Department of Environmental Protection

Jeb Bush
Governor

Twin Towers Office Building
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Colleen M. Castille
Secretary

November 7, 2006

(Sent by Electronic Mail – Return Receipt Requested)

Mr. Neil Smith, V.P. of Sugar Processing Operations
United States Sugar Corporation
Clewiston Sugar Mill and Refinery
111 Ponce DeLeon Avenue
Clewiston, FL 33440

Re: Draft Air Permit No. PSD-FL-346A
Project No. 0510003-038-AC
U.S. Sugar Corporation, Clewiston Sugar Mill and Refinery
New White Sugar Dryer No. 2 – Revised PM/PM_{10} Standards

Dear Mr. Smith:

On July 3, 2006, U.S. Sugar submitted an application to revise the PM/PM_{10} emissions standards for the new white sugar dryer at the Clewiston sugar mill and refinery, which is located at the intersection of W.C. Owens Avenue and State Road 832 in Hendry County, Florida. We received additional information on September 21st regarding improvements and test results. The Department intends to revise the permit as indicated in the enclosed documents: "Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination", "Draft Permit", "Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit", and "Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit".

The "Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination" summarizes the Bureau of Air Regulation's technical review of the application and provides the rationale for making the preliminary determination to issue a draft permit. The proposed "Draft Permit" includes the specific conditions that regulate the emissions units covered by the proposed project. The "Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit" provides important information regarding: the Permitting Authority's intent to issue an air permit for the proposed project; the requirements for publishing a Public Notice of the Permitting Authority's intent to issue an air permit; the procedures for submitting comments on the Draft Permit; the process for filing a petition for an administrative hearing; and the availability of mediation. The "Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit" is the actual notice that you must have published in the legal advertisement section of a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by this project.

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Engineer, Jeff Koerner, at 850/921-9536.

Sincerely,

Trina Vielhauer, Chief
Bureau of Air Regulation

TV/jfk

Enclosures

WRITTEN NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AIR PERMIT

In the Matter of an
Application for Air Permit by:

United States Sugar Corporation
Clewiston Sugar Mill and Refinery
111 Ponce DeLeon Avenue
Clewiston, FL 33440

Authorized Representative:
Mr. Neil Smith, V.P. of Sugar Processing Operations

Draft Air Permit No. PSD-FL-346A
Project No. 0510003-038-AC
New White Sugar Dryer No. 2
Revised PM/PM_{10} Standards
Hendry County, Florida

Facility Location: U.S. Sugar Corporation operates an existing sugar mill and refinery in Clewiston at the intersection of W.C. Owens Avenue and State Road 832 in Hendry County, Florida.

Project: The applicant proposes revised standards for particulate matter (PM) and particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}) for the new white sugar dryer based on the control system as installed and the corrective measures taken to date. Details of the project are provided in the application and the enclosed "Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination".

Permitting Authority: Applications for air construction permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210, and 62-212 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and an air permit is required to perform the proposed work. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Air Regulation is the Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project. The Bureau of Air Regulation's physical address is 111 South Magnolia Drive, Suite 4, Tallahassee, Florida 32301 and the mailing address is 2600 Blair Stone Road, MS #5505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400. The Bureau of Air Regulation's phone number is 850/488-0114.

Project File: A complete project file is available for public inspection during the normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays), at address indicated above for the Permitting Authority. The complete project file includes the Draft Permit, the Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination, the application, and the information submitted by the applicant, exclusive of confidential records under Section 403.111, F.S. Interested persons may contact the Permitting Authority's project review engineer for additional information at the address and phone number listed above. A copy of the complete project file is also available at the Department's South District Office at 2295 Victoria Avenue, Suite 364, Fort Myers, Florida 33902-3381. The South District's telephone number is 239/332-6975.

Notice of Intent to Issue Permit: The Permitting Authority gives notice of its intent to issue an air permit to the applicant for the project described above. The applicant has provided reasonable assurance that operation of proposed equipment will not adversely impact air quality and that the project will comply with all applicable provisions of Chapters 62-4, 62-204, 62-210, 62-212, 62-296, and 62-297, F.A.C. The Permitting Authority will issue a Final Permit in accordance with the conditions of the proposed Draft Permit unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. or unless public comment received in accordance with this notice results in a different decision or a significant change of terms or conditions.

Public Notice: Pursuant to Section 403.815, F.S. and Rules 62-110.106 and 62-210.350, F.A.C., you (the applicant) are required to publish at your own expense the enclosed "Public Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit" (Public Notice). The Public Notice shall be published one time only as soon as possible in the legal advertisement section of a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by this project. The newspaper used must meet the requirements of Sections 50.011 and 50.031, F.S. in the county where the activity is to take place. If you are uncertain that a newspaper meets these requirements, please contact the Permitting Authority at the address or phone number listed above. Pursuant to Rule 62-110.106(5), F.A.C., the applicant shall provide proof of publication to the Permitting Authority at the above address within seven (7) days of publication. Failure to publish the notice and provide proof of publication may result in the denial of the permit pursuant to Rule 62-110.106(11), F.A.C.

