Mitigation of Emission in Thermal Power Plant Using Conventional and Non-Conventional Fuel

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ABSTRACT: Modeling and analysis on the basis of conventional and non-conventional fuel has been carried out for a gas based combined cycle, coal based thermal power plant situated in and around Delhi, India; and same type of analysis is considered when biomass fired power plant is considered. It is shown that significant improvement in thermal efficiency and environment advantages may be obtained for a gas based combined cycle power plant and the reverse is the case with the biomass fired thermal power plant. The results shows that the percentage reduction in CO₂ emission by combined cycle power plant as compared to coal fired thermal power plant is 65% while 20% excess emission of CO₂ if biomass is considered as fuel for power plant.

Keywords – Conventional and non conventional Thermal Power Plants, modeling, emissions.

I. INTRODUCTION

The power plays a very vital role for development of any Nation and having its importance in overall GDP growth. Day by day the gap between demand and supply of power is increasing. This gap can be met out with more power generation with high capacity plants. The major portion of power generation worldwide is through Coal. Coal is depleting fossil fuel and having environmental issues with its use. The economic use of coal can be done through efficient newer techniques of power generation with minimal environmental impact. Main emissions from coal fired and lignite based thermal power plants are CO₂, NOₓ, SOₓ, and airborne inorganic particles such as fly ash, carbonaceous material (soot), suspended particulate matter (SPM), and other trace gas species. Thermal power plants, using about 70% of total coal in India (Garg et. al., 2002), are among the Large Point Sources (LPS) having significant contribution (47% each for CO₂ and SO₂) in the total LPS emissions in India.

Energy consumption per capita is now an accepted indicator of the level of development of a country, which continues to be quite low for India, which had 62,534 MW as installed generation capacity of the utilities at the end of 1989-90 (Mudgal S., 1996). According to Central Electricity Authority (CEA), of a total installed capacity of over 1.04,917 MW in India, over 72,000 MW is accounted for by thermal power plants, the hydel sector accounts for another 25,000 MW, with nuclear and wind power accounting for the rest of power (Power Line, 2002). Thus almost 72% of the installed power capacities are likely to be in thermal power generation. Coal, gas and diesel are contributing 84 %, 13 %, and 3 % of the thermal power generation respectively. The share of hydroelectric generation is likely to remain around 25-30% while rests of the requirements are likely to be met by nuclear power (≈ 3-5%).

A combination of population growth, improved standard of living and increased industrial activities mean an inevitable increase in energy demand. The country requires additional power capacities of 11,000 MW to be added per year in order to meet the growing demand by 2020 (Chandra A., 1997).

It is in this context that there has, of late, been a growing world opinion in favor of looking at alternatives to fossil fuels that would insure Eco-friendly sustainable development on the one hand and energy security on the other hand. Indicative of this thinking is the series of global meetings held in the last decade of the 20th century starting and culminating in Kyoto with a protocol, which commits nations to pursue vigorously the goal of environmentally sustainable development. The protocol was followed by the launch of clean development mechanism (CDM) envisaging technology transfer and financial assistance from the developed to the developing countries to promote systems that would help reduce green house gas emissions. In these circumstances, renewable sources of energy have emerged as a viable option to achieve the goal of sustainable development. India produces huge quantities of agro-residues and agro-industrial wastes. The national productivity council (NPC) survey on Dec.31, 2000 sponsored by Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) revealed that about 321 million tonnes of crop residue and 50 million tonnes of agro-industrial
wastes are generated annually. It is presently estimated that India produces 400 million tonnes of agricultural wastes every year (Ministry of Power, Annual Report 2012-13).

