PUBLIC SCOPING REPORT

PROPOSED BIOMASS POWER PLANT

Warren County, Georgia

Prepared for

Rural Utilities Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Oglethorpe Power Corporation

MARCH 2010

PUBLIC SCOPING REPORT

PROPOSED BIOMASS POWER PLANT

Warren County, Georgia

Prepared for

USDA RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

OglethorpePower

Prepared by:

Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.
Kansas City, Missouri

March 2010

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe), of Tucker, Georgia, proposes to construct a 100-megawatt (MW) biomass plant in Warren County, Georgia near the community of Warrenton. The development of this and other biomass plants within the State of Georgia is a way to generate energy from one of the state's most abundant renewable resources. Using woody biomass as fuel, the Warren County Biomass Plant will be carbon-neutral and provide needed energy to Oglethorpe's 38 Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs). Currently, Oglethorpe's plans call for the Warren County Biomass Plant to be on-line in 2014.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) has been approached to provide financing assistance for the construction of the Warren County Biomass Plant. The request for financing assistance was initiated by Oglethorpe, a not-for-profit power supplier serving 38 customer-owned EMCs, which collectively, provide electricity to 4.1 million Georgia citizens. The wholesale electric power provided by Oglethorpe makes up a substantial portion of the EMCs' power requirements which they obtain from a combination of generation assets and purchased power from power marketers and other suppliers. Oglethorpe owns or has interest in a variety of electric power generation facilities including nuclear (1,185 MW), coal (1,500 MW), oil (15 MW), natural gas (1,743 MW), and hydroelectric (633 MW).

Prior to deciding to finance the Proposal, an environmental review process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is necessary. Because of the complexity and scale of the proposed project, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared by the RUS to satisfy NEPA requirements (7 CFR 1794). The RUS will be the lead federal agency for the EIS review process.

Oglethorpe contacted the RUS to determine the project's classification pursuant to RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures. Oglethorpe prepared an Alternatives Report (including a Site Selection Study and Water Pipeline Macro-Corridor Analysis). The Alternatives Report was submitted to RUS in May 2009. The Alternatives Report was made available for public review, prior to the public scoping meeting, at the following locations:

Warren County Public Library
10 Warren Street
Warrenton, Georgia 30828
Phone: (706) 465-2656

RUS
Stephanie Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist
Rural Utilities Service
Engineering and Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571
Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1571

RUS Website:
http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm

Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, Georgia 30085

A *Notice of Intent (NOI) to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare Environmental Impact Statements* was published in accordance with 7 CFR 1794.52 by the RUS in the Federal Register on June 26, 2009 (Volume 74, Number 122, p. 30520). A copy of the NOI is included in **Appendix A**. The public scoping meeting was conducted on July 9, 2009 at the Warren County Community Service Building in Warrenton, Georgia. The public was notified of the scoping meeting through publication of a legal notice and advertisement in the *Warrenton Clipper* on June 26, 2009. Copies of the news releases and newspaper affidavit of publication are included in **Appendix B**.

Agencies were invited to submit comments as part of the scoping process. Initially, pre-scoping letters were sent to agencies on April 22, 2009 requesting comments and information regarding the proposed biomass plant. Comments were to be submitted by May 22, 2009. In letters dated June 19, 2009 and June 22, 2009, letters were sent to agencies inviting them to attend the scoping meetings and provide comments on the scope of the EIS. Comments on the scope of the EIS were to be submitted to RUS by August 9, 2009. Copies of the agency pre-scoping and scoping letters and agency response letters are included in **Appendix C**.

* * * * *

2.0 INTERAGENCY MEETINGS

2.1 AGENCY SCOPING MEETINGS

An agency scoping meeting was conducted during the public comment period for the NOI to introduce the project. The agency scoping meeting was held Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at the Oglethorpe Power Corporation Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia. The same project information made available at the public scoping meeting was presented at the agency scoping meeting (see **Appendix D**).

2.2 WRITTEN AGENCY COMMENTS

As noted in the previous section, Oglethorpe sent pre-scoping letters to agencies, dated April 22, 2009, and scoping letters, dated June 19, 2009 and June 22, 2009 to appropriate federal and state agencies and local officials (see **Appendix C**). The scoping letters provided general information on the EIS process and an invitation to the agency and public scoping meetings for the proposed biomass project. In response to the letters, written comments on the scope of the EIS were received from the following agencies: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); U.S. Department of Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Forest Service, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest; the Georgia State Clearinghouse; Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center; Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC); the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and the Georgia Department of Transportation. Substantive comments and concerns (submitted by agencies) include the following items and will be addressed in the EIS.

U.S. Department of the Army, Savannah District, Corps of Engineers (responded via letter on July 14, 2009):

- Identify potential impacts to jurisdictional wetlands require a formal wetland delineation.
- The basic purpose of the project needs to be determined so that it does not exclude other potential project sites from consideration.
- The basic project purpose is a critical element in the USACE's evaluation for compliance with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines.
- Compensatory mitigation will be required for impacts of 1/10 of an acre or more of wetlands or open water and impacts of 100 linear feet or more of stream channel. Compensatory mitigation is recommended through the purchase of credits from a USACE-approved mitigation bank or through restoration, enhancement, and/or preservation of wetlands or streams on or near the project site.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (responded via email on May 15, 2009):

- Address potential impacts of construction on wetlands, streams, and other Waters of the U.S.
- Determine presence of suitable habitat for federally-listed species.
- Identify water needs for plant operation and water quality of any discharges proposed into Waters of the U.S.
- Identify source of biomass and radius around plant from which these materials will be acquired.

Georgia Forestry Commission (responded via letter on July 6, 2009):

- GFC supports sustainable use of state's forest resources.
- This project will stimulate the region's economy.

Copies of the agency comment letters are included in **Appendix C**.

Native American Indian Tribes with potential interest in the project and study area were contacted by RUS. Burns & McDonnell conducted follow-up phone calls with Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) and other tribal officials to determine their interest. None of the tribes contacted by either RUS or Burns & McDonnell have indicated an interest in the project. Copies of the coordination letters and telephone follow-up memos also are provided in **Appendix C**.

* * * * *

3.0 PUBLIC SCOPING

The public scoping process for the project involved the following components:

- Notifying the public and agencies about the Scoping Meetings.
- Developing project information for review by the public and agencies.
- Conducting the public scoping meeting.
- Collecting and reviewing public comments.

3.1 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of public scoping is to solicit comments and encourage participation in accordance with RUS's environmental policies and procedures. The objective of RUS is to establish a clear and open dialogue with the public and provide a forum and process for the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS.

3.2 NOTIFICATION PROCESS

In accordance with 7 CFR 1794.52, a public scoping meeting was conducted on July 9, 2009 at the Warren County Community Service Building in Warrenton, Georgia. On June 19, 2009, Oglethorpe sent postcards to invite landowners within a 2.5-mile radius of the proposed biomass plant site to attend the scoping meeting. Additionally, the public was notified of the scoping meeting through publication of a legal notice and advertisements in the *Warrenton Clipper* on June 26, 2009. Copies of the postcard, meeting advertisement, and the Notice of Intent (NOI) are included in **Appendices A and B**.

3.3 PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

The public scoping meeting was in an open house format, with a series of information stations describing various aspects of the proposed project. The stations were staffed by Oglethorpe representatives, who provided information about the project, answered questions and provided a comment form for the attendees to complete (see Appendix D). Informative displays, fact sheets, and other informational handouts were available to the public at each station. Comment forms were also made available at the comment station. Copies of the information presented at the public scoping meeting stations also are included in **Appendix D**. The information content presented at each station is described below.

Welcome - RUS

RUS representatives were present to welcome the public and answer any questions concerning the role RUS has in the decision making process. People were asked to sign in and were given a comment form for written comments or directed to a court reporter for verbal comments.

Oglethorpe Power Corporation – Who Are We?

General information about Oglethorpe including various handouts about biomass-power plants, were distributed. The forecast deficit in Oglethorpe's generating capacity was described at this station. Employment related questions also were answered by representatives from Oglethorpe.

Planning for Georgia's Growth

Information on the Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) forecast annual and peak demand requirements and Oglethorpe s corresponding supply and capacity was presented at this station.

What Is Biomass? and Why Biomass?

Information was provided describing what biomass is, that biomass is a carbon-neutral source of electricity, and the renewable and sustainable benefits of biomass power plants.

Why Not Use Other Renewable Energy Sources?

Graphics depicted the lack of reliable and large scale power supplies available from solar and wind power in the region.

Local Economic Benefits

Statistics were provided on the economic benefits – capital investment and jobs – provided by a biomass facility.

Typical Biomass Plant

A computer-generated rendering of a typical biomass plant indicating the major plant components was presented at this station.

Proposed Biomass Plant Profile

Information was provided on the power generation, fuels, emission controls, and water usage of the proposed biomass plant.

Environmental Factors

A list of environmental factors expected to be considered in the EIS were displayed at this station.

Permits, Approvals, and Authorizing Actions

A list of permits and approvals that may be required for the project and the corresponding permit issuing agency was displayed at this station.

Project Schedules

The proposed environmental planning and construction schedule was displayed for the Warren County Biomass Plant.

Site Plans and Aerial Photos

An aerial photograph of the site and the corresponding proposed site layout was displayed for the Warren County Biomass Plant.

3.4 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ATTENDANCE

One (1) verbal comment was recorded at the public scoping meeting, as provided in the transcript of the scoping meeting (see Appendix D). Fourteen written comments were received from the public during the comment period that ended on July 27, 2009**.** A summary of the comments received from the public and copies of the comment forms and letters are included in **Appendix E**.

Based on the sign-in sheets, the Warren County scoping meeting was attended by 37 people. Various individuals at the meeting declined to sign in and, therefore are not accounted for in the attendance figures.

* * * * *

4.0 PROJECT STATUS

The RUS will prepare an EIS to evaluate and disclose the potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed biomass facility near Warrenton, Georgia. It is anticipated the EIS will also evaluate the no action, purchased power, load management, renewable energy sources, and distributed generation alternative. Preparation of the EIS is anticipated to begin in the Winter of 2010 and would be completed in the Fall of 2010.

