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Permit Expected for Coal Fired Power Plant Near Holcomb  
TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - A new coal-fired power plant in southwest  
Kansas is on track to get a state environmental permit by the end  
of the year.

A spokeswoman for the Kansas Department of Health and  
Environment confirmed Thursday that the agency has decided to set a  
public comment period so that a permit decision can be made by the  
end of the year.

If the state issues a permit by the end of the year, new federal  
greenhouse gas rules taking effect Jan. 2 won't apply.

Hays-based Sunflower Electric Power Corp. wants to build the  
plant outside Holcomb in Finney County.

State Sen. Janis Lee, a Kensington Democrat and backer of the  
project, says there was concern over whether the permitting process  
would last longer.

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