

# An Overview of Lignite Mine Reforestation at Luminant's Martin Lake Mines in Eastern Texas

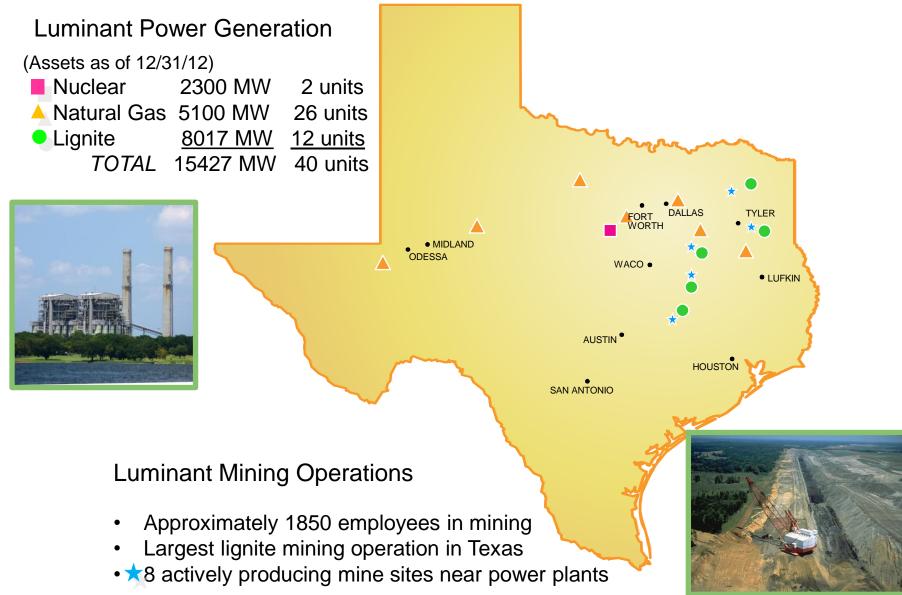


June 11, 2015



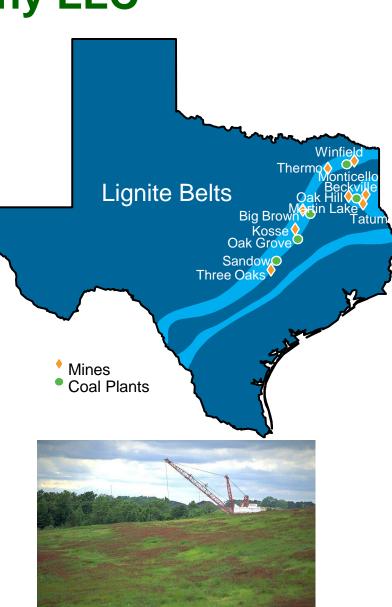


## **Luminant Power and Mining Operations**



# Luminant Mining Company LLC

- 9th largest mining company (tons) in U.S.
- 8 Active mines at 5 mine-mouth power plants
- Produced 29.6 million tons of coal in 2014 ...all used in Luminant power plants
- 13 mine permits from Railroad Commission of Texas (over 156,000 acres)
- 117 additional permits from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers combined
- Award-Winning Reclamation Efforts



#### **Mine Permits** Railroad Commission of Texas

	Permit	<u>Original</u> Permit	<u>Current</u> Permitted	
Luminant Mine	<u>No.</u>	Date	Acres	<u>County</u>
Big Brown Mine	3F	10/17/1977	12,910	Freestone
Martin Lake Mine	4K	10/17/1977	30,530	Rusk / Panola
Monticello-Thermo Mine	5G	10/17/1977	4,506	Hopkins
Monticello-Winfield Mine	34F	10/17/1977	26,732	Titus / Franklin
Oak Hill Mine	46C	07/25/1983	26,014	Rusk
Bremond Mine	49A	03/23/2004	3,371	Robertson
Kosse Mine	50A	04/24/2007	15,040	Robertson / Limestone
Leesburg Mine	51	06/10/2008	4,516	Camp
Martin Lake AIV South Mine	53	02/26/2009	2,403	Rusk / Panola
Turlington Mine	54	06/22/2010	10,450	Freestone
Three Oaks Mine	48B	11/30/2010	15,809	Bastrop / Lee
Thermo A-1 Area Mine	56	06/26/2012	286	Hopkins
Liberty	58	12/11/2012	3,866	Rusk

