

system. This will be done by utilizing temporary natural gas fed boilers at either end of the main spine tunnel running north and south and replacing the piping in phases.

What was the most interesting sustainable feature that didn't make it into the final project?

Two features that didn't make the final project design were on-site photovoltaics and heating water thermal storage.

What impacts will this project have on the environment and community?

This project is nearing completion in May 2026 and is targeting LEED Gold certification - some of the most exciting features focus contributions for DFW to:

- » **85.8% reduction in nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions** per year
- » **15.3M kg reduction in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions** per year
- » **Accommodate future terminal expansion** up to 28 gates/500,000 sq. ft. and achieve N + 1 resiliency
- » **Reduce carbon emissions** in alignment with DFW's Net Zero Carbon by 2030 target

ECUP Rendering

About the Project

CMAA has created the Sustainability Project Spotlight as a regular focus given to member projects nationwide that are building the way to a better future.

[The Electric Central Utility Plant \(ECUP\) at Dallas-Fort Worth Airport \(DFW\)](#) is a bold and forward-thinking project is central to the first and largest Carbon Neutral Airports in the Americas! Central to the scope of this project is electrification of the central utilities that were predominately natural gas and steam all while keeping the world's third busiest airport fully up and running.

The CMAA Sustainability Subcommittee is actively seeking to spotlight your projects! Please email us at communications@cmaanet.org with a project name and person to contact.

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