The EIS process will include the preparation of a Draft EIS that will be available for a 45-day public review and comment period. A Final EIS will then be developed addressing the comments received on the Draft EIS. The Final EIS will be available for a 30-day review and comment period after which the RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS, Final EIS, and the ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. Completion of the environmental review requirements will be conducted as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Polices and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact the RUS Project Manager:

Stephanie Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist
Rural Utilities Service
Engineering and Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571
Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Telephone: (202) 720-0468
Email: stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

* * * * *

APPENDIX A – NOTICE OF INTENT

Executive Order 12250. Each recipient must sign Form RD 400–4, ''Assurance Agreement'';

F. The provisions of 7 CFR part 3015, ''Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations,'' part 3016, ''Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments,'' or part 3019, ''Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations,'' and the fiscal year 2009 ''Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Inviting Applications for the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)'' are incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference;

In witness whereof, Grantee has this day authorized and caused this Agreement to be executed by

Attest

By _____
(Grantee)

_____
(Title)
Date _____
United States of America
Rural Housing Service
By _____
(Grantor) (Name) (Title)
Date _____

Attachment A

[Application proposal submitted by grantee.]

[FR Doc. E9–15128 Filed 6–25–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–XV–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Inc.: Notice of Intent To Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold public scoping meetings and prepare two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to meet its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 7 CFR Part 1794 in connection with potential impacts related to projects proposed by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. The proposal consists of the construction of a 100–MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS to provide financial assistance for the proposed action.

DATES: RUS will conduct a public scoping meeting in an open house format in order to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of the EIS. The public meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2009 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. at the Warren County Community Service Building, 48 Warren Street, in Warrenton, Georgia 30828; telephone (706) 465–2171. All written questions and comments must be received by RUS by July 27, 2009.

ADDRESSES: To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA Rural Development Utilities Programs, at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250–1571, or e-mail *stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.*

An Alternatives Report (AR) prepared by Oglethorpe will be available at the public scoping meeting, at the Agency's address provided in this notice, at the Agency's Web site: *http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm,* at Oglethorpe Power Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, and at the following locations:

Appling County Public Library, 244 E. Parker Street, Baxley, GA 31513. *Phone:* (912) 367–8103.

Warren County Public Library, 10 Warren Street, Warrenton, GA 30828. *Phone:* (706) 465–2656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Oglethorpe proposes to construct a new 100–MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. The proposal is to meet, in part, the future demand of Oglethorpe's Members to provide a reliable, long-term supply of renewable and sustainable energy. Oglethorpe is seeking financing from RUS for its investment. The proposal is classified in 7 CFR Part 1794.25 as requiring an EIS.

Prior to making a financial decision about whether to provide financial assistance for a proposal, RUS is required to conduct an environmental review under the NEPA in accordance with the Agency policies and procedures codified in 7 CFR Part 1794. These regulations require the Agency to consider engineering alternatives including no action, load management, conservation measures, and reactive power supply.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed projects. Representatives from the Agency and Oglethorpe will be available at the scoping meetings to discuss the environmental review process, describe the proposals, discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer questions, and accept comments. As part of its broad environmental review process, the Agency must take into account the effect of the proposal on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation, ''Protection of Historic Properties'' {36 CFR Part 800}. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2 (d)(3), the Agency is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to scoping will inform Agency decision making in Section 106 review. Any party wishing to participate more directly with the Agency as a ''consulting party'' in Section 106 review may submit a written request to do so to the Agency contact at the above address.

Using information from the Alternatives Report and considering input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, RUS and Oglethorpe, in consultation with the cooperating agencies, will determine the scope of the EIS. Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS will be published in the **Federal Register** and local newspapers.

Any final action by the Agency related to the proposal will be subject to, contingent upon, and in compliance with environmental review requirements will be conducted as prescribed by the Agency's environmental policies and procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: June 22, 2009.

James R. Newby,

Acting Administrator, USDA Rural Utilities Service.

[FR Doc. E9–15079 Filed 6–25–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of meeting

AGENCY: USDA Forest Service.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee (RAC)

SUMMARY: The Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee will meet on

APPENDIX B – PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICES, AFFIDAVITS OF PUBLICATION, AND LIBRARY DISTRIBUTION OF THE ALTERNATIVES REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Utilities Service
Oglethorpe Power Corporation: Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare Environmental Impact Statements

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS or Agency) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) to meet its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 7 CFR Part 1794 in connection with potential impacts related to projects proposed by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. This proposal consists of the construction of a 100-MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS to provide financial assistance for the proposed action.

DATES: RUS will conduct a public scoping meeting in an open house format in order to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of the EIS. The public scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2009 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Warren County Community Service Building, 48 Warren Street, in Warrenton, Georgia 30828 (telephone (706) 465-2171). All written questions and comments must be received by RUS by July 25, 2009.

ADDRESSES: To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA Rural Development Utilities Programs at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, or e-mail stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

An Alternatives Report (AR) prepared by Oglethorpe will be available at the public scoping meeting, at the Agency's address provided in this notice, at the Agency's Web site: http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm, at Oglethorpe Power Corporation, 2100 East Ex-

AFFIDAVIT

GEORGIA, WARREN COUNTY

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the legal notice attached hereto has been published in:

The Warrenton Clipper

legal organ for Warren County, Georgia, the following dates, to-wit:

June 26, 2009
June 26, 2009

Sworn to on the 12TH day of August, 2009.

Karl N. Hayward
Publisher

Publisher swearing to and subscribing to before me on the 12th day of August, 2009.

Judith U. Johnson, Notary Public

NOTARY PUBLIC WARREN CO., GA.
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 07-22-2011

stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

An Alternatives Report (AR) prepared by Oglethorpe will be available at the public scoping meeting, at the Agency's address provided in this notice, at the Agency's Web site: http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm, at Oglethorpe Power Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, and at the following locations:

Warren County Public Library
10 Warren Street
Warrenton, GA 30828
Phone: (706) 465-2656

Appling County Public Library
244 E. Parker Street
Baxley, GA 31513
Phone: (912) 367-8103

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Oglethorpe proposes to construct a new 100-MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. The proposal is to meet, in part, the future demand of Oglethorpe's Members to provide a reliable, long-term supply of renewable and sustainable energy. Oglethorpe is seeking financing from RUS for its investment. The proposal is classified in 7 CFR Part 1794.25 as requiring an EIS.

Prior to making a decision about whether to provide financial assistance for a proposal, RUS is required to conduct an environmental review under the NEPA in accordance with the Agency policies and procedures codified in 7 CFR Part 1794. These regulations require the Agency to consider engineering alternatives including no action, load management, conservation measures, and reactive power supply.

tainable energy. Oglethorpe is seeking financing from RUS for its investment. The proposal is classified in 7 CFR Part 1794.25 as requiring an EIS.

Prior to making a decision about whether to provide financial assistance for a proposal, RUS is required to conduct an environmental review under the NEPA in accordance with the Agency policies and procedures codified in 7 CFR Part 1794. These regulations require the Agency to consider engineering alternatives including no action, load management, conservation measures, and reactive power supply.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public, are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed projects. Representatives from the Agency and Oglethorpe will be available at the scoping meetings to discuss the environmental review process, describe the proposals, discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer questions, and accept comments. As part of its broad environmental review process, the Agency must take into account the effect of the proposal on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2 (d)(3), the Agency is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to scoping will inform Agency decision making in Section 106 review. Any party wishing to participate more directly with the Agency as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to do so to the Agency contact at the above address.

Using information from the Alternatives Report and considering input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, RUS and Oglethorpe, in consultation with the cooperating agencies, will determine the scope of the EIS. Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

Any final action by the Agency related to the proposal will be subject to, contingent upon, and in compliance with environmental review requirements and will be conducted as prescribed by the Agency's environmental policies and procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: June 12, 2009

Mark S. Plank,
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff,
USDA Rural Utilities Service
June 26c

USDA, Rural Utilities Service

Notice Of Intent To Hold Scoping Meetings And Prepare Two Environmental Impact Statements

The Rural Utilities Service is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements for Oglethorpe Power Corporation's proposals to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants in Appling and Warren Counties near Baxley, Georgia and Warrenton, Georgia, respectively.

Two Scoping Meetings related to these projects will be held in Baxley, Georgia on Wednesday, July 8, 2009 and in Warrenton, Georgia on Thursday, July 9, 2009.

For more details, please refer to the Rural Utilities Service's notice in the legal section of this newspaper.

Public Notices & Legal Advertisements

Notice To Debtors And Creditors

All creditors of the estate of Robert James Myers, late of Warren County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 8th Day of June, 2009
Fowler & Wills
318 Jackson St .
PO Box 1620
Thomson , GA 30824
June 12, 19, 26, July 3c

Notice To Debtors And Creditors

All creditors of the estate of Jimmy Anthony Hall, late of Warren County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 2nd Day of June, 2009
Joel Columbus Hall Jr.
73 N. Whitehead St .
Warrenton , GA 30828
June 12, 19, 26, July 3

Notice To Debtors And Creditors

All creditors of the estate of Malcolm D. Hale, late of Warren County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 12th Day of June, 2009
Sue Hale
184 Crestview Ave.
Warrenton , GA 30828
June 19, 26, July 3, 10c

Notice To Debtors And Creditors

All creditors of the estate of Carrie Riley, late of Warren County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 27th Day of MAY, 2009
Victoria F. Riley
3671 N. Madrid Dr .
Augusta , GA 30906
June 5, 12, 19, 26c

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Utilities Service
Oglethorpe Power Corporation: Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare Environmental Impact Statements

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service,, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Hold Public Scoping Meetings and Prepare Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS or Agency) intends to hold public scoping meetings and prepare Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) to meet its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 7 CFR Part 1794 in connection with potential impacts related to projects proposed by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. This proposal consists of the construction of a 100-MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS to provide financial assistance for the proposed action.,

DATES: RUS will conduct a public scoping meeting in an open house format in order to provide information and solicit comments for the preparation of the EIS. The public scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2009 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Warren County Community Service Building, 48 Warren Street, in Warrenton, Georgia 30828 (telephone (706) 465-2171). All written questions and comments must be received by RUS by July 25, 2009.

ADDRESSES: To send comments or for further information, contact Stephanie Strength, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDA Rural Development Utilities Programs at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250–1571, or e-mail stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

An Alternatives Report (AR) prepared by Oglethorpe will be available at the public scoping meeting, at the Agency's address provided in this notice, at the Agency's Web site: http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm, at Oglethorpe Power Corporation, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, and at the following locations:

Warren County Public Library
10 Warren Street
Warrenton, GA 30828
Phone: (706) 465-2656

Appling County Public Library
244 E. Parker Street
Baxley, GA 31513
Phone: (912) 367-8103

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Oglethorpe proposes to construct a new 100-MW biomass power plant in Warren County near Warrenton, Georgia. The proposal is to meet, in part, the future demand of Oglethorpe's Members to provide a reliable, long-term supply of renewable and sustainable energy. Oglethorpe is seeking financing from RUS for its investment. The proposal is classified in 7 CFR Part 1794.25 as requiring an EIS.

