



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

17 EXECUTIVE PARK DRIVE, N. E.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30329

RECEIVED

DEC 19 1977

DEC 14 1977

D. E. R.

DIV. OF PERMITTING

NPDES SECTION

Mr. John White
Regional Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
345 Courtland Street, NE.
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Mr. White:

This is in response to Mr. Donald J. Guinyard's letter of November 28, 1977, requesting the Fish and Wildlife Service to review and comment on Gulf Power Company's submitted 316(b) study for the Scholz Electric Generating Center NPDES No. FLO002283. Our comments are submitted in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

We noted that the consultant merely asked plant employees whether fish and other aquatic biota were impinged on the intake screens. This is not an acceptable scientific way of documenting phenomena. We encourage applicants and consultants to utilize impartially trained observers to verify and document any observed phenomena. After a thorough review of the submitted document, the Service's position is that this power station is not causing substantial damage by way of the cooling water system to indigenous biota of the Apalachicola River.

The above views constitute the report of the Department of the Interior.

Sincerely yours,

copy 1 /s/ Ray E. Vaughn

Regional Director

cc: Department of Environmental Regulation, Tallahassee, FL

