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**SWEPCO APPLAUDS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE
CARBON CAPTURE TECHNOLOGY**

SHREVEPORT, La., May 8, 2009 – AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO), is applauding the efforts of two Northeast Texas legislators' efforts to promote technology to capture CO₂ from coal-fired power plants. Representatives Tommy Merritt, Longview, and Stephen Frost, Atlanta, worked diligently to improve the proposed legislation.

"The potential benefit to Northeast Texas of being able to add advanced CO₂ capture technology to existing coal-fired power plants is enormous," said Rep. Merritt. "We can make our coal-fired power plants cleaner and we can use the captured CO₂ to make the East Texas oil fields productive again."

In East Texas, captured CO₂ can be used to extract trapped oil from old oil fields. However, capturing CO₂ is an expensive process. The amended legislation by Representatives Merritt and Frost makes the technology more affordable through the use of a franchise tax incentive.

After an intense debate on the House Floor, Representatives Merritt and Frost were successful in amending a bill which was intended to benefit a coal gasification plant in West Texas. Merritt and Frost were able to broaden the focus of the bill to incentivize the CO₂ capture from existing power plants in Northeast Texas.