Total Acres 156,148

## **Other Environmental Permits**



#### Wetlands - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

38 active Corps permits

#### Water – TCEQ

- 7 active Wastewater Discharge permits
- 18 Stormwater Permits
- 22 Water Rights Permits





Air - TCEQ

32 active permits

#### Luminant Mining Company Reclamation Land Uses

Land is reclaimed to premine uses for the area:

- Improved Pastureland
  - Livestock
  - Hay Production
- Forestland that emphasizes:
  - Quality Wildlife Habitat
  - Commercial Forestland for timber production
- Water Resources are significantly increased
- Industrial/Commercial uses accommodated





#### **Reclamation Land Use - Pastureland**



## **Reclamation Land Use - Reforestation**

- 37 million trees planted since 1975
- 1.4 million per year avg since 1995
- 1.25 million planted in 2015

#### **Commercial Forestland**





Wildlife Habitat

## **Reclamation Land Use - Wildlife Habitat**

Reclamation of Wildlife Habitat / Wildlife Protection & Enhancement

Restoration of Wildlife Habitat is a critical part of Luminant's reclamation effort

Wildlife Protection, Enhancement and Reintroduction Initiatives:

- American Bald Eagle
- Interior Least Tern
- Bobwhite Quail
- Eastern Wild Turkey

#### Grassland Habitat:

 Benefits to one of the fastest declining bird groups in America (grassland birds)







### **Reclamation Land Use - Water Resources**

#### Ponds, Streams and Wetlands



# **Environmental Stewardship**

Luminant Environmental Research Steering Committee

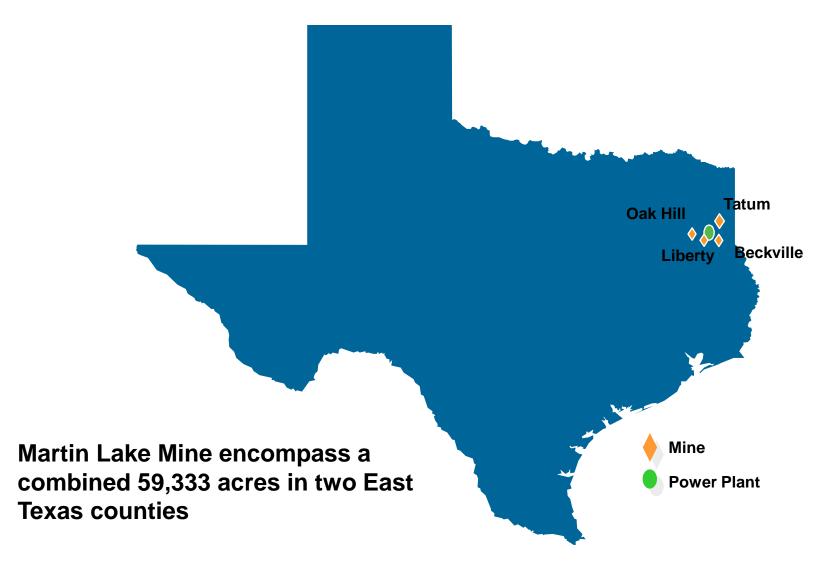
- Began in 1971 and continues today
- Funded by Luminant with student research directed by an Independent Advisory Board of University Professors
- 130 students have entered the program, studying various potential effects of surface lignite mining, electric power generation and electric power delivery on the environment



