

- fossil energy
- environmental
- energy efficiency
- other

IMPROVING FINE COAL MARKETABILITY USING THE GRANUFLOW PROCESS

States Impacted:

Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, and Alabama

Benefit Areas:

Lower cost of electricity, Improved environmental quality, Commercially acceptable

Participants:

Federal Energy Technology Center, CQ Inc.

FETC Contact:

Wu-Wey Wen*
Office: (412) 386-5713
E-Mail: wen@fetc.doe.gov

MAIL ADDRESS:

* U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 10940
626 Cochran Mill Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940

**U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 880
3610 Collins Ferry Road
Morgantown, WV 26507-0880

WEBSITE:

www.fetc.doe.gov

Description

Fine coal generated during mining and processing operations causes many problems due its poor handling characteristics, and as a result is often discarded into waste ponds. To make fine coal from waste ponds and preparation plants a more marketable feedstock for the electric utility and steel industries, FETC developed a process to alleviate handling problems called the GranuFlow Process.

The patented "GranuFlow Process" combines fine coal dewatering and reconstitution into one step in order to lower moisture and improve handleability. The Granuflow Process has been exclusively licensed to CQ, Inc. of Homer City, PA, who is marketing it to coal producers and utilities across the U.S. CQ Inc. is attempting to have it installed into existing commercial preparation plant fine coal circuits, as well as waste pond reclamation sites.

Goals

The Granuflow Process is aimed at improving the effectiveness of fine coal dewatering, and producing salable fine coal with reduced moisture, lower dust emissions, and vastly improved handling and transportation characteristics.

Tangible Benefits

National: Commercial implementation of the Granuflow Process will help prevent the current discarding of up to 50 million tons per year of raw coal fines to waste ponds. As a result, a potential waste material may turn into a valuable fuel source, maximizing the recovery and utilization of America's energy resources. In addition, this technology can be cost effectively applied to the recovery of salable coal from existing and abandoned waste pond sites, enhancing the prospects for reclamation of such sites, of which there are approximately 3,000-5,000 in the U.S., containing about 3 billion tons of fine coal.

Regional: Traditional bituminous coal mining areas will benefit from implementation of the Granuflow Process, specifically those with abandoned or operating coal preparation plants. These areas are primarily located in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, and Alabama.