

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4 ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

April 27, 2011

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BUREAU OF
AIR REGULATION

Mr. Roy S. Belden Vice President Shady Hills Power Company, LLC 120 Long Ridge Road Stamford, Connecticut 06927

Subject: Endangered Species Act Consultation – Shady Hills Generating Station (PSD-FL-402A)

Dear Mr. Belden:

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) ("ESA"), directs all Federal agencies to use their existing authorities to conserve threatened and endangered species and, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize listed species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. Section 7 applies to Federal actions that may affect listed species, including Federal approval of private activities through the issuance of Federal permits, licenses, or other actions.

It is our understanding that you will be submitting a prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) permit application pursuant to 40 CFR 52.21 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the near future, which addresses the Shady Hill Generator Station's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The EPA must assure that listed species or their critical habitat will not be jeopardized by the changes at the Shady Hill Generating Station before a final Federal PSD permit can be issued.

As part of your PSD permit application, please provide a list of all endangered or threatened plant and animal species and their critical habitat in the area of the proposed project; such a list may be obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Please contact both:

Dr. Jon M. Hemming U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office 1601 Balboa Avenue Panama City, FL 32405-3721 Phone: (850) 769-0552 x2238 Kyle Baker Protected Resource Division NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office 263 13th Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5505 Phone: (727) 824-5312

If any endangered or threatened species or critical habitats are in the area of the project, provide a biological assessment of the impact construction or operation of the source may have on such species and their habitat. A biological assessment should discuss the proposed project in sufficient level of detail so that the EPA can determine whether it is appropriate for the Agency to initiate a section 7 consultation process with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service, and so that the biological assessment can be utilized by the EPA and these Services if a section 7

consultation is needed. Information regarding their respective section 7 ESA consultation processes can be found online at http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/esa_section7_handbook.pdf and http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_esa_section7.html.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this process or the ESA in general, please contact Katy R. Forney of my staff at 404-562-9130 or forney.kathleen@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Gregg M. Worley

Chief

Air Permits Section

cc: Trina Vielhauer, FDEP
Dr. Jon Hemming, USFWS
Kyle Baker, NMFS