



PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: IMMEDIATELY

Terra Sonic International Prepared for Assessment and Remediation Drilling Required in Wake of EPA Coal Ash Regulations

The EPA published [a new regulation](#) in 2015 regarding coal combustion residuals (CCR), otherwise known as coal ash. The rule was developed in the wake of a December 22, 2008 coal ash spill at TVA's Kingston Fossil Plant in Roane County, Tennessee. The EPA was forced at that time to address the potential risks of CCR reuse, storage, and disposal.

The impact of this regulation has begun to percolate throughout the industry. Most recently, according to the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), Georgia Power has elected to close several coal ash ponds due to fears that the dangerous coal ash material could negatively impact surrounding groundwater.

As coal-burning power plants conduct risk assessments and implement compliance programs for dealing with CCR site assessment and remediation, projects will increase in quantity and necessity. The right equipment for these projects is a must. Sonic Drilling is ideal for working on and around coal ash impoundments for the following reasons:

1. **Speed:** Sonic Drilling is 3-5 times and sometimes 10 times faster than conventional drilling methods in most lithologies.
2. **Continuous Core Samples:** Sonic Drilling can create nearly continuous in situ core samples. The ease with which the drill string passes through most formations means the core sample remains intact, giving geologists and engineers an excellent and accurate representation of the formation that is being evaluated.
3. **Better Well Construction:** The Sonic Drilling process creates a fully cased bore in which the well can be installed without the fear of damage that could be caused by borehole cave-in or collapse. The well (screen, riser pipe, sand pack, seal, etc) is installed inside the casing, which can then be extracted gently using vibration. This vibration will prevent bridging of the sand pack and ensures that the sand pack is spread evenly around the screen. The grout is also installed using gentle vibration to "knit" the grout into the native soil to create a tight seal. With Sonic Drilling there will be no issues with the well's performance.
4. **Waste Minimization:** Sonic Drilling can reduce investigative derived waste (IDW) by as much as 80% when compared to conventional drilling methods. Sonic Drilling does not necessarily require the use of water or mud and the IDW is often limited to the volume of your core samples. This

significantly reduces disposal costs. Combining this benefit with the increased drill rates discussed above ensures that overall costs for the project will be reduced.

5. Safety: Nothing is more important than completing a drilling job safely. Sonic Drilling addresses several key safety concerns including slips, trips, and falls; body strains, and exposure to machinery or chemicals. There are no flights on the augers, so workers have a lower risk of exposure to the machinery during drilling. Soil samples are contained inside the core barrel and vibrated into a sealed PVC sleeve that minimizes exposure potential to hazardous substances.

Terra Sonic International has decades of experience in manufacturing high quality Sonic Drilling Rigs. "We are acutely aware of the challenges involved in coal ash assessment and remediation projects," said Mike Scaringella, Business Development Manager. "Safe, reliable equipment and the ability to produce nearly in situ core samples are not just desired, they are required. Terra Sonic can provide the kind of reliable, advanced equipment that does not just meet, but exceeds, these requirements."

To learn more about TSi's Sonic Drill Rigs or to schedule a demo, visit www.terrasonicinternational.com or contact us today!

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