

Memorandum

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

NOTICE OF BOARD ACTION

TO: DEP Siting Office

FROM: Cynthia Muir, Director
Office of Cabinet Affairs

ITEM # Item 2

TITLE: Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. Land Use Order/Seminole Generating
Station Unit 3

CABINET MEETING DATE: September 19, 2006

ACTION: Approved without objection.

MEMBERS:

	Present	Absent
GOVERNOR	X	
ATTORNEY GENERAL		X
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	X	
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE	X	

The above action was taken on the subject division agenda item at today's meeting. Will you please see that the information is provided to appropriate staff for further processing/handling of the matter and that the formal action as noted is made a part of the division's master file?

Please contact me immediately if you have any questions relating to the item's action as noted (245-2024).
Thank you for your cooperation.

CM/dc



Department of Environmental Protection

Jeb Bush
Governor

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Colleen M. Castille
Secretary

SITING BOARD/DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF LEON

CERTIFICATE

I, Cynthia Muir, do hereby certify that the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Siting Board for the Department of Environmental Protection, met on December 5, 2006, and approved the following Item 2 on the agenda for that date.

Item 2 **Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. Land Use Order/Seminole Generating Station Unit 3**

REQUEST: Consideration of an Order, to be executed by the Siting Board, adopting the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order recommending the Siting Board enter a Final Order finding the Seminole Generating Station Unit 3 site is in compliance with existing land use plans, zoning ordinances and site-specific zoning approvals of Putnam County, Florida, pursuant to Subsection 403.508(2), Florida Statutes.

COUNTY: Putnam

APPLICANT: Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc.

LOCATION: The proposed power plant unit will be integrated into the existing, certified site located five miles north of the city of Palatka. The plant site is located entirely in the unincorporated area of Putnam County.

STAFF REMARKS: Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SECI) has applied for certification of Unit 3 within the existing and previously-certified Seminole Generating Station (SGS). SGS is a two parcel site totaling 1,922 acres that contains two existing 650 MW (net) coal electric generating units (Units 1 and 2). Units 1 and 2 are on the 1,917-acre main site. The SECI site also includes a 4.5-acre parcel housing plant water facilities on the St. Johns River, south of County Road 209. In March 1979, the Siting Board determined the SGS site was consistent and in compliance with the land use plans and zoning ordinances of Putnam County, as part of the original site certification proceedings for Units 1 and 2. The Unit 3 facilities will be located within the same areas as previously certified by the Siting Board for Units 1 and 2.

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Unit 3 would add 750 MW of generating capacity. This additional generation will represent an incremental increase in the overall power-generating capacity of the SGS site from approximately 1,300 MW to over 2,050 MW. The new Unit 3 and its related facilities are similar to the existing units and will utilize many of the existing onsite facilities. Like the two existing units, the new Unit 3 will burn coal as its primary fuel with up to 30 percent petroleum coke. The new unit will consist of a turbine generator building, a new boiler building, scrubber modules, and a wet electrostatic precipitator. A single flue gas stack will serve the new unit. A new mechanical draft cooling tower will also be constructed on the site to serve the new Unit 3. The new cooling tower will have a lower profile than the existing natural draft cooling towers. The existing coal yard will be expanded to support the new unit and additional facilities will be added in the limestone scrubber area to handle the additional gypsum that will be created. SECI's Unit 3 project will integrate the new unit into the existing plant facilities. The existing administration building and parking lot will support the new unit. SECI will continue to use the existing rail spur, including for the delivery of coal and construction materials. The existing switchyard and transmission area will be utilized for the new unit. There will be no new off-site electrical transmission lines for the Unit 3 Project. The existing plant access off Highway 17 will be improved to enhance access for turning vehicles into the site. The existing units are supplied with cooling and other service water from the St. Johns River. SECI proposes to utilize the existing pump house on the 4.5-acre southern parcel and to install an additional water pipeline and duct bank within an existing pipeline easement to supply cooling water and also other service water (primarily for bottom ash handling and for the scrubber system) to the proposed Unit 3. There will be some enhancements to the pumps and motors inside the pump house to increase the capacity of water withdrawals. Otherwise, there will be no changes to the exterior of the existing pump house for the new Unit 3 project.

The cooling and other service water for Unit 3 will be conveyed to the main power plant site by an additional 36-inch pipeline to be placed underground and within the existing private pipeline easement. The existing easement was created in 1978, and the existing pipelines were installed as part of the development of Units 1 and 2. A pipeline system for Unit 3 will be placed in the existing easement. There will be no facilities constructed above the ground surface within that easement. The ground surface in the easement will be restored to its existing condition after the new water pipeline is installed.

The new Unit 3 will be able to co-exist with existing land uses in that the new Unit 3 is not expected to have a significant adverse impact to nearby residential development.

No agency objected to the land use aspects of the case. The Sierra Club has intervened in the case. The Administrative Law Judge recommended that the Siting Board find the site to be consistent and in compliance with existing land use plans, zoning ordinances and site-specific zoning approvals for Putnam County. On September 28, 2006, the Sierra Club filed

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exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order on Land Use with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). On October 12, 2006, Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., filed its Responses to Sierra Club's exceptions. DEP has analyzed Sierra Club's exceptions, and has rejected them as shown in the draft Final Order.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Department of Environmental Protection on this 7th day of December A.D., 2006.




Cynthia Muir, Director
Office of Cabinet Affairs