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December 2, 2010

Ms. Trina Vielhauer  
Chief, Bureau of Air Regulation  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blair Stone Road  
Mail Station 5505  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Re: Comments on Draft Air Construction Permit  
Palm Beach Renewable Energy Facility No. 2  
Air Permit No. 0990234-017-AC (PSD-FL-413)

Dear Ms. Vielhauer:

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (the Authority) is pleased to provide comments on the draft air construction permit dated November 12, 2010, for the proposed Palm Beach Renewable Energy Facility No. 2 (Proposed Facility). Our comments are presented for the Department's consideration below:

1. The draft permit provides an emission unit description with two permitting notes for the MWC units in Section 3.A. on Page 7. For clarification purposes, we request that the second Permitting Note be revised to delete the phrase "under Capacity and Steam Capacity" and include a second sentence to indicate that the permitted capacity of each MWC unit is the maximum steam production limit of 320,100 lb steam/hr on a 4-hour block average basis.
2. Excess emissions are addressed in Section 3.A, Condition 24. The Authority requests that the second sentence of this condition be deleted because this language is not part of the cited regulation (Rule 62-210.700(4), F.A.C.) and it introduces a term "preventable emissions" which is not defined in the regulations. We recognize that the Department's likely intention was to provide clarification relative to the first sentence of this condition. However, it has been the Authority's experience that this type of language can lead to future compliance interpretations which extend beyond the intended scope of this condition.

3. Section 3.A., Condition 16 (footnote 6) and Condition 28 of the draft permit require a continuous emission monitoring system (CEMS) to measure and record mercury (Hg) emissions from each MWC unit. These conditions specify that compliance with the annual Hg limit of 113 lb/yr is to be demonstrated based on CEMS data and compliance with the 25 µg/dscm is to be demonstrated based on quarterly stack testing. Our first request relative to these conditions is for the permit to specify that after certification of the Hg CEMS, data from the Hg CEMS may be used to demonstrate compliance with the 25 µg/dscm Hg limit in lieu of quarterly stack testing.

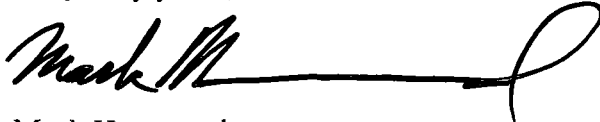
Secondly, the Authority is concerned about uncertainties relative to the use of Hg CEMS for accurately monitoring emissions from a MWC unit. We are not aware of any facility that has successfully implemented a Hg CEMS for demonstrating compliance with Hg emission limits for a MWC unit. We recognize that Hg CEMS are now being used at certain coal-fired power plants and cement plants. However, the fuels/materials processed and combusted at these facilities are relatively stable and predictable in contrast to the non-homogenous, variable MSW fired in a MWC. The varying level of mercury in the MSW stream will uniquely challenge a Hg CEMS with respect to monitor response times and drift given the "sticky" nature of Hg, which behaves similar to hydrocarbons in this respect. Another key issue that will have to be overcome is the establishment of elemental and oxidized mercury calibration standards for which there are no final regulatory traceability protocols. Further, interference from other compounds present in the flue gas is expected to pose a challenge for the Hg CEMS in a MWC application. For these reasons, we request that language be incorporated into the permit that allows for the use of stack test results to demonstrate compliance with the annual Hg limit in the event that the facility is not able to successfully implement and certify a Hg CEMS. Similar language has been used in the air construction permit for Unit 4 at the Hillsborough County Resource Recovery Facility (Final Permit Number 0570261-007-AC (PSD-FL-369), Section III.B., Condition 19).

4. Testing requirements for dioxins/furans (D/F) for purposes of setting a revised emission limit for the MWCs are specified in Condition 22 on page 13 in Section 3.A. This condition requires quarterly D/F testing at the SCR inlet and outlet during the first two years of operation. The Authority has reviewed the approximate costs and logistical coordination/scheduling efforts required to implement this type of testing program. Given the intensive nature of D/F testing and considerable costs for inlet and outlet testing, we request the testing frequency be reduced from quarterly to three (3) times per year for the first two years of operation. We also request that a statement be added to Condition 22 to indicate that the SCR inlet/outlet D/F testing will not be used to re-set the maximum demonstrated MWC unit load or other operating parameter levels, which are normally established based on initial and subsequent performance testing.

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We appreciate the Department's consideration of the Authority's comments on the draft permit for this important project. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our comments further, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Ms. Leah Richter with Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. at (954) 525-2499 or via e-mail at [lrichter@pirnie.com](mailto:lrichter@pirnie.com).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark M.', followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a loop.

Mark Hammond  
Executive Director  
Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County

cc: M. Bruner  
R. Schauer  
M. Morrison  
L. Richter, Malcolm Pirnie  
J. Cohn, Malcolm Pirnie  
D. Dee, Young Van Assenderp, P.A.