Bio-Power resources are renewable. When biomass is used to produce power, the carbon dioxide released at the power plant is recycled back into the re-growth of new biomass. This renewable and recycling process makes it possible to generate power without adding to air emissions. Biomass can be grown as bio-energy crops or gathered from forests, mills and landfills as a byproduct. Growing bio-energy crops has important land, habitat and soil conservation benefits. Producing energy from residues in forests, mills and landfills avoids the release of methane into the atmosphere from decomposition of unused wood and agricultural wastes. The key to successful biomass power development is to use the resource efficiently in modern conversion systems that maximize the energy produced and minimize the byproducts of conversion processes. Until the 20th century, in most parts of the world including the U.S., using biomass to generate heat or to drive steam engines was the most common way to produce energy. However, historical methods of burning wood, field residues, or wood wastes and byproducts have tended to be less efficient than modern conversion systems currently available and in development. In modern times, the combination of improved technological efficiencies, scientific advances, increased environmental awareness, and environmental protection regulations have turned biomass conversion into a cleaner, more efficient process (Chakraborty et al., 2008).

This paper presents modeling and analyses of thermal power plants to mitigate the air pollutants emitted by using the conventional fuel (coal) and non conventional fuel (bio mass), by considering case studies of actual power plants situated in India.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

For analysis of thermal efficiency and pollutant emission, data have been collected for the year 2012 for all the power plants located in the vicinity of Delhi. These power stations are Gas Turbine Power Station (G.T.P.S.), Delhi Vidut Board (D.V.B.), Indra Prastha (I.P.) Estate, New Delhi; Badarpur Thermal Power Station (B.T.P.S.), Badarpur, New Delhi; and National Capital Power Station (N.C.P.S.), Dadri, Uttar Pradesh. G.T.P.S. is natural gas-fired combined cycle power plant, under D.V.B., while, B.T.P.S. & N.C.P.S. are coal-fired thermal power plants under National Thermal Power Corporation (N.T.P.C.) an apex body in India for power production.

2.1 Conventional Fuel Data Collection

Data collected from G.T.P.S., B.T.P.S. and N.C.P.S. respectively are the following:

2.1.1 G.T.P.S. Technical data

Following data have been collected from G.T.P.S.-

(a) Fuel composition
   Type: Natural Gas, Calorific value = 9186.8 cal/m$^3$=38.58 $\times 10^6$ J/ m$^3$.
   Obtained from: Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) pipeline, Jagdishpur laboratory. Composition: It is given in table 1.

(b) Number of Power Generation Units = 3,Each Unit Contains = 2 GT (Gas Turbine) and 1 ST (Steam Turbine),So Total Number of GT= 6, Total No. of ST= 3.

(c) Capacity of Each GT Unit = 30 MW, Capacity of Each ST Unit = 34 MW,
   So Total Capacity = (30$\times$6) + (34$\times$3) MW = 282 MW.

(d) Fuel Feed: Fuel Feed/day to six GT = 1.44 Million m$^3$/day

(e) Gas Exhaust Flow (in tph) Measured in 3 consecutive day at the same time: 505.3 t/hr, 485.9 t/hr, and 418.9 t/hr.

Net GT Exhaust Flow Rate = (505.3+485.9+418.9)/3 = 470.033 t/hr

(f) GT Exhaust Composition Measured at 3 Consecutive Day at the same time (% weight) is given in table 2.

Table 1. Composition of natural gas used in G.T.P.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Content in volume %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C$_6$</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N$_2$</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH$_4$</td>
<td>83.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO$_2$</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C$_2$</td>
<td>7.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C$_3$</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n C$_4$</td>
<td>0.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO C$_4$</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n C$_5$</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO C$_5$</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. Gas Turbine exhaust composition obtained from G.T.P.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composition</th>
<th>% Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO₂</td>
<td>3.1129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Vapor</td>
<td>9.9989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O₂</td>
<td>13.7351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N₂</td>
<td>72.2824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argon</td>
<td>0.8708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO₂</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.1.2 B.T.P.S. Technical data

(a) Coal composition
Since the composition of coal vary day by day, so the coal composition is given by the average value of Proximate and Ultimate analysis of the coal used for producing heat in plant.