Comments: The Permitting Authority will accept written comments concerning the Draft Permit for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of publication of the Public Notice. Written comments must be post-marked, and all e-mail or facsimile comments must be received by the close of business (5:00 p.m.), on or before the end of this 30-day period by the Permitting Authority at the above address, email or facsimile. As part of his or her comments, any person may also request that the Permitting Authority hold a public meeting on this permitting action. If the Permitting Authority determines there is

sufficient interest for a public meeting, it will publish notice of the time, date, and location in the Florida Administrative Weekly and in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the permitting action. For additional information, contact the Permitting Authority at the above address or phone number. If written comments or comments received at a public meeting result in a significant change to the Draft Permit, the Permitting Authority will issue a Revised Draft Permit and require, if applicable, another Public Notice. All comments filed will be made available for public inspection.

Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed with (received by) the Department's Agency Clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station #35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Petitions filed by the applicant or any of the parties listed below must be filed within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), F.S., must be filed within fourteen (14) days of publication of the attached Public Notice or within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit, whichever occurs first. Under Section 120.60(3), F.S., however, any person who asked the Permitting Authority for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen (14) days of receipt of that notice, regardless of the date of publication. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of how and when each petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed action; (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so state; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation: Mediation is not available in this proceeding.

Executed in Tallahassee, Florida.

Trina L Vielhauer

Trina Vielhauer, Chief
Bureau of Air Regulation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned duly designated deputy agency clerk hereby certifies that this "Written Notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit" package (including the Public Notice, the Technical Evaluation and Preliminary Determination, and the Draft Permit) was sent by electronic mail with a return receipt requested before the close of business on 11/7/06 to the persons listed below.

Mr. Neil Smith, U.S. Sugar (nsmith@ussugar.com)
Mr. Peter Briggs, U.S. Sugar (pbriggs@ussugar.com)
Mr. Don Griffin, U.S. Sugar (dgriffin@ussugar.com)
Mr. David Buff, Golder Associates (dave_buff@golder.com)
Mr. Ron Blackburn, SD Office (blackburn_r@dep.state.fl.us)
Mr. Gregg Worley, EPA Region 4 (worley.gregg@epamail.epa.gov)

Clerk Stamp

FILING AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT FILED, on this date, pursuant to Section 120.52(7), Florida Statutes, with the designated agency clerk, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

(Clerk) 11/7/06 (Date)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AIR PERMIT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Project No. 0510003-038-AC / Draft Air Permit No. PSD-FL-346A
United States Sugar Corporation, Clewiston Sugar Mill and Refinery
Hendry County, Florida

Applicant: The applicant for this project is the United States Sugar Corporation. The applicant's authorized representative is Mr. Neil Smith, V.P. of Sugar Processing Operations. The applicant's mailing address is the Clewiston Sugar Mill and Refinery, 111 Ponce DeLeon Avenue, Clewiston, FL 33440.

Facility Location: The United States Sugar Corporation operates an existing sugar mill and refinery in Clewiston at the intersection of W.C. Owens Avenue and State Road 832 in Hendry County, Florida.

Project: The existing Clewiston sugar mill and refinery is a major facility in accordance with Rule 62-212.400, F.A.C., the regulatory program for the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) of Air Quality. In accordance with a PSD preconstruction review permit, the applicant installed a new white sugar dryer designed to remove moisture from refined sugar prior to storage in a conditioning silo. No fuel is combusted. Low-pressure steam supplies the heat necessary for drying. Sugar particles in the exhaust stream are removed with a set of four cyclone collectors followed by a wet atomizing venturi-type scrubber. Sugar captured by the cyclones is transferred to storage. Sugar captured by the scrubber water is recycled back to the refining process. The original project was subject to PSD preconstruction review and a determination of the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for particulate matter (PM) and particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}).

After completing construction, emissions tests showed low PM_{10} emissions, but unexpectedly higher total PM emissions. Investigations indicate that large water droplets containing dissolved sugar are being re-entrained in the exhaust gas stream. Observations and estimation techniques indicate that the entrained droplets quickly settle to the ground and substantially remain on plant property. Subsequent equipment modifications have improved performance and reduced PM emissions by approximately half, but total PM emissions remain higher than expected due to the droplets.

The Department intends to revise the air permit as follows: retain the current standard of "4.2 lb/hour" as the PM_{10} standard with compliance demonstrated by EPA Method 201A; add a new PM standard of "15 lb/hour" with compliance demonstrated by EPA Method 5; install a drain in the silencer ductwork to prevent re-entraining water droplets; reduce the maximum sugar concentration of the recycled scrubber water; conduct new compliance tests; and submit a report to summarizing the costs of possible additional improvements to reduce emissions. The regulations only require an air quality modeling for PM_{10} emissions. Because there has been no change in PM_{10} emissions, the applicant's original analysis provided reasonable assurance that the project will comply with all applicable air quality regulations and will not cause or contribute to a violation of the state and federal Ambient Air Quality Standard for PM_{10}.

Permitting Authority: Applications for air construction permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210, and 62-212 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and an air permit is required to perform the proposed work. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Air Regulation is the Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project. The Bureau of Air Regulation's physical address is 111 South Magnolia Drive, Suite 4, Tallahassee, Florida 32301 and the mailing address is 2600 Blair Stone Road, MS #5505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400. The Bureau of Air Regulation's phone number is 850/488-0114 and fax number is 850/921-9533.

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(Public Notice to be Published in the Newspaper)

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Mediation: Mediation is not available in this proceeding.

(Public Notice to be Published in the Newspaper)