Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch
4244 International Parkway • Suite 120 • Atlanta • Georgia 30354
404/363-7000 • Fax: 404/363-7100
Noel Holcomb, Commissioner
Carol A. Couch, Ph.D., Director

November 18, 2008

Ms. Ulla-Britt Reeves
Regional Program Director
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
29 N. Market Street, Suite 409
Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Ms. Reeves:

This letter is in response to your most recent inquiry regarding the Power4Georgians proposed coal-fired power plant (Plant Washington) that would be located in Washington County.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Air Protection Branch is committed to ensuring that the public is adequately informed on the proposed project, including the regulatory process that must be followed in order for the company to obtain the Air Permit from EPD.

I would like to recap the steps the Air Branch has taken to this point:

- We required the facility to publish a public notice in the Washington County newspaper.
- We e-mailed a brief summary of the project to everyone on our e-mail mailing list.
- We set up a web page that includes the application submitted by the company as well as comments received from the public.

To obtain specific information online, please see the web page at:
http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit/psd/dockets/plantwashington/

For a project of this significance, we will go through a lengthy review process. And I do not have an exact timeline for when we will prepare and release a draft permit. However, you can be assured that EPD will take the necessary time required to review this environmental application.

In addition, EPD is committed to ensuring that the public has adequate opportunity to ask questions and comment on the project and the permit. For example, the comment period for the draft permit will be at least 60 days.

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To generate maximum public participation, EPD will do the following prior to the issuance of any final permit for this project:

- We will hold at least one public meeting prior to the release of a draft permit. At a public meeting, EPD responds to questions from the public in an open forum (sometimes referred to as a Question & Answer Session). At this first meeting and all subsequent meetings, we will videotape the entire proceedings and consider the recorded comments and any written comments submitted as the review process moves ahead.
- We will hold another public meeting (Q& A session) shortly after releasing the draft permit to the public. Again, EPD will videotape this meeting, recording all comments given and receiving any written comments as consideration for our review.
- We will hold one public hearing near the end of the public comment period for the draft permit. At a public hearing, EPD accepts formal comments on the draft permit. Just as the previous two meetings, EPD will videotape the hearing and consider all recorded and submitted written comments.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact Thomas Smith in our Public Affairs office at 404-362-2790 or by e-mail at: thomas_smith@dnr.state.ga.us.

Thank you very much for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Chuck Mueller
Acting Branch Chief
Air Protection Branch