(i) Proximate Analysis (% by mass): Moisture = 2.81, Ash = 45.25, VM = 16.54, FC = 35.40, GCV = 3550 kcal/kg

(ii) Ultimate or Total Analysis (% by mass): Ash = 46.56, C = 39.81, H = 3.35, S = 0.50, N₂ = 0.78, O = Remainder

(b) Coal feed
(i) Coal Source = Jharia Coal Fields, Dhanbad, Jharkhand, India
(ii) The coal feed for each unit is tabulated in table 3.

(c) Capacity of power production of each unit
Capacity of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd units are 100 MW each (actual power produced at present is 95 MW per unit). All these three units are connected to one chimney. Capacities of 4th & 5th units are 210 MW each and these two are connected to second chimney. So total power produced by B.T.P.S. = (3 × 100) MW + (2 × 210) MW = (300 + 420) MW = 720 MW.

(d) For Fourth Unit of BTPS
Emission Rate of Total Fly Ash varies between 150 to 700 mg/Nm³. Capacity of Fourth Unit = 210 MW. Average Flue Gas Flow Rate varies between 160 Nm³/s to 215 Nm³/s at 155°C.

Table 3. Coal feed for each unit of B.T.P.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit No.</th>
<th>Coal feed mt/day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>1664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>1692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>1640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>3193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>3036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.1.3 N.C.P.S. Technical data

(a) Coal composition and Coal Qualities (% by weight): Ash = 45.41, C = 38.61, H = 3.25, S = 0.5, N= 0.74, O =11.48, Fly Ash = 90%

(b) Coal feed: Coal Source: Piparwar Mines, Jharkhand, Coal Feed = 140 t/hr

(c) Capacity of power production: Total no. of Units = 4, Capacity of Each Unit = 220 MW, Total Capacity = 4×220 = 880 MW

2.2 Non-conventional Fuel Data Collection

2.2.1 6MW Rice Husk fired Plant (Pandey et al., 2012; Gidde and Jivani, 2007)

Fuel used: Rice Husk

Steam capacity: 30 ton/hr

Steam pressure: 66 Kg/cm²

Steam temperature: 490°C

Feed water temperature: 115°C

Since the rice husk is granular type of fuel the AFBC boiler is selected to get better efficiency.
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Ambient air temperature: 35°C
Moisture in air, M, kg/kg of dry air: 0.0219
RH: 60%
Excess air % : 20%

Fuel properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Fraction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>36.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>4.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>32.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moisture</td>
<td>9.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gross calorific value of fuel used = 3275 kcal/kg

Fuel feed = 7926.82 kg/hr

2.2.2 6MW Cotton Stalk fired Plant (Tandon and Sundarmoorthy, 2009)

Fuel used: Cotton stalk
Steam capacity: 30 ton/hr
Steam pressure: 66 Kg/cm²
Steam temperature: 490°C
Feed water temperature: 115°C

Since the rice husk is granular type of fuel the AFBC boiler is selected to get better efficiency.

Ambient air temperature: 35°C
Moisture in air, M, kg/kg of dry air: 0.0219
RH: 60%
Excess air %: 20%

Fuel properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Fraction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>38.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>5.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>40.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>0.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>11.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>3.44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fuel feed = 6660.92 kg/hr

2.3 Theoretical Background

Analysis of different data collected for power plants are based on certain well-established relationships (Sarkar Samir, 1998, and Horlock J. H., 1995).

