

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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FEDERAL EXPRESS AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

February 10, 2012

Mr. Stephen Hoffman
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Two Potomac Yard
2733 S. Crystal Drive
5th Floor, N-237
Arlington, Virginia 22202-2733

Re: Additional Information in Response to (Final Report) - Coal Combustion Residue Impoundment Round 9 - Dam Assessment Report Plant McIntosh Ash Dike Georgia Power Rincon, Georgia

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

On January 13, 2012, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") provided Georgia Power a final report regarding certain facilities for the management of coal combustion byproducts ("CCB"s) at Georgia Power's Plant McIntosh ("Final Report"). The Final Report was prepared by Dewberry & Davis, LLC ("Dewberry") and was dated December 2011. Additionally, in EPA's January 12, 2012 letter to me, EPA requested that Georgia Power respond to the Final Report's recommendations, including specific plans and schedules for implementing the recommendations.

Acknowledgement of Management Unit Condition and Potential Hazard Rating

Georgia Power is committed to the management of coal combustion byproducts in a safe manner that is protective of human health and the environment. Georgia Power has had a robust ash pond dike inspection and maintenance program in place for many years. We are pleased that EPA's on-site inspection and document review have confirmed Georgia Power's facilities are well constructed and managed effectively, and that EPA has rated Plant McIntosh's CCB surface impoundment "Satisfactory," the highest rating.

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Recommendations

1.2.1 Recommendations Regarding the Surveillance and Monitoring Program

The current surveillance program of weekly inspections of the dike system has been very effective in identifying and reporting areas of potential seepage of the CCB impoundment embankments. It is recommended that the regular surveillance program continue to ensure that particular attention is paid to indications of potential seepage during future inspections, and that the Southern Company Hydro Services staff be made immediately aware of new seepage or a recurrence in the old areas.

Georgia Power is continuing with its weekly inspections of the dike system. Should plant personnel discover any indication of potential seepage, they will notify Southern Company Hydro Services staff immediately.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please direct any future correspondence on this issue to me.

Sincerely



Ron Shipman

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