

# Higgins Generating Station



6226 W. SAHARA AVE.  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89146

**Location:** Primm, Nevada

**Generating Capacity:** 530 Megawatts (Summer Peak)

**Plant Description:** The Walter M. Higgins Generating Station is a clean-burning natural gas-fueled power plant located in Southern Nevada near the California border. The plant utilizes two highly efficient Siemens-Westinghouse 501FD2 combustion turbines to produce electricity. Additionally, the exhaust from the two turbines is recycled to produce steam for an Alstom STF30C steam turbine to make additional electricity for NV Energy customers.

The plant went into service in 2004. Unlike conventional power plants that use substantial amounts of water for cooling, the Higgins Station uses a six-story-high dry cooling system. Similar to a car radiator, 40 massive fans (34 feet in diameter) are used to condense the steam and cool plant equipment.

**Employment:** Approximately 20 employees

## Interesting Features:

- The plant can produce enough electricity to serve approximately 320,000 Nevada households.
- In addition to the dry cooling system, the Higgins Station also saves water by re-using “grey water” from three neighboring casino operations. Grey water refers to water from sinks, showers, tubs, washing machines, etc.

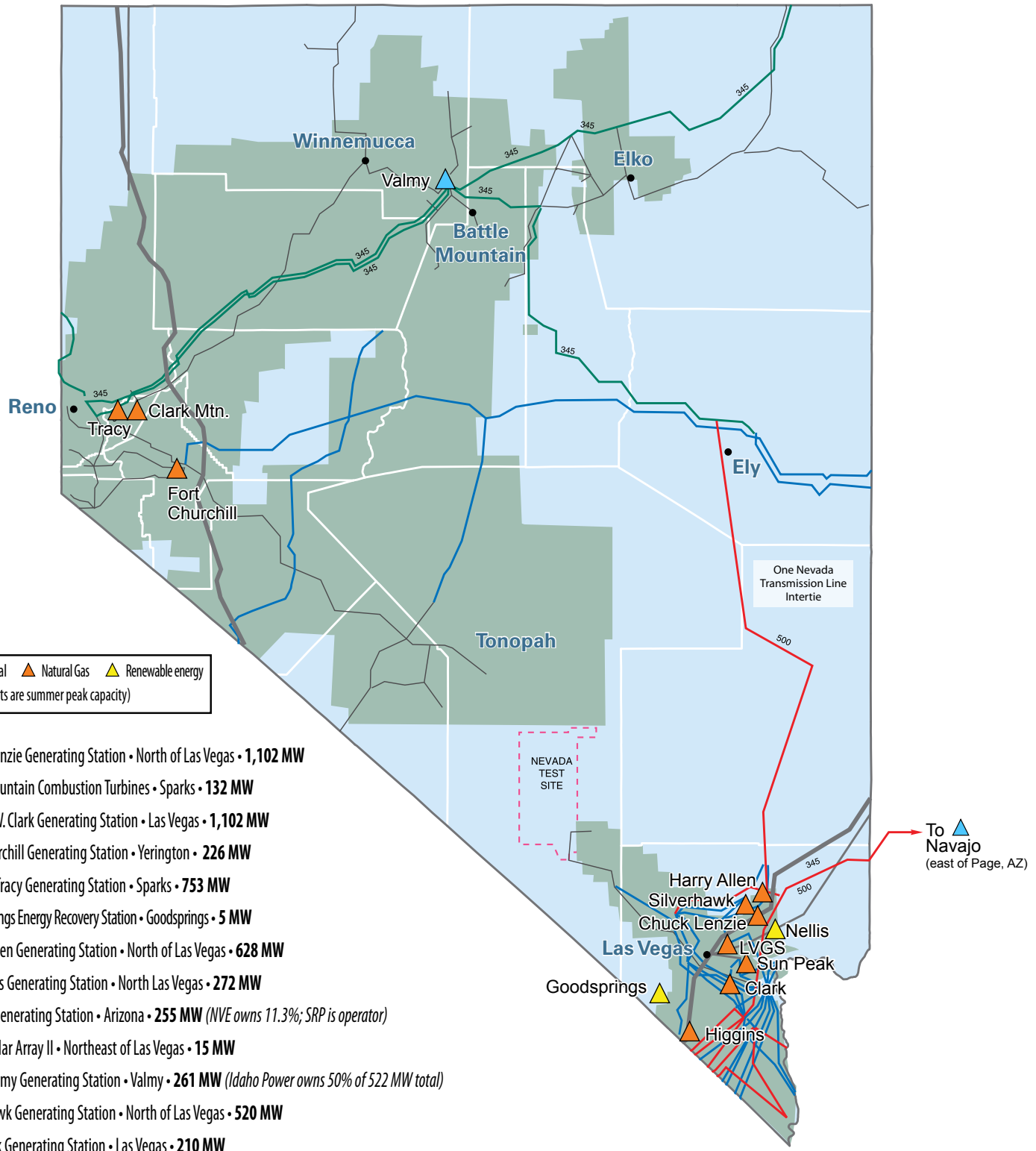
- The Higgins Station has performed in the top 10 percent for combined-cycle plants in the United States, based primarily on its high customer availability rate of 99 percent.
- NV Energy annually provides approximately \$32 million in tax revenue to Clark County that benefits general county operations, schools, libraries, and other civic activities.
- The dry-cooling system enables the combined-cycle plant to make the same amount of electricity with a mere 7 percent of water used by conventional water-cooled facilities.

## NV ENERGY

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# Generating Resources



Key: ▲ Coal ▲ Natural Gas ▲ Renewable energy  
 (All megawatts are summer peak capacity)

- ▲ Chuck Lenzie Generating Station • North of Las Vegas • **1,102 MW**
- ▲ Clark Mountain Combustion Turbines • Sparks • **132 MW**
- ▲ Edward W. Clark Generating Station • Las Vegas • **1,102 MW**
- ▲ Fort Churchill Generating Station • Yerington • **226 MW**
- ▲ Frank A. Tracy Generating Station • Sparks • **753 MW**
- ▲ Goodsprings Energy Recovery Station • Goodsprings • **5 MW**
- ▲ Harry Allen Generating Station • North of Las Vegas • **628 MW**
- ▲ Las Vegas Generating Station • North Las Vegas • **272 MW**
- ▲ Navajo Generating Station • Arizona • **255 MW** (NVE owns 11.3%; SRP is operator)
- ▲ Nellis Solar Array II • Northeast of Las Vegas • **15 MW**
- ▲ North Valmy Generating Station • Valmy • **261 MW** (Idaho Power owns 50% of 522 MW total)
- ▲ Silverhawk Generating Station • North of Las Vegas • **520 MW**
- ▲ Sun Peak Generating Station • Las Vegas • **210 MW**
- ▲ Walter M. Higgins Generating Station • Stateline • **530 MW**