



January 17, 2013

Ann Seiler
Environmental Specialist
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Siting Coordination Office
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Tallahassee, FL 32399
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**RE: CFRPC Agency Report - TECO Polk PA92-32A3
TECO Polk 2-5 Combined Cycle Conversion Project
Polk Power Station –Site Certification Application**

Dear Ms. Seiler:

The staff of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC) has reviewed the TECO Polk 2-5 Combined Cycle Conversion Project Polk Power Station – Site Certification Application.

Project Description

Polk County is one of five counties within the Central Florida Regional Planning Council's area. Tampa Electric Company has filed a supplemental site certification application requesting authorization for the construction and operation of a new electrical generating unit and associated facilities at its existing Polk Power Station (PPS) in Polk County, Florida.

The proposed Polk 2-5 Conversion Project will involve the conversion of the four existing simple cycle combustion turbine generator (CTG) units (i.e., Units 2 through 5) at PPS to combined cycle (CC) operation. The proposed Project will be a four-on-one CC unit consisting of the four existing CTGs, four new heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), and a new steam turbine generator (STG). The CC conversion will increase the nominal net generating capacity of the four existing units from 660 to 1,160 MW. Tampa Electric is requesting the ultimate site capacity of PPS be increased from 1,150 to 1,420 MW.

Approximately 1,511-acres of the originally certified PPS Site located west of SR 37 in Polk County currently contains no power plant-related facilities, and no facilities will be located on this property as part of the proposed Polk 2-5 Conversion Project. Tampa Electric donated this portion of the Site to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida as a wildlife management/recreation area, and the deed was recorded on May 15, 2012. As part of this PPSA proceeding, Tampa Electric requests the existing certification for the PPS Site be amended to remove this approximately 1,511-acre area from the certified Site.

The proposed Project will also require development of a new, approximately 27-mile offsite transmission line corridor. Tampa Electric is seeking certification of the proposed corridors for

these new transmission lines and upgrades within this PPS application proceeding. In Polk County, a new single-circuit, 230-kV transmission line will run south and west from the PPS Site to Tampa Electric's existing Mines substation in Hillsborough County just north of CR 674 (9.8 miles). In addition, the Project will require the upgrade of a 5.5-mile portion of the existing Tampa Electric single-circuit, 230-kV transmission line from the PPS substation to the Pebbledale substation in Polk County.

Consistency with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan

This project has been reviewed for consistency with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP) of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council (April 28, 1997).

The areas to be disturbed by construction of the new plant facilities will be generally located in the immediate area of the existing Unit 2 through 5 simple cycle units and currently consist of lands previously impacted by development of the existing units. The proposed transmission corridors generally follow Tampa Electric rights-of-way or other existing linear facilities. Minimal impact to the natural resources in the area is anticipated. Therefore, the proposed project is consistent with pertinent goals, policies and strategies of the Natural Resources Element of the SRPP.

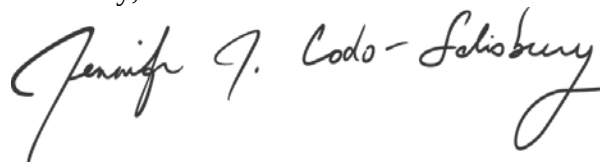
The removal of the 1,511 acres of the site west of SR 37 and donation to the State as a wildlife management/recreation area is consistent with Regional Goal 1.7; Strategy: 1.7.c. "Support land acquisition programs, less than fee development rights purchase, conservation easements, and other programs that protect natural resources, provide habitats for plant and animal species considered to be endangered, threatened or species of special concern, and provide for appropriate recreational opportunities."

Conclusions

In summary the proposed project is not anticipated to have substantial impacts to Resources of Regional Significance. The CFRPC does not object to this project and does not have any proposed conditions of certification for the proposed project.

If you need any additional information or have any questions, please contact me at (863) 534-7130 extension 178.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer J. Codo-Salisbury".

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, MPA, AICP
Planning Director

Cc: Mike McDaniel, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Michael Craig, Polk County
Pat Steed, CFRPC
Ron Borchers, CFRPC