

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF EFFINGHAM

NOTICE OF PSD PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION, DRAFT PART 70 OPERATING PERMIT MODIFICATION, ACID RAIN PERMIT MODIFICATION

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) announces its intent to modify Part 70 Air Quality Operating Permit No. 4911-103-0012-V-04-1 issued to Effingham County Power Plant by the issuance of Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit Amendment No. 4911-103-0012-V-04-1. The facility is located at 3440 McCall Road, Rincon, Georgia. The facility operates a combined-cycled power plant that is fired with natural gas.

The primary purpose of this permit amendment is to allow physical modifications to the existing power plant by the addition of the following equipment: (1) Two nominal 180 MW GE Model 7FA combustion turbine that will be operated in combined cycle mode fired primarily by natural gas with ultra low sulfur fuel oil as backup; (2) Two heat recovery steam generators each equipped with a natural gas fired burner; (3) One 325 MW steam turbine generator; (4) One 17 MMBtu/hr natural gas fired auxiliary boiler; (5) One 8.75 MMBtu/hr natural gas fired heater; (6) One 10-cell cooling tower; (7) One 6-cell cooling tower; and (8) One fixed roof-fuel oil storage tank with a nominal capacity of 2.35 million gallons.

Each combustion turbine will be equipped with dry low-NO_x combustor/burner technology for the minimization of nitrogen oxides emissions during natural gas combustion. Each combustion turbine will be equipped with wet control technology for the minimization of nitrogen oxides emission during fuel oil combustion. The combined exhaust from the turbines and duct burners will pass through a selective catalytic reduction unit for further control of nitrogen oxides emissions and through a catalytic oxidation unit for control of carbon monoxide and volatile organic compound emissions. Particulate matter (as PM, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}) will be minimized through the use of natural gas and ultra low sulfur fuel oil. [Note: The maximum weight percent sulfur content of the natural gas is 0.5 grains per 100 standard cubic feet. The maximum weight percent sulfur content of the fuel oil is 0.0015.]

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is preparing Title V Operating Permits in accordance with Title V of the Clean Air Act. This permit amendment will be enforceable by the Georgia EPD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and other persons as otherwise authorized by law.

The draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination, and all information used to develop the draft permit are available for review. This includes the application and all other relevant materials available to the permitting authority. This information is available for review at the office of the Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Atlanta Tradeport - Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. A copy of the application may also be available for review at Live Oak Public Library 17th Street at Highway 21, Rincon, GA 31326 (Telephone: 912-826-2222), along with a copy of the draft permit and PSD Preliminary Determination. Electronic files of the application, draft Title V permit, PSD Preliminary Determination will be available through our internet site

<http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit/html/permits/psd/main.html>. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia.)

If copies are desired, a copying machine for public use is provided by EPD at the Atlanta Air Protection Branch office. There will be a copying charge of \$0.25 per page. Copies will be made on a first-come,

first-served basis. Files are available for review and copying 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.

You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft Part 70 Operating Permit Modification and the Preliminary Determination concerning the modification. The Preliminary Determination is a summary of the technical review of the application and contains a copy of the Company's application along with supporting documents and the draft Permit Amendment. The draft permit serves as both a draft PSD permit and a draft Part 70 permit amendment. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Part 70 Operating Permit Modification and Preliminary Determination are invited to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the Atlanta address above, postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication in the newspaper. All comments postmarked on or prior to that date will be considered by the Division in making its final decision on the permit.

The Division has concluded that Effingham County Power Plant's application should be approved and that a permit should be granted. This conclusion is based upon evidence that the proposed project will comply with the Division's Rules and Regulations for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the emissions from the source will not cause or add to a violation of any applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increment; and will comply with the Federal PSD regulations, 40 CFR 52.21, including the use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for regulated pollutants.

No sulfur dioxide allowances are proposed to be allocated to the emission units under the Acid Rain permit application.

Net emission increases of sulfur dioxide, sulfuric acid emissions, lead, total reduced sulfur, and hydrogen fluorides, and hydrogen fluorides from the proposed project do not exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. The net emission increases of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), volatile organic compounds (VOC), greenhouse gases (GHGs), particulate matter (PM), particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}) from the proposed project exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. The Division has determined that these emissions will not cause an adverse impact on ambient air quality, and the air quality levels should pose no significant health risk around the plant.

The PSD regulations allow specific maximum incremental increases in ambient concentrations of particulate matter (PM₁₀), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and nitrogen oxides (NO₂). The project impacts versus the Class II area significance levels showed that the project's predicted maximum ground level concentration will exceed the applicable significant impact levels for PM_{2.5} (24-hour) and NO₂ (1-hour). No PSD increment analysis was performed given that no increment limits have been promulgated for these regulated NSR pollutants. The EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of these pollutants due to the proposed modification will consume 2.92 percent of the annual NO₂ PSD increment, 1.29 percent of the annual PM₁₀ PSD increment, and 10 percent of the 24-hour PM₁₀ PSD increment. Thus, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable incremental increases in ambient concentration of PM₁₀, SO₂, NO₂).

With regard to the Class I Area (Wolf Island National Wilderness Area, Okefenokee National Wilderness Area, and Cape Roman National Wilderness Area), the EPD has determined that the allowable PM₁₀, SO₂, NO₂ emissions from the facility will consume at the most 0.63 percent (on a 24-hour basis) of the PSD Class I increments. With this in mind, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable Class II and Class I incremental increase in ambient concentrations of PM₁₀, SO₂, NO₂).

Any requests for a public hearing must be made in writing within the 30-day public comment period. Such requests should specify in detail the portion of the Air Quality Control Rules which the individual believes may not have been adequately reviewed. A public hearing may be held if the Director of the EPD finds that such a hearing would assist the EPD in a proper review of the facility's capability to

comply with the requirements of Federal and State Air Quality Control regulations. State laws specify that a permit shall be issued on evidence satisfactory to the Director of compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations and requirements.

Following the 30 day public comment period, as required by PSD and Part 70 regulations, a proposed amendment, incorporating any changes that result from comments received during the public comment period, will be made available to U.S. EPA and affected states. In accordance with Part 70 regulations, EPA Region 4 has a 45-day period in which to review this proposed permit amendment. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits.

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Part 70 Operating Permit and a Final Determination. Copies of the final Title V Operating Permit, Final Determination, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Air Protection Branch, as well as at the Internet addresses given above.

For additional information, contact Eric Cornwell, Program Manager, Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information.