Prior to making a decision about whether to provide financial assistance for a proposal, RUS is required to conduct an environmental review under the NEPA in accordance with the Agency policies and procedures codified in 7 CFR Part 1794. These regulations require the Agency to consider engineering alternatives including no action, load management, conservation measures, and reactive power supply.

Government agencies, private organizations, and the public, are invited to participate in the planning and analysis of the proposed projects. Representatives from the Agency and Oglethorpe will be available at the scoping meetings to discuss the environmental review process, describe the proposals, discuss the scope of environmental issues to be considered, answer questions, and accept comments. As part of its broad environmental review process, the Agency must take into account the effect of the proposal on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2 (d)(3), the Agency is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to scoping will inform Agency decision making in Section 106 review. Any party wishing to participate more directly with the Agency as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to do so to the Agency contact at the above address.

Using information from the Alternatives Report and considering input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, RUS and Oglethorpe, in consultation with the cooperating agencies, will determine the scope of the EIS. Notices announcing the availability of the Draft EIS will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

Any final action by the Agency related to the proposal will be subject to, contingent upon, and in compliance with environmental review requirements and will be conducted as prescribed by the Agency's environmental policies and procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: June 12, 2009

Mark S. Plank,
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff,
USDA Rural Utilities Service
June 26c

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF WARREN
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Because of a default in the payment of the indebtedness secured by a Security Deed executed by Shamekia Burdette and Dedric Tucker to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. dated March 23, 2007, and recorded in Deed Book 72, Page 593, Warren County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp., by Assignment securing a Note in the original principal amount of $94,496.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, August 4, 2009, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit:

All that lot, tract, or parcel of land, situate, lying, and being in the 425th District, G.M., Warren County, Georgia, the same containing 0.94 acre, more or less, and being designated as Lot 81, Plainview Acres Subdivision on that certain plat of survey prepared by Thomas L. May, Georgia R.L.S. No. 2925 under date of November 10, 2005, as recorded in Plat Record A300, page L in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Warren County, Georgia, to which plat and the official record thereof reference is made in aid of this description.

This conveyance includes that certain Southern Energy manufactured home, serial number DSDAL49203A/B, which home is to be declared permanently affixed to the realty described herein.

Said property is known as **333 Plainview Drive, Warrenton, GA 30828**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

Notice has been given of intention to collect attorney's fees in accordance with the terms of the Note secured by said Deed.

Said property will be sold as the property of **Shamekia Burdette and Dedric Tucker**, the property, to the best information, knowledge and belief of the undersigned, being presently in the possession of **Shamekia Burdette and Dedric Tucker**, and the proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all the expenses of said sale, including attorney's fees, all as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. as Attorney-in-Fact for Shamekia Burdette and Dedric Tucker
File no. 09-015479
SHAPIRO & SWERTFEGER*
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
2872 Woodcock Blvd., Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30341-3941
(770)220-2535/ASR
www.swertfeger.net
*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Send Legal Advertisement Information to:
The Warrenton Clipper
P. O. Box 306
Warrenton, GA 30828
thewarrentonclipper@yahoo.com
Phone: 706-465-3395
Fax: 706-465-3392

CLASSIFIED ADVE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE- 3 BEDROOM, 1 1/2 BATH VACANT HOME, Garage Fenced Corner Lot, Very Large Rec Room, 646 Robin Street, Thomson. We Also Have Other Vacant Properties. Call (706) 466-0254.
tfcf20

HOUSE FOR SALE-THREE BEDROOM, One Bath, Garage With Storage Room On 2 1/2 Acres In Warren County-$42,500. Call (706) 832-4532.
2tcj26-jly3

FOR RENT

FOR RENT-MOBILE HOME, Two Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath, 1147 Dallas Drive, Thomson. Shown By Appointment Only. (706) 466-0254
4tcj5-26

FOR RENT IN AVERA-TWO BEDROOM Home. Call For More Information-(706) 793-5788.
1tcj26

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CARD OF TH

The Family of Robin Wilso
to extend our sincere Tha
and everyone for their pr
phone calls, telegrams, ca
food, and donations during
sorrow. May God Bless Eac
Thanks again!

Sincerely,
-s- Gladys Lowe and

Multi-Agency Technology Upgrade Launched to Promote Safety

Access to license photos in an instant make officers, communities safer

The Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS), Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) recently announced a multi-agency technology upgrade, the Georgia NISP Project (Nlets* Interstate Sharing of Photos), to securely and quickly release driver's license photographs to law enforcement. This effort will promote public safety by helping identify victims, criminal suspects, missing children and the elderly.

At present, law enforcement officers can electronically access information contained in a driving record maintained by DDS through the state's Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) network administered by the GBI. However, if an officer wanted to obtain a copy of a suspect's license or ID photo associated with the electronic driving record, the officer would need to submit a written request to DDS. This process can take up to two weeks to complete, making the request useless in many time sensitive cases.

The joint venture was championed by the DDS, GBI and GEMA. This new enhancement allows law enforcement entities to enter search criteria via a standardized Web browser for a driver's license record and to simultaneously query information from the DDS' stored digital driver's license photographs. Authorized users are granted secure, one-to-one and immediate access to information that previously could take days, or even weeks, to obtain.

"DDS is pleased to join GBI and GEMA in this cooperative effort. Providing a quality photograph along with driving histories will make situations safer for officers and the general public," said DDS Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier. "Digital images from driver records have significantly aided agencies charged with homeland security and emergency management," he added.

This inter-agency initiative will promote safe communities by providing enhanced tools for law enforcement to make expedient identifications that are more accurate. Law enforcement agencies, federal, state and local, use the driver license image on a frequent basis to identify victims, criminal suspects, missing children and the elderly (Kimberly's, Levi's and Mattie's Call – Georgia Alert Bulletins).

Protecting the security and integrity of a driver's personal information is and remains DDS' priority. A citizens' personal driving record, including photographs, are stored securely and can only be accessed as required by law or in the case of an active law enforcement investigation.

Project Facts

• Many individuals whose driver's license has been revoked or suspended do not have photo identification when they encounter law enforcement.

• Digital images captured on driver's licenses are reliable, of good quality and in most cases can provide the most recent image of a criminal suspect during an investigation.

• In the past, Georgia law enforcement did not have direct access to the photographs of Georgia residents who have been issued driver's licenses or ID cards. The process for law enforcement to request and receive a photo from DDS that was needed during an investigation was to submit a request via fax, email or letter. DDS would process approximately 2,000 photo requests per month.

• Beginning May 1, 2009, approximately 1,500 law enforcement users will have the capability to request and securely receive stored photographs via the GBI CJIS network. This capability will eventually be available to all law enforcement users. Photo retrieval by Georgia agencies will be dependent on the capabilities of the CJIS network terminal device and software operated locally by the law enforcement agency. In addition to vendor provided CJIS network software packages, GBI is making available the LEMS JX portal which does have image capability. The complete rollout of LEMS JX is expected by December 2010.

• This project was a collaborative effort between the DDS, GBI, GEMA supported by Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) along with grant funding support provided by Nlets.

• The project created a data-sharing application allowing law enforcement agencies, across jurisdictions, to request digital driver's license photographs stored on the DDS database.

• Law Enforcement involved in an active investigation will be able to have direct access to Georgia residents' driver's license photos from DDS database quickly to aid in criminal investigations, Amber Alerts, Kimberly's, Levi's and Mattie's Call (Georgia Alert Bulletins), etc.

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OglethorpePower

2100 East Exchange Place; Tucker, GA 30084

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

The Rural Utilities Service invites you to learn
about Oglethorpe Power Corporation's
proposed biomass power plant
in Warren County.

Thursday, July 9, 2009

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Warren County Community Service Building
48 Warren St.
Warrenton, Georgia

OglethorpePower

2100 East Exchange Place; Tucker, GA 30084

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OglethorpePower

The Rural Utilities Service Invites You to Learn about Oglethorpe Power's Biomass Power Plants

Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC) is a power supply cooperative that provides power to 38 electric membership corporations in Georgia.

In 2008, OPC announced plans to develop up to three 100 megawatt (MW) power plants in Georgia that will use woody biomass as fuel.

Oglethorpe will develop each of the biomass power plants in different counties and one of the preferred potential sites is Warren County.

Because the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is providing financing assistance for the biomass power plants, RUS is hosting a scoping meeting as part of developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with federal environmental regulations.

WHAT

Rural Utilities Service public scoping meeting to provide information and solicit input about Oglethorpe Power's biomass power plant proposed for Warren County, in order to develop an Environmental Impact Statement.

WHEN

Thursday, July 9, 2009; 5:30- 7:30 p.m.

WHERE

Warren County Community Service Building
48 Warren St.
Warrenton, Georgia

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WHEN

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WHERE

Warren County Community Service Building
48 Warren St.
Warrenton, Georgia

This ad should appear in some section of the newspaper other than the legal notice section. The local news section would be good. It should be large enough to be noticed.

AD COPY

USDA, Rural Utilities Service

Notice of Intent to Hold a Scoping Meeting and Prepare Two Environmental Impact Statements

The Rural Utilities Service is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements for Oglethorpe Power Corporation's proposals to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants in Appling and Warren Counties near Baxley, Georgia and Warrenton, Georgia, respectively. Two Scoping Meetings related to these projects will be held in Baxley, Georgia on Wednesday, June 8, 2009 and in Warrenton, Georgia on Thursday, July 9, 2009. For more details, please refer to the Rural Utilities Service's notice in the legal section of this newspaper.

June 23, 2009

Reference Librarian
Warren County Public Library
10 Warren Street
Warrenton, GA 30828

Oglethorpe Biomass Power Plant
Release of Alternatives Report
51242

Dear Reference Librarian:

Enclosed please find the Alternatives Report for Oglethorpe Power Corporation's proposed two new 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants. We are asking that your library place this Alternatives Report in a reference or other appropriate section to allow for public access and review. Please keep the document available until July 22, 2009.

