

Jeb Bush  
Governor

# Department of Environmental Protection

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

David B. Struhs  
Secretary

June 5, 2003

## CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Laura R. Crouch  
Manager – Air Programs  
Environmental Affairs  
Tampa Electric Company  
P.O. Box 111  
Tampa, FL 33601-0111

Re: Request for Extension of Air Construction Permit Expiration Date  
Air Construction Permit No. 0570039-012-AC  
Big Bend Station

Dear Ms. Crouch:

The above referenced air construction permit had an original expiration date of September 30, 2002. On October 28, 2002, the Department extended the permit to June 30, 2003, to allow time for nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and carbon monoxide (CO) stack testing to be conducted, submitted, and reviewed. We received the stack test results on May 27, 2003.

On May 8, 2003, we received your request to further extend the expiration date of Air Construction Permit No. 0570039-012-AC to December 31, 2003, thereby allowing continued firing of coal residual fuel until your Title V permit is modified.

Based on our preliminary review of the submitted stack test data, it appears that firing the coal residual fuel blend may have an adverse impact on NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. We agree that such a trend is difficult to distinguish from the naturally occurring variability in the process. The submitted data, however, do not constitute reasonable assurance that firing the coal residual blend results in a less than significant emissions increase.

To complete the reasonable assurance requirement allowing extension of the permit, we need to better understand the effect of coal residual combustion over longer time periods. To that end, please submit the following information, requested pursuant to Rule 62-4.070, F.A.C., "Standards for Issuing or Denying Permits":

1. Please submit a detailed history of when coal residual fuel was fired in each unit, such as a daily or (preferably) hourly "yes/no" summary for whether the coal residual was fired in each boiler.
2. At a minimum, provide the date that the coal residual fuel was first blended into the fuel stream for each unit, and identify for each unit any significant time periods since that date during which no coal residual fuel was fired.

*"More Protection, Less Process"*

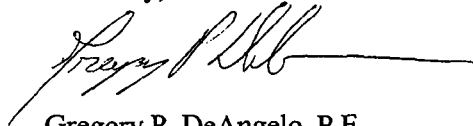
*Printed on recycled paper.*

Ms. Crouch  
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Rule 62-4.050(3), F.A.C. requires that all applications for a Department permit must be certified by a professional engineer registered in the State of Florida. This requirement also applies to responses to Department requests for additional information of an engineering nature. Please note that per Rule 62-4.055(1), F.A.C.: *"The applicant shall have ninety days after the Department mails a timely request for additional information to submit that information to the Department.... Failure of an applicant to provide the timely requested information by the applicable date shall result in denial of the application."*

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Greg DeAngelo at (850)921-9506.

Sincerely,



Gregory P. DeAngelo, P.E.  
New Source Review Section

/gpd

cc: Cindy Phillips, BAR/Title V  
Rob Kalch, EPCHC  
Eric Peterson, SWD  
Drupatie Latchman, TEC