

Continuing Critical Generation Operations

Apr 17, 2020



Terry Warner, a contractor with MPW Industrial Services, undergoes an infrared temperature scan prior to entering the Harrison plant for outage work.

As part of the country's critical infrastructure, FirstEnergy's regulated generation facilities and the plant employees who make them run continue to work at their job sites, ensuring reliable power production.

"We quickly put into place a number of protocols to protect workers' health," said **Dan Rossero**, vice president, FE Fleet Operations.

Our regulated generation facilities include the Fort Martin and Harrison power stations, Yards Creek hydro station and Eastlake synchronous condenser. All employees and contractors are required to have their temperature checked at home or prior to entering the work site each day – and must stay home if they show signs of illness. In addition, generation facilities have increased the number of break areas, changed shift briefings in some departments, and implemented other efforts to facilitate social distancing. Additional cleaning and sanitizing are being done at all locations, including frequent cleaning of commonly traveled paths, doorknobs, break rooms and control rooms.

Following CDC recommendations, a risk assessment protocol was implemented for contractor or company employees prior to gaining access into any generation site, including regular delivery drivers.

One major focus is the ongoing Unit 3 maintenance outage at the Harrison Power Station. "It's critical that we complete the Harrison outage so the station is ready to go when energy demand picks up as it gets warmer," Dan said.

Since Harrison's outage work includes a large number of contractor employees, a specialized single-entry point has been established.

"All contractors go through a mandatory temperature screening – using non-contact thermometers – to confirm their health prior to allowing entry," Dan explained.

A series of conference calls are held each day, beginning with the Corporate Health Task Force management call, then a fleet staff call. Every afternoon the Regulated Generation leadership team meets with contractor leadership and business owners to make certain everyone is aligned with FirstEnergy protocols.

"We've been able to adapt and implement new processes quickly – and it has all gone smoothly," Dan said. "I've been very proud and impressed with the response from everyone. It's a real testament to the dedication of our employees and our business partners."