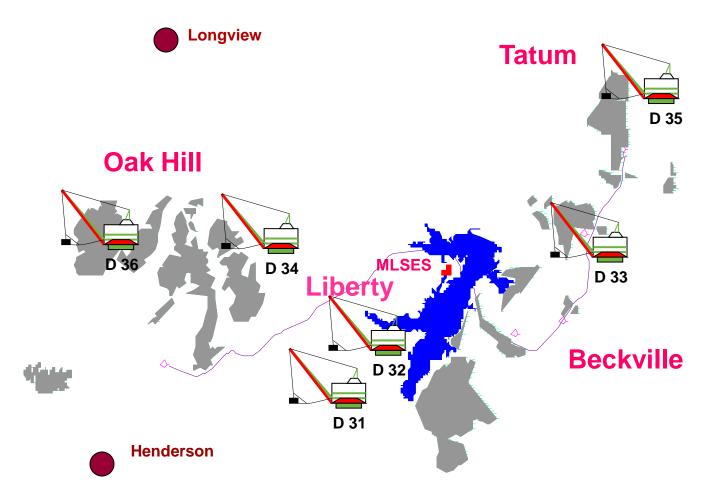




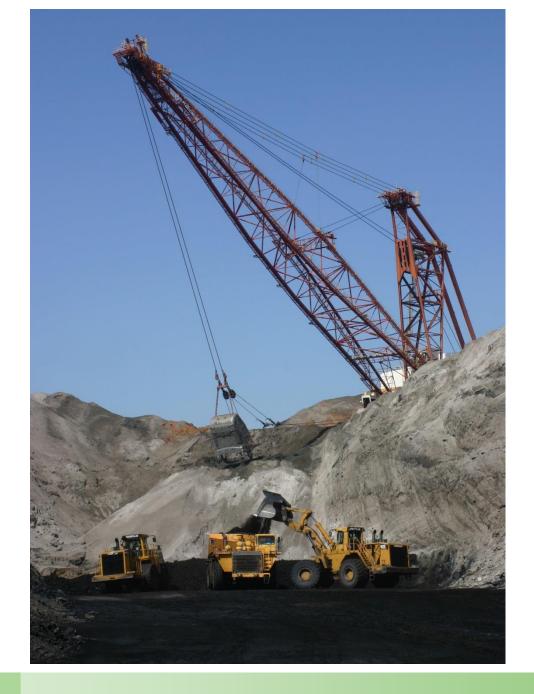
### **Martin Lake Mines Complex**



## **Martin Lake Mine Complex**



















### **Post-mine Land Uses**



## **MARTIN LAKE REFORESTATION**

#### 22.1 million trees planted (as of Mar. 2015)



## **Reforestation Planning**

- Selection of species
   Commercial pine /wildlife habitat
- Habitat- Upland or Bottomland
- Challenges

   Rainfall
   Soil texture
   Moisture Regime



## **Pine Varieties**





Loblolly Pine - NE Texas ( 2<sup>nd</sup> gen) Longleaf Pine (Vernon Parrish, La.)







Upland and Bottomland Hardwood Establishment



## **Hardwood Varieties**



Bur Oak **Cherrybark Oak Chinkapin Oak** Nuttall Oak Post Oak Swamp Chestnut Oak **Southern Red Oak** Shumard Oak **Overcup Oak** Water Oak Willow Oak White Oak **Bald Cypress** 

Black Walnut Native Pecan Persimmon Water Hickory River Birch Plum Black Tupelo Water Tupelo Hackberry Button-bush Wax-myrtle











