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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

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DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

OCT 02 2012

Mr. Andres R. Ramirez
Vice President – Power Generation
El Paso Electric Company
100 N. Stanton
El Paso, TX 79901

RE: Completeness Determination for El Paso Electric Company
Greenhouse Gas Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit Application
Montana Power Station Project

Dear Mr. Ramirez:

This letter is in response to your application received by this office on April 23, 2012, for a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit. After our initial review of the application, we determined that additional information was necessary in order to continue the processing of the permit. Accordingly, we sent notification that the application was determined to be incomplete on June 15, 2012. Based on our review of your response and supplemental information provided on August 1, 2012, we have determined that your application is complete pursuant to 40 CFR 124.3(c).

We are drafting a proposed determination on the issuance of a GHG PSD permit. EPA will publish a public notice of that proposed determination and allow for at a minimum a 30 day public comment period. In addition, documents important to the proposed determination such as the draft permit will be made available for review by the public during the public comment period. EPA will consider and respond to all significant comments in making the final decision on the application and keep a record of the persons commenting and the issues being raised during the public participation process.

As we develop our proposed determination, it may be necessary for EPA to request additional clarifying or supporting information. If the supporting information substantially changes the original scope of the permit application, an amendment or new application may be required.

If you have any questions concerning the draft permit, please contact Melanie Magee of my staff at (214) 665-7596.

Sincerely yours,



Carl E. Edlund, P.E.
Director
Multimedia Planning and
Permitting Division

cc: Mr. Mike Wilson, P.E.
Director, Air Permits Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality