



Jeb Bush
Governor

Department of Environmental Protection

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

David B. Struhs
Secretary

May 3, 2002

Ms. Shelly Castro
Associate Engineer, Environmental Affairs
Tampa Electric Company
P.O. Box 111
Tampa, Florida 33601-0111

Re: Request For Use Of An Asphalt-Based Binder As A Coal Dust Suppressant
Big Bend Station, Facility ID #: 0570039

Dear Ms. Castro:

We have reviewed your request (dated September 19, 2001) and additional information (received April 23, 2002) to use an asphalt-based binder on your coal as a means of suppressing fugitive dust.

It has been determined that the use of this material has the potential to increase emissions of regulated air pollutants and the allowable heat input limit. From the information provided, we do not have the required reasonable assurance that a significant increase in emissions above your current actual emission levels will not occur. Any increases in actual emissions resulting from a change in a federally enforceable method of operation is defined as a modification. In order to authorize the use of this synthetic fuel, the magnitude of the increase in actual emissions as a result of the change needs to be reviewed for PSD applicability. If you wish to conduct a test burn using this material (for a specified period of time) that will demonstrate actual emissions before and after the addition of the asphalt-based binder, the PSD determination can be temporarily postponed through the issuance of a construction permit authorizing the test burn. If the tests demonstrate that there is not a significant increase in emissions of any regulated air pollutant or allowable heat input, then the operation permit will need to be revised to include this new method of operation. However, if the tests indicate that there is a significant increase in emissions of any regulated air pollutant, then an application for a PSD New Source Review, including a Best Available Control Technology (BACT) determination, pursuant to Rule 62-212.400(5), F.A.C., must be made in order to obtain authorization to continue using the new synthetic fuel.

Should you have any questions regarding this response, please contact Jonathan Holtom, P.E., at (850) 921-9531, or write to me at the above letterhead address.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Sheplak, P.E.
Title V Section Administrator
Bureau of Air Regulation

SMS/jh

cc: Mr. Thomas W. Davis, P.E., ECT
Mr. Buck Oven, P.E., DEP
Mr. Jerry Kissel, P.E., DEP-SWD
Mr. Jerry Campbell, P.E., EPCHC

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