(a) Quick Combustion Relationships (Sarkar Samir, 1998):

Volume of CO₂ emitted = \( a = \frac{22.4}{100} \left( \frac{C}{12} + \frac{S}{32} \right) \) Nm³/kg of fuel

Mass of CO₂ produced per kg of fuel = \( w = M \times (PV/RT) \), where \( P \) = atmospheric pressure, \( M \) = molecular weight, \( V \) = volume of gas, \( R \) = characteristic gas constant, \( T \) = temperature in Kelvin

Theoretical Air Required = \( A = \frac{22.4 \times 4.76}{100} \left( \frac{C}{12} + \frac{H}{4} - \frac{O}{16} + \frac{S}{32} \right) \) Nm³/kg of fuel

Volume of NO₂ emitted = \( \gamma = 0.79 A_0 + \left[ \frac{(N \times 24)}{(28 \times 100)} \right] \)

Volume of flue gases = \( \alpha + \gamma \) Nm³/kg of fuel, and,

Inlet Dust Concentration = \( \frac{\text{Power capacity} \times \text{Fly ash content} \times \text{Coal feed} \times \text{Ash content} \times 10^6}{\text{Average flue gas flow rate} \times 3600} \) gm/m³

(b) Relations for energy analysis (Horlock J. H., 1995):

Overall efficiency of combined cycle power plant = \( \frac{\text{Net Output} \times [\nu_f \times (\text{CV of fuel})]}{100} \)

Where, \( \nu_f = \text{fuel feed} (\text{m}^3/\text{s}), \text{CV} = \text{calorific value of fuel} (\text{J/m}^3) \)

Overall efficiency of coal based thermal power plant is \( \frac{\text{Output power}}{\text{Input power}} \times 100 \% \)
Where, Input Power = Coal feed × Calorific Value (CV) of fuel  \( (7) \)

CV of fuel can be calculated by using Dulong’s formula (Sarkar Samir, 1998), which is: CV of fuel = 80.8 C +345 (H- (O/8))+22.2 S. in kcal/kg.  \( (8) \)

Where C, H, O and S are carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and sulphur in % by weight. of coal composition.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data of thermal power plants are analyzed in terms of conventional fuel and non conventional fuel in previous section and the results are shown in Figures 1-2.

- Rate of CO\(_2\) emission of combined cycle power plant (Indra Prastha State) = 0.3113t/hr/MW
- Rate of CO\(_2\) emission of (NTPC) Badarpur Coal based thermal power plant = 0.9523t/hr/MW
- Rate of CO\(_2\) emission of (NCPS) Dadri coal based thermal power plant = 0.9017t/hr/MW

From the above results it is clear that the percentage reduction in CO\(_2\) emission by combined cycle power plant as compared to coal fired thermal power plant is 65% is case of B.T.P.S., Delhi and 65.5% in case of NCPS, Dadri.

- Rate of CO\(_2\) emission of biomass fired (Rice-husk) boiler is = 1.773 T/hr/MW
- Rate of CO\(_2\) emission of biomass fired (cotton-stalk) boiler is = 1.678 T/hr/MW

From the above result we may conclude that there much higher CO\(_2\) emission with biomass fired boiler as comparison to coal based and combined cycle thermal power plant.

- Energy efficiency of combined cycle power plant = 43.85%
- Energy efficiency of Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) = 33.025%
- Energy efficiency of National Capital Power Station (NCPS) = 35.85%
- Energy efficiency of biomass fired (Rice husk and cotton stalk) boiler are respectively 19.8% and 19.7%.

From the above results we may conclude that energy efficiency of combined cycle power plant is around 20-25% more than both coal-fired thermal power plant and energy efficiency of biomass fired power plant can be improved by proper boiler design, fuel feed systems, combustion equipment.
IV. CONCLUSIONS

Due to rapid industrialization, the demand for power generation is increasing day by day. In India, coal is the primary source for power generation and about 70% of total generation (nearly 10700 MW) is based on the coal. Though a number of control techniques are already been implemented, coal based power units emit tonnes of emission into the air and thus polluting our environment.

Biomass fired power plant using rice husk and cotton stalk as fuel has been also considered, these plants are having much lower efficiency than coal based power plant. Therefore, there is need to improvement in overall efficiency of biomass fired thermal power plant by proper improvement in the design boiler, heat transfer surfaces, fuel field systems, combustion equipment and by improving the fuel qualities, in order to give sufficient rise in overall efficiency of plant.

REFERENCES