This Alternatives Report has been submitted to the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, and is available on RUS' website at http:www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm. RUS encourages public comment on the Alternatives Report and is providing a 30 day comment period. Comments must be postmarked by July 22, 2009. Please **send** written comments to Stephanie Strength at:

USDA Rural Development
Attn: Stephanie Strength
Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-1571
E-mail: Stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

Thank you for your assistance. Please feel free to call me at (816) 822-3508 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carla Ballard

Carla Ballard
Asst. Project Manager

enclosure

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816 333-9400
Fax: 816 333-3690
www.burnsmcd.com

APPENDIX C – AGENCY SCOPING

AGENCY SCOPING MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET – C-1
SUMMARY OF AGENCY COMMENTS – C-2
AGENCY RESPONSE LETTERS – C-3
AGENCY SCOPING LETTERS (FROM OGLETHORPE) – C-4
TRIBAL COORDINATION LETTERS – C-5
TRIBAL FOLLOW-UP MEMOS – C-6

AGENCY SCOPING MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET – C-1

USDA Rural Development

Biomass Power Plant Project
Agency Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet
July 7, 2009
2:00 p.m.

	Name	Agency	Phone No.	Email Address
1	Robert Farris	GA Forestry Comm	478-718-7302	bfarris@gfc.state.ga.us
2	ALLEN FERGUSON	GA D.O.T.	404-694-6572	a.ferguson@dot.ga.gov
3	Devon Dartnell	Ga Forestry Comm	706 542 9219	ddartnell@gfc.state.ga.us
4	Stephanie Strength	USDA/RUS	202-297-4964	stephanie.strength@usda.gov
5	Greg Knauer	Burns & McDonnell	816-822-3030	gknauer@burnsmcd.com
6	Doug FULLE	OGLETHORPE	770-270-7166	DOUG.FULLE@OPC.COM
7	Jon Puckett	Oglethorpe	770-270-7280	jonathan.puckett@opc.com
8	Carolyn Pait	Oglethorpe	770-270-7486	carolyn.pait@opc.com
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SUMMARY OF AGENCY COMMENTS – C-2

AGENCY COMMENT INDEX

(Actual comment letters follow the Summary of Agency Comments)

Comment Letter #	Agency	Comment Date
1	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District	July 14, 2009
2	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Ecological Services	May 15, 2009
3	U.S. Forest Service, Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest	April 30, 2009
4	State of Georgia, Office of Planning and Budget	August 7, 2009
5	Central Savannah River Area Regional Development Center	July 2, 2009
6	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	July 14, 2009
7	Georgia Department of Transportation	May 13, 2009
8	Georgia Forestry Commission	July 6, 2009
9	Georgia State Clearinghouse	various
10	U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance	July 15, 2009
11	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division	July 8, 2009

SUMMARY OF AGENCY COMMENTS

Purpose and Need Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
1	Basic purpose of the project needs to be determined so that it does not exclude other potential project sites from consideration	reasonable alternatives	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
1	The basic project purpose is a critical element in the USACE's evaluation for compliance with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines.	compliance with USACE's 404(b)(1) Guidelines	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Air Quality Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
7	Utilizing wood is carbon-friendly.	carbon-friendly	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Economic Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
7	This project will stimulate the region's economy.	Regional economy	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Forest Resources/Ecosystem Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
2	Identify source of biomass and radius around plant from which these materials will be acquired	biomass source and distance from the plant	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
3	No National Forests in Oglethorpe, Appling, or Warren Counties	National Forests	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
7	Project will support sustainable use of state's forest resources.	Sustainable use	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Wetland/Water Resources Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
1	Potential impacts to jurisdictional wetlands require a formal wetland delineation	jurisdictional wetlands	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
1	Compensatory mitigation will be required for impacts of 1/10 of an acre or more of wetlands or open water and impacts of 100 linear feet or more of stream channel. Compensatory mitigation is recommended through the purchase of credits from a USCAE-approved mitigation bank or through restoration, enhancement, or preservation of wetlands or streams on or near the project site.	compensatory mitigation	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
2	Potential impacts of construction on wetlands, streams, and other Waters of the U.S.	wetland and waters of the U.S. impacts	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
2	water needs for plant operation and water quality of any discharges proposed into Waters of the U.S.	Water supply and discharge into waters of the U.S.	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Wildlife / Threatened and Endangered Species Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
2, 11	presence of suitable habitat for federally-listed species; Georgia sensitive species (Warren Co. – Savannah darter 3.0 miles away)	T&E habitat	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Other Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
6	GDNR looks forward to reviewing the project.	review	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
10	Question on why two NOI and two EISs for the two projects – Warrenton and Appling	Separate purpose and need	Define in purpose and need that Oglethorpe initially looking at multiple biomass projects in separate wood baskets

*** * * ***

AGENCY RESPONSE LETTERS – C-3

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402-0889

July 14, 2009

Regulatory Division
200900808

RECEIVED JUL 27 2009

Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Attention: Mr. Douglas Fulle
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, Georgia 30084

Dear Mr. Fulle:

I refer to your submittal dated June 22, 2009, regarding environmental impacts associated with the proposed construction of a 100-megawatt (MW) biomass facility. The project site is approximately 365-acres in size, located south of East Warrenton Road and west of the Southern Railway, at latitude 33.4009° north and longitude 82.6299° west, in Warren County, Georgia. This project has been assigned number 200900808 and it is important that you refer to this number in all communication concerning this matter.

Based on a review of the information you provided, it appears there may be jurisdictional wetlands on your project site. The US Army Corps of Engineers has been charged by Congress, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), with the responsibility to regulate all fill activities performed in the waters of the United States. The placement of fill material in waters of the US without prior approval constitutes a violation of Section 404. To avoid any unforeseen problems, I recommend that a formal wetland delineation be submitted to our office for verification prior to performing any work on this site. By establishing Corps of Engineer's jurisdictional limits, possible problem areas within these sites may be addressed and difficulties avoided during the project development phase. Additionally, if you would like to set up a meeting for us to explain our program, policy, and procedures, you may contact us directly.

An important step in our review of an application is to determine the basic purpose of the project. A project's basic purpose acts to guide the scope of review pursuant to the Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines of the Clean Water Act as outlined in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR), published in the Federal Register on December 24, 1980. However, a stated project purpose cannot be made so specific that it effectively precludes all other potential project sites from consideration. At the same time, the project purpose cannot be so general that we cannot make a determination that the preferred alternative is the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative.

The 404(b)(1) guidelines are sequential and require that permit applicants: (1) avoid unnecessary impacts to waters of the US on the preferred alternative to the maximum extent practicable; (2) minimize to the maximum extent practicable the unavoidable adverse impacts to waters of the US on-site; and (3) provide a compensatory mitigation plan to replace the wetland and/or stream functions lost as a result of unavoidable adverse impacts associated with the project. The USACE can only issue a permit for the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative that meets the project's basic purpose. Therefore, the basic project purpose is a critical element in our evaluation for compliance with the 404(b) (1) Guidelines.

Please be advised that for projects impacting 1/10 of an acre or more of wetlands or open water and/or 100 linear feet or more of stream, compensatory mitigation will be required to replace any lost wetland and/or stream function. In addition, if either wetland or stream impact threshold is exceeded, compensatory mitigation would be required for all impacts. The most preferable method of compensatory mitigation is the purchase of mitigation credits from a USACE-approved mitigation bank that services the project area. A complete list of USACE-approved mitigation banks in the State of Georgia can be found on our website at, http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Banking.htm. In the event that sufficient mitigation credits are not available, mitigation may be accomplished by restoring, enhancing and/or preserving wetlands and/or streams on or near the project site. Please be advised that submission of an application with an acceptable mitigation plan does not guarantee that a permit will be issued. The application form and information on the Regulatory Program are available on our website at http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Regulatory%201.htm.

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Sarah Von Waldner at (912) 652-5523.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Bernstein
Chief, Coastal Branch

Copies Furnished:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rural Development Utilities Program
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Attention: Ms. Stephanie A. Strength
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, District of Columbia 20250-1571

Ballard, Carla

From: Robin_Goodloe@fws.gov
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2009 1:33 PM
To: Ballard, Carla
Cc: Strant_Colwell@fws.gov; Deborah_C_Harris@fws.gov
Subject: Oglethrope Power Corp biomass power plants

Dear Ms. Ballard,

Thank you for your April 22 letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia, regarding the biomass power plants Oglethorpe Power Corporation plans to build in Appling and Warren Counties. We do not have sufficient information regarding habitat that will be impacted by plant construction and operation to identify specific issues/concerns our agency might have regarding these developments. We request additional information on:

- impacts of plant construction on wetlands, streams, and other waters of the United States
- presence of suitable habitat on site for federally-listed species (please see www.fws.gov/athens/endangered for more information)
- water needs for plant operation and water quality of any discharges proposed into waters of the United States
- source of biomass for plant operation (e.g., waste material, newly-harvested trees) and radius around plant from which these materials will be acquired

The Service point-of-contact for each of these proposed plants is:

Baxley Plant: Strant Colwell strant_colwell@fws.gov
4980 Wildlife Drive 912-832-8739
Townsend, GA 31331

Warrenton Plant: Deborah Harris deborah_c_harris@fws.gov
105 West Park Drive, Suite D 706-613-9493 X224
Athens, GA 30606

Please give me or either Mr. Colwell or Ms. Harris a call if you require additional information.

Robin B. Goodloe, Ph.D.
Supervisory Fish and Wildlife Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Ecological Services
105 West Park Drive, Suite D
Athens, GA 30606
706-613-9493 X224

Ballard, Carla

From: Erin Bronk [ebronk@fs.fed.us]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2009 2:12 PM
To: Ballard, Carla
Subject: Oglethorpe Power power plants

I received a letter from you today regarding your two power plant projects. Although there is national forest in Ogelthorpe County, there is none in either Appling or Warren Counties where your projects are located. I don't think you need to keep us on the mailing list for those projects. Please contact me if you have a question. Thanks.

++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
Erin Bronk, Oconee District Ranger
Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest
office: (706) 485-3180, ext. 102
fax: (706) 485-7141
e-mail: ebronk@fs.fed.us
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Sonny Perdue
Governor

Trey Childress
Director

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Douglas Fulle
Environmental Affairs
Oglethorpe Power Corporation

FROM: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse

DATE: August 7, 2009

SUBJECT: GA 090630009 -- Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

Enclosed comments were received from the reviewing agency after the review period and after the project had been closed out. Although the reviewing agency may have already responded to you directly, I have gone ahead and sent you a copy of their comments for your files. We will retain a copy with our files also.

Thank you.

/bj
Encl.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Sonny Perdue
Governor

Trey Childress
Director

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Douglas Fulle
Environmental Affairs
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30084-5336

FROM: Barbara Jackson BJ
Georgia State Clearinghouse

DATE: 7/27/2009

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

The applicant/sponsor is advised that DNR's Wildlife Resources Division was included in this review but did not comment within the review period. Should they submit comments within the next two weeks, we will forward to you.

