

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 5, 2014

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE

VIA E-MAIL

Ms. Kimberly Mireles
Vice President, Environmental Services
Luminant Power
1601 Bryan Street
Dallas, Texas 75201

Re: Request for Action Plan regarding Luminant Power – Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant

Dear Ms. Mireles,

On September 19, 2012 the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and its engineering contractors conducted a coal combustion residual (CCR) site assessment at the Luminant Power - Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant facility. The purpose of this visit was to assess the structural stability of the impoundments or other similar management units that contain "wet" handled CCRs. We thank you and your staff for your cooperation during the site visit. Subsequent to the site visit, EPA sent you a copy of the draft report evaluating the structural stability of the units at the Luminant Power - Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant facility and requested that you submit comments on the factual accuracy of the draft report to EPA. Your comments were considered in the preparation of the final report.

The final report for the Luminant Power - Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant facility is attached.

This report includes a specific condition rating for the CCR management units and recommendations and actions that our engineering contractors believe should be undertaken to ensure the stability of the CCR impoundments located at the Luminant Power - Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant facility. These recommendations are listed in Enclosure 1.

Since these recommendations relate to actions which could affect the structural stability of the CCR management units and, therefore, protection of human health and the environment, EPA believes their implementation should receive the highest priority. Therefore, we request that you inform us on how you intend to address each of the recommendations found in the final report. Your response should include specific plans and schedules for implementing each of the recommendations. If you will not implement a recommendation, please provide a rationale. Please provide a response to this request by **July 7, 2014**. Please send your response to:

Mr. Stephen Hoffman
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (5304P)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

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If you are using overnight or hand delivery mail, please use the following address:

Mr. Stephen Hoffman
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Two Potomac Yard
2733 S. Crystal Drive
5th Floor, N-5838
Arlington, VA 22202-2733

You may also provide a response by e-mail to hoffman.stephen@epa.gov, dufficy.craig@epa.gov, kelly.patrickm@epa.gov and englander.jana@epa.gov.

You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering all or part of the information requested, in the manner described by 40 C. F. R. Part 2, Subpart B. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent and only by means of the procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no such claim accompanies the information when EPA receives it, the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to you. If you wish EPA to treat any of your response as “confidential” you must so advise EPA when you submit your response.

EPA will be closely monitoring your progress in implementing the recommendations from this report and could decide to take additional action if the circumstances warrant.

You should be aware that EPA will be posting the report for this facility on the Agency website shortly.

Given that the site visit related solely to structural stability of the management unit, this report and its conclusions in no way relate to compliance with RCRA, CWA, or any other environmental law and are not intended to convey any position related to statutory or regulatory compliance.

Please be advised that providing false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements of representation may subject you to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Hoffman in the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery at (703) 308-8413. Thank you for your continued efforts to ensure protection of human health and the environment.

Sincerely,
/Barnes Johnson /, Director
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery

Enclosures

Luminant Power - Oak Grove Steam Electric Plant Recommendations (from the final assessment report)

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the ratings defined in the USEPA Task Order Performance Work Statement (Satisfactory, Fair, Poor and Unsatisfactory), the information reviewed and the visual assessment, the overall condition of FGD-A Pond and FGD-B Pond is considered to be **SATISFACTORY**. Acceptable performance is expected under all loading conditions analyzed; however, some minor deficiencies exist that require repair.

Minor deficiencies include the following:

- Erosion of cover material down to the HDPE in one location of the eastern embankment of FGD-B Pond.
- The animal burrow observed adjacent to one of the inflow pipes on the outboard face of FGD-A Pond.
- Damage to outboard face of the western embankment of the FGD-A Pond from feral hogs.
- Erosion of cover material at multiple locations along the waterline in both the FGD-A and FGD-B Ponds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of our visual assessment and review of the available historical documents for the FGD-A Pond and the FGD-B Pond, O'Brien & Gere is recommending repairs to the erosion of the liner cover material and the animal burrow noted in the assessment.

URGENT ACTION ITEMS

None of the recommendations are considered to be urgent, since the issues noted above do not appear to threaten the structural integrity of the dam in the near term.

LONG TERM IMPROVEMENT/MAINTENANCE ITEMS

- Repair eroded cover material.
- Fill the animal burrow.
- NOTE: Luminant noted in their comments on the Draft Assessment Report that these improvement/maintenance items have been completed as part of their routine maintenance program.

MONITORING AND FUTURE INSPECTION

Daily visual inspections are reportedly performed and the results of annual detailed inspections have been recorded in inspection reports. Deficiencies noted during the annual inspections and in this CCW assessment report should be addressed in a timely manner to maintain dam integrity. Consideration should be given to development of an O&M Plan that would establish a firm schedule for operations, maintenance and inspection activities.

RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION OF ACTION ITEMS

The facility should address any items noted during visual inspections in a timely manner, depending on the severity and location of the deficiency. The regular inspection schedule should be maintained.