

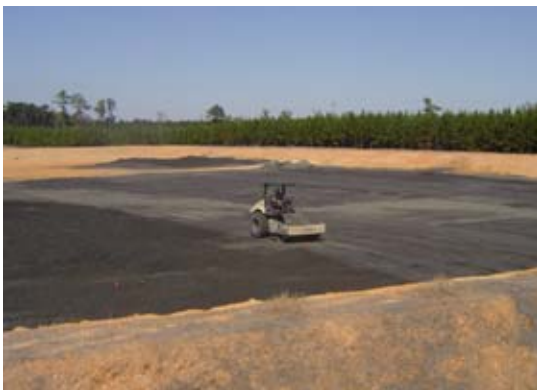
Ash Pond Excavation

GEORGIA POWER PLANT MCINTOSH

Rincon, Georgia

Georgia Power Company (formerly Savannah Electric Power Company) contracted SBX to remove ash from their Ash Pond B. Bottom ash from the burning of coal at the plant is sluiced with water and pumped to ash holding ponds where the ash settles out and collects. As the pond fills, it eventually requires removal of the ash to another location.

On the plant property, Georgia Power had constructed a deep bermed monofill for the purpose of permanent storage of the excavated ash material. The monofill was constructed with its own attached settling basin and clear water pond for rainfall discharges. Due to prior heavy rain events, those ponds and the connecting channels to the monofill had to be extensively redesigned and armored to prevent further degradation. SBX was also contracted to repair liners, install reno mattresses (rock filled wire mats), regrade, channelize drainage channels, and provide revegetation of the entire basin area prior to any ash pond excavation. SBX concurrently installed and operated dewatering pumps at the ash pond during the monofill site repairs.



The ash pond was approximately 14 feet in depth and nearly full of ash so excavation operations were conducted from the perimeter berm. Two 70,000 pound long reach excavators were used to move the saturated ash to the western side of the basin for gravity dewatering. An 80,000 pound excavator loaded the dewatered material into dump trucks for transport to the repaired monofill which was located approximately four (4) miles away. Moisture content was critical for ash placement into the monofill and SBX used a laboratory grade test instrument in the field to ensure the moisture content requirements were satisfied. Ash material was placed in 12-inch lifts with dozers and compacted with vibratory equipment. Approximately 130,000 cubic yards of ash material was excavated, transported, placed and compacted during the project. On site topsoil was used to cover the ash for erosion control. SBX hydro-seeded over 20 acres of disturbed soil area following grading activities. During the ash removal activities, water leaks began to appear at several points along the berm common to an adjacent ash pond. SBX worked with Georgia Power engineers to design a repair and expeditiously installed graded rock mats to prevent the berm from failing. The project was completed without any safety incidents.

Grading and Erosion Control

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During the ash pond excavation work, Georgia Power Company (formerly Savannah Electric Power Company) contracted SBX to complete several tasks associated with the construction of the ash monofill which included:

- Clear, grub and construct a large three (3) acre sediment basin with outfall structure
- Regrade the existing soil stockpiles resulting from the construction of the monofill and install erosion control mats
- Construct a stable access road to the stockpile area
- Repair, revegetate and install erosion control mats on the exterior side of the monofill berms

Approximately four acres of trees had to be cleared and grubbed to allow for the sediment basin construction. A concrete discharge structure with head-wall was formed and poured in place to allow proper settling of rainwater prior to discharge. Large 48-inch culverts were installed during the access road construction. Two D-6 class bulldozers were used to lower the stockpiles 20 feet in elevation. Over 200 rolls of coir matting was used to stabilize the graded slopes. Down drains were constructed and installed at various locations around the soil stockpiles. In excess of 11 acres of disturbed land area was hydroseeded by SBX personnel. The project was completed in approximately 8 weeks without any safety issues.