The applicant/sponsor is advised that Central Savannah River Area RDC is one of the reviewers for this project. As noted on attachment, they will not be commenting until after the review period closes.

The applicant/sponsor is advised to note additional comments from DNR's Historic Preservation Division.

Provided that there are no impending issues, the State level review of the above-referenced proposal has been completed, and the proposal found to be consistent with those state or regional goals, policies, plans, fiscal resources, criteria for Developments of Regional Impact (DRI), environmental impacts, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations with which the state is concerned.

/bj
cc: Stephanie Strength, RUS
Enc.: Heart of GA Altamaha RDC, July 20, 2009
CSRA RDC, July 13, 2009
DCA, July 6, 2009
GFC, July 2, 2009
DNR/EPD, July 6, 2009
DOT, July 22, 2009
DNR/HPD, July 17, 2009

Form NCC
Oct. 2008

CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A
Augusta, GA 30907-2016
(706) 210-2000 • FAX (706) 210-2006
www.csrardc.org

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Jenkins

Lincoln

McDuffie

Richmond

Taliaferro

Warren

Washington

Wilkes

Date: July 2, 2009

To: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

From: Scott Anthony, Regional Planner

Subject: Executive Order 12372 Review

Applicant: Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Project: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants – Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)
State Clearinghouse ID #: GA090630009
CSRA RC Staff Contact: Scott Anthony
Federal Funds Requested:
Federal Agency: USDA

The Summary Notification and State Clearinghouse Number from the Georgia State Clearinghouse for the above project was received by the CSRA RC on **July 2, 2009.**

The Executive Order 12372 Review on this project has now been initiated by the CSRA RC, and every effort is being made to ensure prompt action. You may expect to receive notification of completion of the initial review by the CSRA RC by **August 3, 2009.**

I am available to assist you or answer any questions you may have concerning this process. I can be reached by calling (706) 210-2000.

Copy to State Clearinghouse

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JUL 13 2009
GEORGIA
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

3023 River Watch Parkway, Suite A
Augusta, GA 30907-2016
(706) 210-2000 • FAX (706) 210-2006
www.csrardc.org

AREA AGENCY on AGING

CSRA BUSINESS LENDING

Counties Served:

Burke

Columbia

Glascock

Hancock

Jefferson

Jenkins

Lincoln

McDuffie

Richmond

Taliaferro

Warren

Washington

Wilkes

Date: August 3, 2009

To: **Oglethorpe Power Corporation**

From: **Scott Anthony**

Subject: State Clearinghouse/Executive Order 12372 Review Process

Applicant: Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Project: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants – Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)
State Clearinghouse ID #: GA090630009
CSRA RC Staff Contact: Scott Anthony
Federal Funds Requested:
Federal Agency: USDA

The CSRA Regional Development Center has reviewed the Summary Notification for the above-referenced project.

The RDC has recommended approval of the project. You should now file your formal application with the appropriate federal agency. A copy of this form must be attached to your formal application.

Comments:
Warren County shows overwhelming support for the project. City of Camak and City of Norwood both support the project.

Copy to State Clearinghouse

RECEIVED
AUG 07 2009
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CERTIFIED ORGANIZATION of Ethics

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Chris Clark, Commissioner

Historic Preservation Division

W. Ray Luce, Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
34 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2316
Telephone (404) 656-2840 Fax (404) 657-1040 www.gashpo.org

July 14, 2009

Stephanie Strength
Rural Utilities Service Project Manager
USDA Rural Development
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 2244
Mail Stop 1571
Washington, D.C. 20250-1571
stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

RE: Construct 2 100-MW Biomass Generation Facilities, Baxley, Warrenton
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia
HP-090625-001
GA090630009

Dear Ms. Strength:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received the information submitted concerning the above referenced undertaking. Our comments are offered to assist the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Thank you for providing our office with early coordination information regarding the proposed biomass facilities in Appling and Warren Counties. Based on this information, HPD understands that Phase I archaeology survey reports have been prepared for the proposed projects. We look forward to reviewing the survey reports as they become available and working with you as these projects progress.

We look forward to reviewing the additional information upon its completion. Please refer to project number **HP-090625-001** in any future correspondence regarding this undertaking. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 651-6624, or Michelle Volkema, Environmental Review Specialist, at (404) 651-6546.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Shirk

Elizabeth Shirk
Environmental Review Coordinator

ES:jht

cc: Douglas J. Fulle, Oglethorpe Power
Laura Dean, RUS
Anne Floyd, Central Savannah River Area RDC
Robin Nail, Heart of Georgia Altamaha RDC

RECEIVED
JUL 17 2009
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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Ballard, Carla

From: Lindsey, Jamie [jlindsey@dot.ga.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 9:24 AM
To: Ballard, Carla
Cc: Waters, Chris
Attachments: oglethorpe power.pdf

Carla,

My name is Jamie Lindsey, and I'm the Assistant District Utilities Engineer for GDOT in District 2. I received your email concerning the proposed biomass plants for Oglethorpe Power, and will hopefully be able to assist with any coordination concerns that you may have for the Warren County site. Please contact me for any questions that you may have concerning GDOT right of way and Chris Waters for anything dealing with GDOT permits. My contact numbers are listed below and my address is as follows:

GDOT District 2
801 Fourth Street, Hwy 15 South
Tennille, GA 31089

Chris Waters
GDOT
Program Technician
478-552-4700
cwaters@dot.ga.gov

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. Thanks and have a great day.

Jamie Lindsey
GA DOT - Tennille
Assistant District Utilities Engineer
Office 478-552-4637
Cell 478-232-3325

Help GDOT serve you better. Visit http://www.howsmyservice.dot.ga.gov and rate the service you received from Team GDOT.

GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION

P.O. Box 819
Macon, GA 31202-0819
P 478-751-3509
F 478-751-3405

An Equal Opportunity Employer & Service Provider

Sonny Perdue
Governor

Robert D. Farris
Director

Board of Commissioners:

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Valdosta

Victor Hoadley
Moultrie

Joe L. Gillis, Jr.
Soperton

H. G. Thomas New
Louisville

Robert Pollard
Appling

Fred Warnell
Richmond Hill

H. G. Yeomans
Swainsboro

July 6, 2009

Ms. Stephanie Strength
USDA Rural Development,
Utilities Programs,
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Dear Ms. Strength

Subject: Oglethorpe Power Company Biomass Electricity Generating Projects

The Georgia Forestry Commission supports the sustainable use of our state's forest resources for merchantable products, including energy. The following facts support the use of wood biomass for electricity generation:

- Georgia has over 24 million acres of timberland – the second highest forested area of any state. The majority of this land (92%) is privately-owned.
- Much of Georgia's timberland has been traditionally managed to provide pulpwood and sawtimber for the local commercial forest industry. Income paid to landowners for their timber has provided incentives for continued forest management and reforestation.
- Recent economic setbacks have negatively impacted the industry and the markets for timber which landowners depend upon for continued forest management support. Forest economists have recently reported that the delivered cost of pulpwood in the US South is lowest of any region in the world. The new market for forest biomass provided by the Oglethorpe facilities will provide new incentives for forest management and reforestation by landowners.
- Forest biomass is abundant. Although the cost of recovery of each type of biomass will determine the total that can be used; each year 10.7 million tons (dry basis) of unused forest biomass is available in the form of timber harvesting residues, non-merchantable timber, and recoverable urban wood wastes.
- Georgia timberlands are growing 30% more merchantable wood each year than is being utilized. Timberlands within a 75 mile radius of Warrenton, GA are growing 47% more merchantable wood each year than is being utilized. Timberlands within a 75 mile radius of Baxley, GA are growing 22% more merchantable wood each year than is being utilized.
- The utilization of wood for energy is carbon friendly. Trees remove carbon from the atmosphere while growing, making the net carbon impact to the atmosphere near zero. In addition, the impacts from other pollutants are also reduced by using forest biomass for energy over most fossil fuels.

- These projects will stimulate the region's economy with job creation and local circulation of money spent for biomass. Money spent for biomass procurement, harvesting, delivery, taxes, and equipment sales will benefit area residents and local and state governments. Currently, the money is spent on coal and fuel oil from outside the state.
- The Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia has been researching and improving forest biomass harvesting methods in support of this type of project.
- The Georgia Forestry Commission administers a Best Management Practices (BMP) system for forestry which protects water quality and forest soils during forestry operations. The most recent BMP survey reflected a 90% overall statewide BMP implementation rate with 99.4% of those acres in compliance with BMPs.

The Oglethorpe Power Company biomass generating projects are an excellent opportunity to diversify Georgia's renewable energy portfolio in an environmentally responsible fashion that directly benefits our local economy. It will also support our mission of "conserving Georgia's forests" by providing additional economic incentives for forest management on our privately-owned lands.

Sincerely,

Devon Dartnell
Georgia Forestry Commission
Biomass Program Manager

Forest Inventory Mapmaker version 3.0

Geographic area of interest is Georgia 132008 (Georgia: 1998-2008: Annual - 8th Survey + 9th Survey
The attribute of interest is Removals of growing-stock on timberland(cuft).
No filters were used.
Pages are None.
Rows are Species group - MajorGroup.
Columns are Stand origin.

	Stand origin			
Species group - MajorGroup	Total	Natural stands	Clear evidence of artificial regeneration	Other
Pines	392,068,124	183,519,116	198,356,177	10,192,831
Other softwoods	268,297	209,499	17,331	41,466
Soft hardwoods	51,427,001	36,700,703	8,007,105	6,719,193
Hard hardwoods	46,085,819	28,857,117	11,261,747	5,966,956
Total	489,849,240	249,286,435	217,642,359	22,920,446

########

Web citation: Miles, Patrick D. Jul-06-2009. Forest inventory mapmaker web-application version 3.0. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture,

Forest Inventory Mapmaker version 3.0

Geographic area of interest is Georgia 132008 (Georgia: 1998-2008: Annual - 8th Survey + 9th Surve
The attribute of interest is Net growth of growing-stock on timberland(cuft).
No filters were used.
Pages are None.
Rows are Species group - MajorGroup.
Columns are Stand origin.

