

Gulf Power Company
Post Office Box 1151
Pensacola, Florida 32520
Telephone 904-434-8354

Fox



Gulf Power

the southern electric system

George O. Layman
Director of Power Supply

November 15, 1982

Mr. Peter T. McGarry
Chief, Florida/Mississippi Unit
Industrial Operations Section
US Environmental Protection Agency
345 Courtland Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

RECEIVED
NOV 18 1982

Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. McGarry,

Re: Notice of Violation
NPDES Permit FL 000 2283

We are in receipt of your letter of November 5, 1982, which contained a notice of violation for the August, 1982, Discharge Monitoring Report of the Scholz Electric Generating Plant, NPDES FL 000 2283. The notice referred to a violation of the minimum pH requirement at the ash pond discharge and requested a further explanation of corrective measures mentioned in previous correspondence.

Our April 29, 1982, letter detailed the problem of pH control at Plant Scholz and described corrective measures of caustic addition into one collection sump and the rerouting of a drain line from that sump to the upper section of the ash pond. Our September 27, 1982, letter described work to increase the retention time in the ash pond and allow for greater treatment. Even with these control measures, during periods of heavy rainfall the present treatment methodologies cannot neutralize all of the coal pile runoff and the subsequent input into the ash pond can cause the pH at the ash pond discharge to exceed the lower limit.

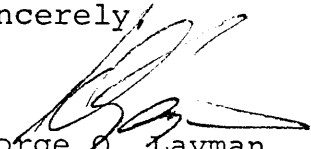
Therefore we are again revising our treatment scheme by instituting additional caustic injection at two locations; 1) the northwest coal pile runoff sump and 2) the ash pond overflow weir immediately prior to discharge. We have been injecting caustic into the southeast coal pile runoff sump for some time now so adding caustic into the northwest sump will mean that all of the coal pile runoff will be treated prior to discharge to the ash pond. The installation of a caustic injection system at the ash pond overflow weir will help ensure compliance by acting as a "polishing" step for any variance in the pH not accounted for in the caustic treatment of either the coal pile runoff or ash sluice water.

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Attached is a flow chart showing the construction schedules for the new caustic feed systems. As can be seen, the injection system for the northwest lift station should be installed and operational by January 15, 1983. The installation of the system at the overflow weir will take a little longer with an operational date of March 7, 1983 expected. Also attached is a general arrangement drawing showing the existing and proposed caustic injection points.

The installation of these new systems will help ensure compliance with the ash pond pH standards. If you have any questions concerning our efforts, please call.

Sincerely,



George O. Layman

LRH:my

Attachment

cc/att: Mr. Robert V. Kriegel

cc: Victoria J. Tschinkel