



TAMPA ELECTRIC

May 7, 2003

Ms. Cindy Phillips, P.E.
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
111 South Magnolia Drive, Suite 4
Tallahassee, FL 32301

**Re: Tampa Electric Company
Big Bend Station, Unit 1-4
Application No. 0570039-013-AV
Permit No. 0570039-012-AC**

Dear Ms. Phillips:

Through this correspondence, Tampa Electric Company (TEC) requests that the expiration date of Permit No. 0570039-012-AC be extended until December 31, 2003 to allow continued use of coal residual at Big Bend Station prior to issuance of a revised Title V Air Operation Permit (Title V permit).

In June 2002 TEC submitted a Title V permit revision application to the Department reflecting changes to operations at the Big Bend Station. The Title V permit revision application addressed the use of coal residual fuel in Units 1 through 4. In response to TEC's Title V permit revision application, the Department requested additional information in a letter to TEC dated August 29, 2002. Among other items, the Department requested nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and carbon monoxide (CO) stack test data to assess the effects of coal residual fuel combustion. TEC plans to submit a full response to the Department's information request letter by the May 31, 2003 due date.

On September 30, 2002, TEC requested an extension of the permit to allow for additional testing of NO_x and CO emissions from Units 1 through 4 during coal residual combustion. In response, FDEP extended the expiration date of Permit No. 0570039-012-AC until June 30, 2003.

TEC is currently in the process of investigating these results and analyzing the additional test data. As noted above, TEC will be submitting a response to the Department's August 29, 2002 request for additional information (RAI) by May 31, 2003. This response to the Department RAI will continue the permitting process and the air construction permit extension will allow TEC to continue burning coal residual at Big Bend Station until the time that a finalized revised Title V permit has been issued.

TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY
P. O. BOX 111 TAMPA, FL 33601-0111

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMPANY
[HTTP://WWW.TAMPAELECTRIC.COM](http://www.tampaelectric.com)

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TEC appreciates the cooperation and consideration of the Department in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Dru Latchman or me at (813) 641-5034.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura R. Crouch".

Laura R. Crouch
Manager - Air Programs
Environmental Affairs

EA/bmr/DNL163

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Jerry Kissel, FDEP-SW
Mr. Sterlin Woodard, EPCHC