	Stand origin			
Species group - MajorGroup	Total	Natural stands	Clear evidence of artificial regeneration	Other
Pines	543,805,820	196,846,943	345,688,250	1,270,627
Other softwoods	6,916,299	6,982,721	-68,053	1,632
Soft hardwoods	81,969,675	76,373,778	5,085,475	510,422
Hard hardwoods	87,764,673	82,890,113	4,346,475	528,086
Unassigned hardwoods	135,894	135,894	0	0
Total	720,592,362	363,229,448	355,052,147	2,310,767

#########

Web citation: Miles, Patrick D. Jul-06-2009. Forest inventory mapmaker web-application version 3.0. St. Paul, MN: U.S. Department of Agriculture,

→ Wende Martin (File) 9A

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Douglas Fulle
Environmental Affairs
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30084-5336

FROM: Barbara Jackson

DATE: 6/30/2009

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

CFDA #:

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

Correspondence related to the above project was received by the Georgia State Clearinghouse on 6/30/2009. The review has been initiated and every effort is being made to ensure prompt action. The proposal will be reviewed for its consistency with goals, policies, plans, objectives, programs, environmental impact, criteria for Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) or inconsistencies with federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations, and if applicable, with budgetary restraints.

The initial review process should be completed by 7/29/2009 (*approximately*). If the Clearinghouse has not contacted you by that date, please call (404) 656-3855, and we will check into the delay. We appreciate your cooperation on this matter.

In future correspondence regarding this project, please include the State Application Identifier number shown above. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact us at the above number.

cc: Stephanie Strength, RUS

Form SC-1
Oct. 2008

9B

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, Eighth Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

FROM: MR. DAN GARY
GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

DATE: 7/2/2009

☑ This notice is considered to be consistent with those state or regional goals, policies, plans, fiscal resources, criteria for developments of regional impact, environmental impacts, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations with which this organization is concerned.

This notice is not consistent with:

☐ The goals, plans, policies, or fiscal resources with which this organization is concerned. (Line through inappropriate word or words and prepare a statement that explains the rationale for the inconsistency. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

☐ The criteria for developments of regional impact, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations administered by your agency. Negative environmental impacts or provision for protection of the environment should be pointed out. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

☐ This notice does not impact upon the activities of the organization.

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GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

NOTE: Should you decide to FAX this form (and any attached pages), it is not necessary to mail the originals to us. [404-656-7916]

Form SC-3
Oct. 2008

9C

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, Eighth Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

FROM: DR. CAROL COUCH
GA DNR-EPD DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

DATE:

☑ This notice is considered to be consistent with those state or regional goals, policies, plans, fiscal resources, criteria for developments of regional impact, environmental impacts, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations with which this organization is concerned.

This notice is not consistent with:

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☐ This notice does not impact upon the activities of the organization.

NOTE: Should you decide to FAX this form (and any attached pages), it is <u>not</u> necessary to mail the originals to us. [404-656-7916]

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Form SC-3
Oct. 2008

9D

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, Eighth Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

FROM: MS. LOLITA COLLINS
GA DEPT. OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

DATE: 7/6/09

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☑ This notice does not impact upon the activities of the organization.

NOTE: Should you decide to FAX this form (and any attached pages), it is <u>not</u> necessary to mail the originals to us. [404-656-7916]

RECEIVED
JUL 06 2009
GEORGIA
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Form SC-3
Oct. 2008

9E

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, Eighth Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

FROM: MS. ANGELA ALEXANDER
GA DOT OFC OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

DATE: 7/17/09

☒ This notice is considered to be consistent with those state ~~or regional goals, policies~~, plans, ~~fiscal resources, criteria for developments of regional impact, environmental impacts, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations~~ with which this organization is concerned.

This notice is not consistent with:

☐ The goals, plans, policies, or fiscal resources with which this organization is concerned. (Line through inappropriate word or words and prepare a statement that explains the rationale for the inconsistency. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

☐ The criteria for developments of regional impact, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations administered by your agency. Negative environmental impacts or provision for protection of the environment should be pointed out. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

☐ This notice does not impact upon the activities of the organization.

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GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

NOTE: Should you decide to FAX this form (and any attached pages), it is <u>not</u> necessary to mail the originals to us. [404-656-7916]

Form SC-3
Oct. 2008

9F

GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMORANDUM
EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 REVIEW PROCESS

TO: Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street, SW, Eighth Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

FROM: MS. ROBIN B. NAIL
HEART OF GA ALTAMAHA RDC RBN

APPLICANT: Oglethorpe Power Corporation

PROJECT: Alternatives Report: Proposed Biomass Power Plants - Construct two 100-mw biomass generation facilities (one each located in Appling County, GA and Warren County, GA)

STATE ID: GA090630009

FEDERAL ID:

DATE: 7/20/09

[X] This notice is considered to be consistent with those state or regional goals, policies, plans, fiscal resources, criteria for developments of regional impact, environmental impacts, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations with which this organization is concerned.

This notice is not consistent with:

[ ] The goals, plans, policies, or fiscal resources with which this organization is concerned. (Line through inappropriate word or words and prepare a statement that explains the rationale for the inconsistency. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

[ ] The criteria for developments of regional impact, federal executive orders, acts and/or rules and regulations administered by your agency. Negative environmental impacts or provision for protection of the environment should be pointed out. (Additional pages may be used for outlining the inconsistencies. Be sure to put the GA State ID number on all pages).

[ ] This notice does not impact upon the activities of the organization.

NOTE: Should you decide to FAX this form (and any attached pages), it is not necessary to mail the originals to us. [404-656-7916]

RECEIVED
JUL 20 2009
GEORGIA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Form SC-3
Oct. 2008

TO: DOUGLAS FULLE

~ *FOR YOUR INFORMATION:* ~

The correspondence attached to your recently submitted project/grant asked that any comments our office have be forwarded to the funding agency. Normally, it is our policy that Georgia State Clearinghouse does not assume the responsibility of sending final comments directly to the federal funding agency, preferring that the sponsor (or applicant) does this. However, we will go ahead and copy Ms. Stephanie Strength on correspondence concerning this project.

Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse

OglethorpePower

June 26, 2008

Re: Oglethorpe Power Corporation's Alternatives Report for Biomass Power Plants

Ms. Jackson -

Enclosed please find the additional eight (8) CDs requested today. Each CD includes a copy of Oglethorpe Power's Alternatives Report for Biomass Power Plants dated June, 2009.

Please call us with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Wende Martin, Sr. Environmental Specialist

Doug Fille, Vice President Environmental Affairs

2100 East Exchange Place Tucker, GA 30084-5336 Phone 770-270-7600

From: Kenneth_Havran@ios.doi.gov
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2009 3:19 PM
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC
Subject: June 22, 2009 Federal Register for Oglethorpe Power Corp, Inc.

Ms. Strength,

I have called you regarding the subject FR Notice, but I thought I would follow up with an E-Mail. My question is: Why are there two seemingly the same FR Notices proposing the preparation of two EISs? The NOI's look the same. Am I missing something? There doesn't seem to be any explanation as to why two EISs are being proposed. Can you help me to sort this out?

Please call or E-Mail at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Ken Havran
Kenneth J. Havran, Ph.D.
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
U.S. Department of the Interior (MS 2462)
1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240
Voice: 202-208-7116; FAX: 202-208-6970
kenneth_havran@ios.doi.gov

Chris Clark, Commissioner
Dan Forster, Director

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Division
Nongame Conservation Section
2065 U.S. Highway 278, S.E., Social Circle, Georgia 30025-4743
(770) 918 6411

July 8, 2009

Stephanie Strength
Utilities Program Engineering & Environmental Staff
USDA Rural Development
1400 Independence Ave SW
Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 30350-1571

Subject: Known occurrences of natural communities, plants and animals of highest priority conservation status on or near Oglethorpe Power Biofuel Plant EIS Reveiw for USDA, RUS, Echols County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Strength:

This is in response to your request of June 22, 2009. According to our records, within a three-mile radius of the proposed project areas there are the following Natural Heritage Database occurrences:

Warren (-82.63700, 33.40218; NAD27),
Etheostoma fricksium (Savannah Darter) approx. 3.0 mi. NE of site in Brier Creek

Washington 1 (-82.67291, 32.97549; NAD27):
Elliptio congaraea (Carolina Slabshell) "E" "Williamson Swamp Creek" approx. 3.0 mi. NE of site in Williamson Swamp Creek
Williamson Swamp Creek [High Priority Stream] approx. 2.0 mi. NE of site

Washington 2 (-82.65879, 32.94158; NAD27):
GA *Astragalus michauxii* (Sandhill Milk-vetch) approx. 3.0 mi. SE of site

Appling (-82.30801, 31.75781; NAD27):
GA *Sarracenia minor var. minor* (Hooded Pitcherplant) approx. 2.5 mi. NW of site
GA *Sarracenia minor var. minor* (Hooded Pitcherplant) approx. 3.0 mi. NW of site

Echols (-82.90710, 30.78965; NAD27):
Ursus americanus floridanus (Florida Black Bear) in an uncertain location near project area

* Entries above proceeded by "US" indicates species with federal status in Georgia (Protected or Candidate). Species that are federally protected in Georgia are also state protected; "GA" indicates Georgia protected species.

We have no records of high priority species or habitats within any of the proposed project areas. However, if the projects are approved and facilities are constructed, we recommend completing surveys for species of concern at these sites before any projects begin. In order to protect aquatic habitats and water quality, we recommend that all machinery be kept out of creeks during construction. Further, we strongly advocate leaving vegetation intact within 100 feet of creeks and aquatic habitats. We realize that some trees may have to be removed, but recommend that shrubs and ground vegetation be left in place. We also recommend that stringent erosion control practices be used during construction activities and that vegetation is re-established on disturbed areas as quickly as possible. Silt fences and other erosion control devices should be inspected and maintained until soil is stabilized by vegetation. Please use natural vegetation and grading techniques (e.g. vegetated swales, turn-offs, vegetated buffer strips) that will ensure that the project area does not serve as a conduit for storm water or pollutants into the water during or after construction. These measures will help protect water quality in the vicinity of the project as well as in downstream areas.

Please be aware that the Washington 1 project area occurs near Williamson Swamp Creek, a high priority stream. As part of an effort to develop a comprehensive wildlife conservation strategy for the state of Georgia, the Wildlife Resources division has developed and mapped a list of streams that are important to the protection or restoration of rare aquatic species and aquatic communities. High priority waters and their surrounding watersheds are a high priority for a broad array of conservation activities, but do not receive any additional legal protections. We now have GIS ESRI shapefiles of GA high priority waters available on our website (http://www.georgiawildlife.com/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=89&txtPage=13). Please contact the Georgia Natural Heritage Program if you would like additional information on high priority waters.

