Design and Design Fuels and Equipment Limits

The design of the original boiler, fuel delivery, pollution control equipment, and yard layout were based on the original intended fuel quality and consistency.

This section explores the original design and the modifications made to the unit, what margin was built in, and how changes in fuel specifications can impact performance, maintenance, and cost of operating plant equipment including:

Coal Unloading and Handling
Bunkers, Silos, and Feeders
Pulverizers
Boiler
Burners
Soot blowing, Slag Removal
Temperature Control
SCR and Post Combustion NOx Reduction
Air Heater – Pluggage, Leakage, Performance
ESP and Baghouse
Carbon Injection
SO3 Control
Ash Disposal

2. Engineering Calculations and Coal Quality Computerized Evaluations

There is a strong correlation between coal specs and the performance of plant equipment. This section will review what calculations are available, how to use them, and how well they perform.



Coal Handling - Material Tonnage, Wet Coal, Spontaneous Combustion Pulverizers – Material Flow, Milling Capacity, Drying Capacity, Velocity Boiler Efficiency Slagging, Fouling, and Ash Deposits Erosion and Corrosion Pollution Control Ash Quality

There will be a discussion on where to get coal quality information for use as input. Data and quality sources include: core hole, shipments, composites, historical trends It is important to understand where the quality data is derived, and how it is presented.

How to present the results for best communication and understanding

3. Designing and Conducting Successful Test Burns

Expanding and defining specs using models and test burns is the preferred method of expanding fuel supplies. The coal quality calculations should guild the test burn concerns, but please remember many important parameters can't be accurately modeled

Test Burns

Designing a test burn could include the aspects:

What are areas of concern?

What are definable measurable parameters that will define success or failure? How will these be measured?

Who is responsible for data collection, and unexpected operational issues? Who grades the test?

Who will prepare Final Report?

It is recommended that you start conservatively, gain confidence, and minimize risk

This two day class will provide a sound understanding of how coal quality impacts plant performance, how to estimate it, and how to quantify impacts at your plant.