

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On November 30, 2009, Gainesville Renewable Energy Center, LLC (GREC LLC) filed a site certification application (SCA) with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the construction and operation of the Gainesville Renewable Energy Center (GREC), a new biomass-fueled electrical power plant and associated facilities located within the City of Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida. GREC LLC is seeking certification of the proposed GREC electrical power plant and associated facilities in accordance with the Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act (PPSA), Sections 403.501 through 403.518, Florida Statutes (F.S.). The SCA was also provided to all affected agencies and local governments for review and comment in accordance with the PPSA requirements.

1.1 COMPLETENESS RESPONSES

Pursuant to Section 403.5066, F.S., on January 11, 2010, the FDEP Siting Coordination Office, after consulting with affected agencies, determined that the SCA for GREC is incomplete (i.e., the SCA does not contain sufficient information to support a recommendation concerning certification). Attachment A of this document provides a copy of FDEP's incompleteness determination. The determination includes all requests for additional or clarifying information from the reviewing agencies.

GREC LLC has agreed to provide the additional information necessary to make the SCA complete, pursuant to Section 403.5066(2)(b), F.S. Section 2.0 of this document provides GREC LLC's responses to the completeness comments and requests from the reviewing agencies. As indicated in several of the responses to these comments/requests, GREC LLC has concluded that certain completeness items may be more suitably addressed through postcertification submittals. The following responses also contain the conditions of certification that GREC LLC recommends for several of these items.

1.2 AMENDMENT TO THE SCA

After the SCA for GREC was filed, GREC LLC continued to refine the engineering/design plans for the GREC facilities. Based on these efforts, several improvements in

the location or layout of facilities within the Site have been identified that will enhance the overall operations. These improvements primarily involve the relocation of the scale and scale house used to weigh the incoming biomass fuel delivery trucks and the relocation of the biomass fuel truck unloading shed, receiving hoppers, fuel screening/hogging enclosure, and conveyor system from the unloading area to the biomass fuel storage piles. The biomass fuel storage piles will remain the same size, but their location will shift slightly (i.e., approximately 50 feet [ft]) to the east. These improvements to the site layout are considered to be minor because the facilities are merely being relocated to different sections of the plant roadway loop or shifted slightly within the roadway loop area. No additional land areas on the Site will be impacted by these improvements. Section 3.0 of this document provides more detailed descriptions of these improvements to the site plan, including revised figures that depict the refinements to the site plan and facility layout. The revised figures supersede the site layout figures contained in the SCA.

These improvements in the facility layout are precertification amendments to the SCA, as defined in FDEP Rule 62-17.200(10), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The information concerning these amendments is being provided to all agencies and entities that received the SCA for review. GREC LLC and its consultants have discussed these amendments in the facility layout with the FDEP Siting Coordination Office and several of the reviewing agencies and, to date, no concerns with the amendments have been identified.