Data Available on the Nongame Conservation Section Website

By visiting the Nongame Conservation Section Website you can view the highest priority species and natural community information by Quarter Quad, County and HUC8 Watershed. To access this information, please visit our GA Rare Species and Natural Community Information page at: http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/content/displaycontent.asp?txtDocument=89

An ESRI shape file of our highest priority species and natural community data by quarter quad and county is also available. It can be downloaded from: http://georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us/assets/documents/gnhp/gnhpds.zip

Disclaimer:

Please keep in mind the limitations of our database. The data collected by the Nongame Conservation Section comes from a variety of sources, including museum and herbarium records, literature, and reports from individuals and organizations, as well as field surveys by our staff biologists. In most cases the information is not the result of a recent on-site survey by our staff. Many areas of Georgia have never been surveyed thoroughly. Therefore, the Nongame Conservation Section can only occasionally provide definitive information on the presence or

absence of rare species on a given site. Our files are updated constantly as new information is received. **Thus, information provided by our program represents the existing data in our files at the time of the request and should not be considered a final statement on the species or area under consideration.**

If you know of populations of highest priority species that are not in our database, please fill out the appropriate data collection form and send it to our office. Forms can be obtained through our web site (http://www.georgiawildlife.com) or by contacting our office. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Tina Morris

Katrina Morris
Environmental Review Coordinator

AGENCY SCOPING LETTERS (FROM OPC) – C-4

June 22, 2009

Ms. Mary Dills
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Piedmont Branch
1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 200
Morrow, GA 30260-1777

Dear Ms. Dills:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

In accordance with RUS environmental regulations, 7 CRF 1794, Environmental Policies and Procedures, RUS will be the lead agency for preparing the two EIS. As part of the scoping process and prior to any public scoping meetings, RUS is distributing and making available specific planning documents prepared by Oglethorpe for review and comment by Federal, State, and local agencies and the public. Enclosed is a compact disk that contains the Alternatives Analysis in Adobe Acrobat portable document file (pdf) format. Copies of the document are also available on RUS' website at: http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm.

Additionally, you are invited to attend the public scoping meetings on July 8 and 9, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe representatives will be at each meeting to solicit and accept your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending an interagency meeting at 2 p.m. on July 7th at Oglethorpe's headquarters located at 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Strength by July 1, 2009 at the email address provided below.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Savannah District, Regulatory Division
P.O. Box 889
100 West Oglethorpe Ave.
Savannah, GA 31402

Dear Sir or Madam,

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Bob Lord
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Mail Code: 9T25
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Lord:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Cynthia Peurifoy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Mail Code: 9T25
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Peurifoy:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Dr. Robin B. Goodloe
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
105 West Park Drive, Suite D
Athens, GA 30606

Dear Dr. Goodloe:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Melanie Pitrolo
U.S. Forest Service
160 Zillicoa Street
Suite A
Ashville, NC 28801

Dear Ms. Pitrolo:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c Stephanie Strength, RUS
Cindy Huber, USFS

June 22, 2009

Mr. John Notar
National Park Service
Air Resource Division
12795 W. Almeda Pkwy.
Lakewood, CO 80228

Dear Mr. Notar:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. James E. Tillman, Sr.
USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
355 East Hancock Avenue
Stop Number 200
Athens, GA 30601

Dear Mr. Tillman:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Barbara Jackson
Georgia State Clearinghouse
270 Washington Street SW 8th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Ms. Jackson:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Dr. Carol Couch
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252
Altanta, GA 30334

Dear Dr. Couch:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Jim Ussery
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252
Altanta, GA 30334

Dear Mr. Ussery:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Chris Clark
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252
Altanta, GA 30334

Dear Mr. Clark:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Linda MacGregor
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
4220 International Pkwy, Suite 101
Atlanta, GA 30354

Dear Ms. MacGregor:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. James A. Capp
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Air Protection Branch
4244 International Parkway, Suite 120
Atlanta, GA 30354

Dear Mr. Capp:

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Please address any written comments on the scopes of EIS by August 9, 2009, to Ms. Stephanie A. Strength, USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Room 2244, Washington, DC 20250–1571, or E-mail: stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Elizabeth Shirk
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Division (SHPO)
34 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600
Atlanta, GA 30303-2316

Dear Ms. Shirk:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Matt Elliott
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife & Natural Heritage Section
2065 U.S. Hwy 278 SE
Social Circle, GA 30025-4743

Dear Mr. Elliott:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Management Areas
Headquarters Office
2070 U.S. Hwy. 278, S.E.
Social Circle, GA 30025

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Jim Ozier
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Division
Nongame & Endangered Wildlife Program
116 Rum Creek Drive
Forsyth, GA 31029

Dear Mr. Ozier:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Jill Stuckey
GEFA
Centers of Innovation - Energy
233 Peachtree Street
Harris Tower Suite 900
Atlanta, GA 30303-1506

Dear Ms. Stuckey:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

ENV-COR-09-037

June 22, 2009

Mr. Phil Foil
GEFA
Centers of Innovation - Energy
233 Peachtree Street
Harris Tower Suite 900
Atlanta, GA 30303-1506

Dear Mr. Foil:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Nathan McClure CF RF
Georgia Forestry Commission
159 Crown Mountain Drive
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Dear Mr. McClure:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 19, 2009

Mr. Johnny Grant
State Senator for Warren Co. (R-25)
P.O. Box 1458
Milledgeville, GA 31059

Dear Mr. Grant:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Warren County is one of Oglethorpe Power's preferred sites for the development and because the Federal RUS may provide assistance with financing for the biomass plants, the projects must follow National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations that require public scoping meetings. According to NEPA, a scoping meeting is an "open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action." This scoping meeting will help Oglethorpe Power and RUS develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with NEPA regulations.

As a leader in the Warren County community, your thoughts about the biomass power plant are important to the project and to the citizens you serve. This scoping meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for Warren County citizens to learn more about the biomass power plant.

Because residents and landowners adjacent to the proposed biomass plant will receive a mailed invitation to the scoping meeting and there will be a public notice in the *Warrenton Clipper*, you may receive some inquiries from citizens with questions about the meeting. If I can be of assistance to you in responding to these inquiries or provide you with additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 770-270-7890.

Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Bill Jackson
State Senator for Warren Co. (R-24)
P.O. Box 528
Appling, GA 30802

Dear Mr. Jackson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Helen Hudson
State Rep for Warren County
P.O. Box 58
Sparta, GA 31087

Dear Ms. Hudson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. John Barrow
U.S. House Rep for Warren Co. (D-12)
P.O. Box 1017
Sandersville, GA 31082

Dear Mr. Barrow:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Senator Johnny Isakson
One Overton Park
Suite 970
3625 Cumberland Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30339

Dear Senator Isakson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Senator Saxby Chambliss
27 Cherokee Road
Moultrie, GA 31768

Dear Senator Chambliss:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
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Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mayor Tony Mimbs
P.O. Box 109
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mayor Mimbs:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Warren County is one of Oglethorpe Power's preferred sites for the development and because the Federal RUS may provide assistance with financing for the biomass plants, the projects must follow National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations that require public scoping meetings. According to NEPA, a scoping meeting is an "open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action." This scoping meeting will help Oglethorpe Power and RUS develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with NEPA regulations.

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Because residents and landowners adjacent to the proposed biomass plant will receive a mailed invitation to the scoping meeting and there will be a public notice in the *Warrenton Clipper*, you may receive some inquiries from citizens with questions about the meeting. If I can be of assistance to you in responding to these inquiries or provide you with additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 770-270-7890.

Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Chris McCorkle
Mayor Pro-tem
P.O. Box 109
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Chris McCorkle:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Craig Hunter
City Council, District 1, Post 2
P.O. Box 110
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Hunter:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Laverne McCullough
City Council, District, Post 1
P.O. Box 111
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. McCullough:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

P.H. Giddens
City Council, District 1, Post 1
P.O. Box 112
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear P.H. Giddens:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Tom Chester
City Council, District 2, Post 2
P.O. Box 113
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Chester:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Shirley Cheeley
Clerk of Courts
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Cheeley:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

S. D. Pearson
Magistrate Judge
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Judge Pearson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Janice Thigpen
Probate Judge
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Thigpen:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Hal Hinesley
Superior Court Judge
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Hinesley:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Joe Peebles
Sheriff
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Peebles:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. John Graham
Warren Co. Board of Commissioners
Chairman & County Manager
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Graham:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Richard Burley, Jr.
Warren Co. Board of Commissioners
District 1 Commissioner
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Burley:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Rita Johnson
Warren Co. Board of Commissioners
District 2 Commissioner
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Johnson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Carole Carey
Superintendent of Schools
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Carey:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Clara Roberts
Board of Education
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Roberts:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Cecil Brown
Board of Education
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Cecil Brown:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Randy Morris
Board of Education
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Morris:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Charles Culver
Board of Education
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. Culver:

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Gwen Tucker
Board of Education
P.O. Box 228
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Tucker:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Warren County is one of Oglethorpe Power's preferred sites for the development and because the Federal RUS may provide assistance with financing for the biomass plants, the projects must follow National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations that require public scoping meetings. According to NEPA, a scoping meeting is an "open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action." This scoping meeting will help Oglethorpe Power and RUS develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with NEPA regulations.

As a leader in the Warren County community, your thoughts about the biomass power plant are important to the project and to the citizens you serve. This scoping meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for Warren County citizens to learn more about the biomass power plant.

Because residents and landowners adjacent to the proposed biomass plant will receive a mailed invitation to the scoping meeting and there will be a public notice in the *Warrenton Clipper*, you may receive some inquiries from citizens with questions about the meeting. If I can be of assistance to you in responding to these inquiries or provide you with additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 770-270-7890.

Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Bobby Baker
Georgia PSC Rep. District 2
244 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Mr. Baker:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Dennis Sanders
County Attorney
P.O. Drawer 966
Thomson, GA 30824

Dear Mr. Sanders:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Samuel Fowler
Warrenton City Attorney
P.O. Box 1620
Thomson, GA 30824

Dear Mr. Fowler:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Cathy Toulson
County Clerk
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Toulson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Mr. Tommy May
Surveyor
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Mr. May:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Juddy Johnson
Warren County Development Authority
P.O. Box 27
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Johnson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 19, 2009

Ms. Lynette Johnson
Tax Commissioner
P.O. Box 46
Warrenton, GA 30828

Dear Ms. Johnson:

On behalf of Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe Power) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS), I would like to invite you to attend a public scoping meeting regarding Oglethorpe Power's proposed biomass power plant in Warren County on Thursday, July 9. The scoping meeting will be held at the Warren County Community Service Building at 48 Warren Street in Warrenton from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

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Sincerely,

Greg Jones
Public Relations Director

GJ:dmc

Attachment

June 22, 2009

Mr. Tony Collins
P.O. Box 8
801 Hwy 15S
Tennille, GA 31089-0008

Dear Mr. Collins:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

In accordance with RUS environmental regulations, 7 CRF 1794, Environmental Policies and Procedures, RUS will be the lead agency for preparing the two EIS. As part of the scoping process and prior to any public scoping meetings, RUS is distributing and making available specific planning documents prepared by Oglethorpe for review and comment by Federal, State, and local agencies and the public. Enclosed is a compact disk that contains the Alternatives Analysis in Adobe Acrobat portable document file (pdf) format. Copies of the document are also available on RUS' website at: http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm.