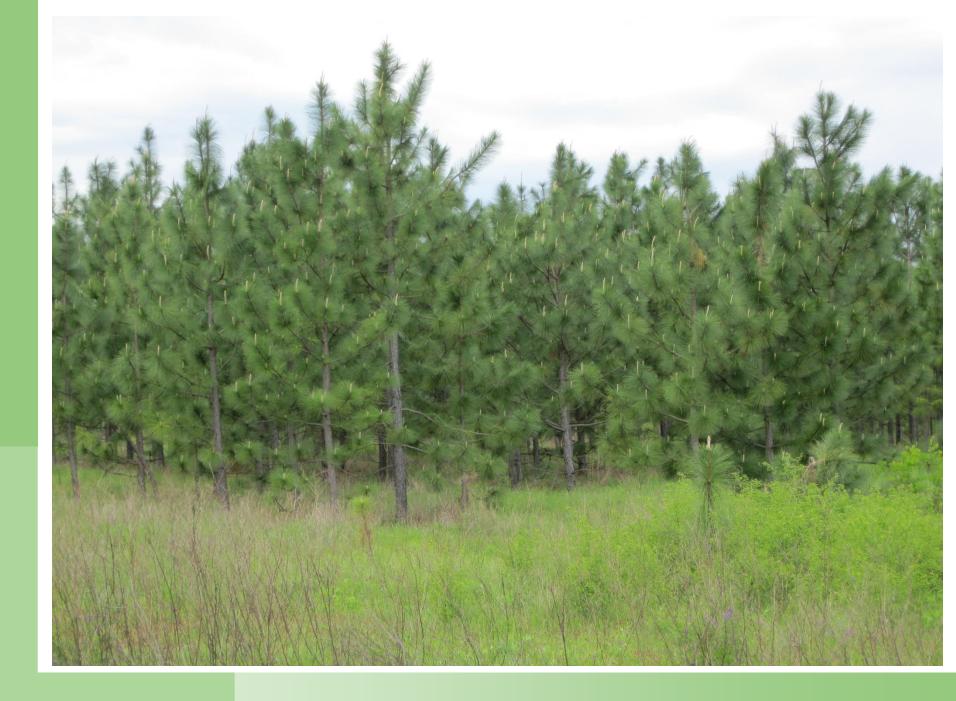


# Longleaf Pine & Tall Prairie Grass Ecosystem

- Sand Lovegrass
- Sand Dropseed
- Switch Grass sp.
- Indian Grass
- Big Bluestem
- Little Bluestem
- Lespedeza sp.



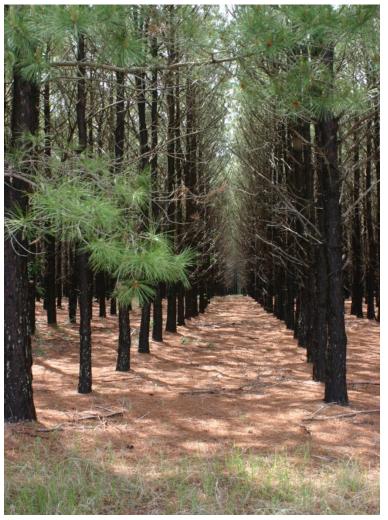


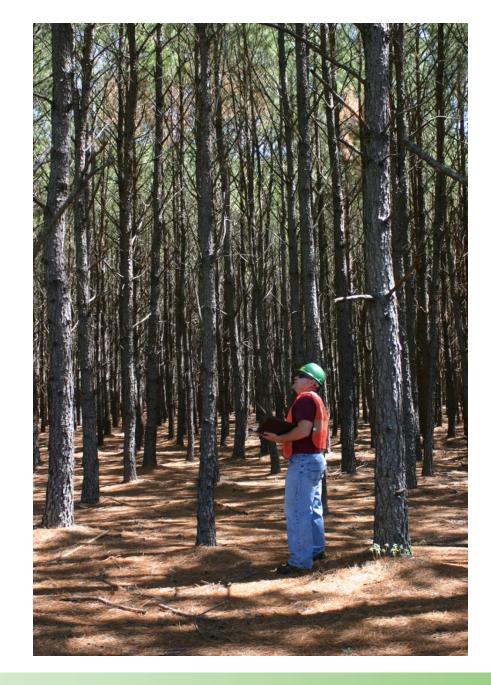


## **Commercial Pine Thins and Harvests**

GOAL: To systematically remove inferior stems within the stand while increasing the quality and value of the residual stand.

- Loblolly pine stands are typically first thinned for pulpwood products at year 15-16
- Conservatively remove every fifth row (20%) for equipment access and then thin the remaining rows to an 80 basal area to improve the health of stand
- Subsequent thinnings at 5-7 year intervals produce chip-n-saw logs
- Final harvest produces larger saw logs













## **Texas Forest Sector**

- \$30.3 billion to state economy annually
- One of Texas' top 10 renewable natural resources
- Provides more than 5000 products we use daily



## What is your legacy ?