Additionally, you are invited to attend the public scoping meetings on July 8 and 9, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe representatives will be at each meeting to solicit and accept your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending an interagency meeting at 2 p.m. on July 7th at Oglethorpe's headquarters located at 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Strength by July 1, 2009 at the email address provided below.

Please address any written comments on the scopes of EIS by August 9, 2009, to Ms. Stephanie A. Strength, USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Room 2244, Washington, DC 20250–1571, or E-mail: stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Jamie Lindsey
801 Fourth Street, Hwy 15 South
Tennille, GA 31089

Dear Ms. Lindsey:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Mr. Chris Waters

Dear Mr. Waters:

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

June 22, 2009

Ms. Deborah Harris
105 West Park Drive, Suite D
Athens, GA 30606

Dear Ms. Harris:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the programs of US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is preparing two Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) in connection with proposals by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) of Tucker, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes to construct two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass generation facilities at two separate locations in Georgia. Initial alternative evaluation and site selection studies identified preliminary preferred power plant sites in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe is requesting RUS financial assistance for the construction of this proposal.

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Sincerely,

Douglas J. Fulle, Vice President
Environmental Affairs

DJF:dmc

c: Stephanie Strength, RUS

File 51242 AC

April 22, 2009

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CESAS-RD
P.O. Box 889
100 West Oglethorpe Ave
Savannah, GA 31402

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

To Whom It May Concern:

Burns & McDonnell has been retained by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) to assist with the permitting for two proposed 100-megawatt biomass power plants. Two potential sites have been identified. The first site is located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County (Attachment 1) and the second site is located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County (Attachment 2). Each site is approximately 345 to365 acres in size. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015.

The purpose of this letter is to request your input to the permitting and development of these proposed power plant sites by identifying any issues and concerns your agency might have with respect to the project. We also request that you identify a point-of-contact within your agency that you would like us to use in future correspondence and coordination.

We appreciate your time and assistance in providing this information. If possible, please submit any information to us by **May 22, 2009**. We will be happy to discuss this letter or the project if you have any questions or require additional information. Please contact me at (816) 822-3508 or by email at cballard@burnsmcd.com.

Sincerely,

Carla D. Ballard

Carla D. Ballard
Asst. Project Manager

Attachments
cc: Ms. Wende Martin (Oglethorpe)

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
http://www.burnsmcd.com

April 22, 2009

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Southeast Region
1875 Century Blvd., Suite 400
Altanta, GA 30345

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

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Carla D. Ballard

Carla D. Ballard
Asst. Project Manager

Attachments
cc: Ms. Wende Martin (Oglethorpe)

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
http://www.burnsmcd.com

April 22, 2009

Mr. Bob Lord
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

Dear Mr. Lord,

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9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
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April 22, 2009

U.S. Forest Service
Chattahoochee – Oconee National Forests
Oconee Ranger District
1199 Madison Road
Eatonton, GA 31024

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

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Asst. Project Manager

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cc: Ms. Wende Martin (Oglethorpe)

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
http://www.burnsmcd.com

April 22, 2009

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, SE
Suite 1252
Altanta, GA 30334

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

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Tel: 816-333-9400
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April 22, 2009

Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree NW
Atlanta, GA 30308

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

To Whom It May Concern:

Burns & McDonnell has been retained by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) to assist with the permitting for two proposed 100-megawatt biomass power plants. Two potential sites have been identified. The first site is located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County (Attachment 1) and the second site is located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County (Attachment 2). Each site is approximately 345 to365 acres in size. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015.

The purpose of this letter is to request your input to the permitting and development of these proposed power plant sites by identifying any issues and concerns your agency might have with respect to the project. We also request that you identify a point-of-contact within your agency that you would like us to use in future correspondence and coordination.

We appreciate your time and assistance in providing this information. If possible, please submit any information to us by **May 22, 2009**. We will be happy to discuss this letter or the project if you have any questions or require additional information. Please contact me at (816) 822-3508 or by email at cballard@burnsmcd.com.

Sincerely,

Carla D. Ballard

Carla D. Ballard
Asst. Project Manager

Attachments
cc: Ms. Wende Martin (Oglethorpe)

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
http://www.burnsmcd.com

April 22, 2009

Mr. James E. Tillman, Sr.
State Conservationist
USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
355 East Hancock Avenue
Stop Number 200
Athens, GA 30601

Oglethorpe Proposed Biomass Projects
Request for Information
51242

Dear Mr. Tillman, Sr.,

Burns & McDonnell has been retained by Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) to assist with the permitting for two proposed 100-megawatt biomass power plants. Two potential sites have been identified. The first site is located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County (Attachment 1) and the second site is located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County (Attachment 2). Each site is approximately 345 to365 acres in size. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015.

The purpose of this letter is to request your input to the permitting and development of these proposed power plant sites by identifying any issues and concerns your agency might have with respect to the project. We also request that you identify a point-of-contact within your agency that you would like us to use in future correspondence and coordination.

We appreciate your time and assistance in providing this information. If possible, please submit any information to us by **May 22, 2009**. We will be happy to discuss this letter or the project if you have any questions or require additional information. Please contact me at (816) 822-3508 or by email at cballard@burnsmcd.com.

Sincerely,

Carla D. Ballard

Carla D. Ballard
Asst. Project Manager

Attachments
cc: Ms. Wende Martin (Oglethorpe)

9400 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3319
Tel: 816-333-9400
Fax: 816-333-3690
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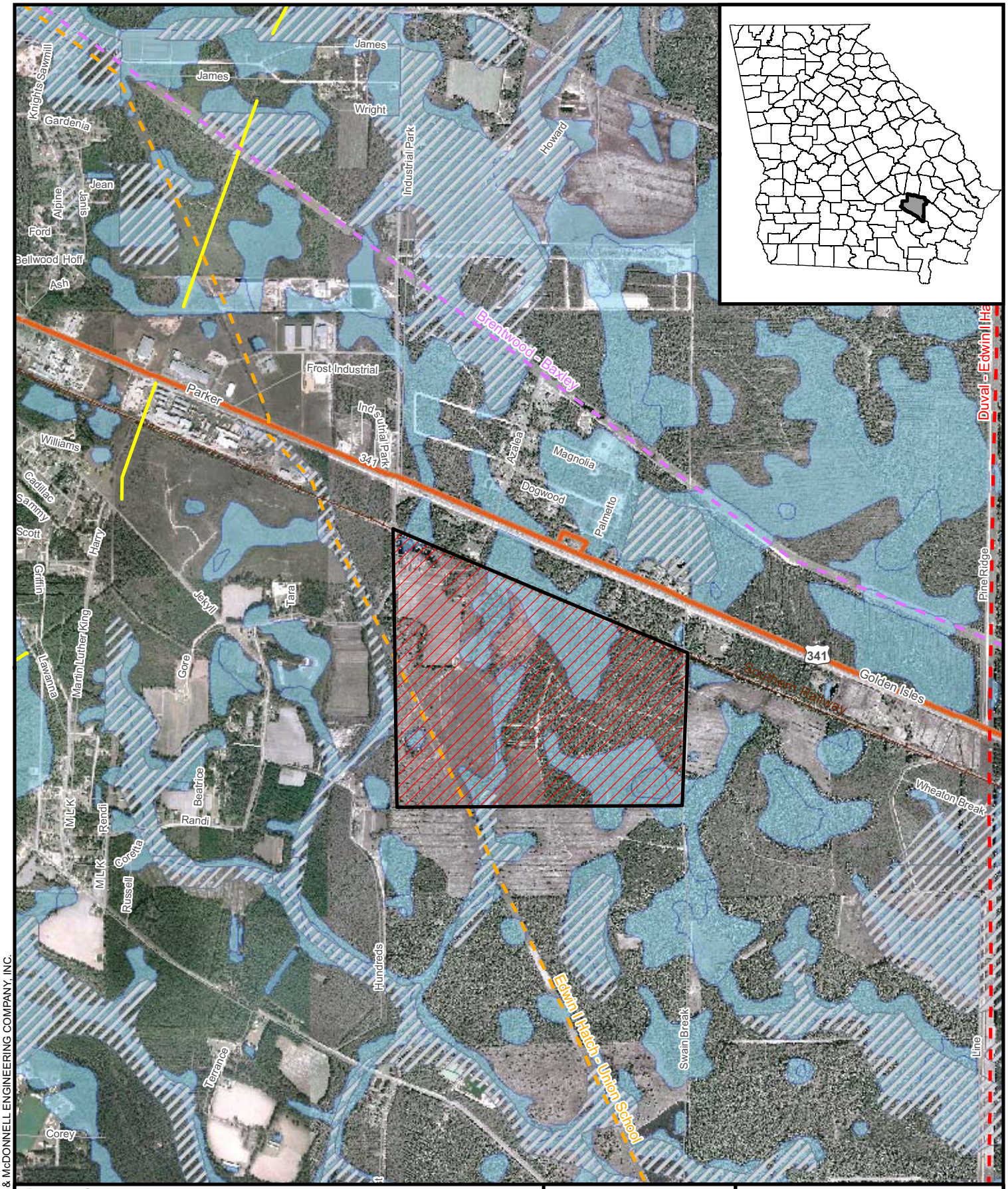

Legend

- Site Parcels
- Wetlands

FEMA Floodplains

- 100 yr
- 500 yr

Transmission lines

- 115 kV
- 230 kV
- 500 kV

Utility Lines

- Gas
- Oil
- Telephone

NORTH

0 1000 2000 Feet

OglethorpePower

Attachment 1
Central Wood Basket:
Appling County Site

Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Alternatives Report

U:\OglethorpeBiomass\51242\DataFiles\ArcDocs\Figure6-9_Appling.mxd jlp 02/09/09 1:24000

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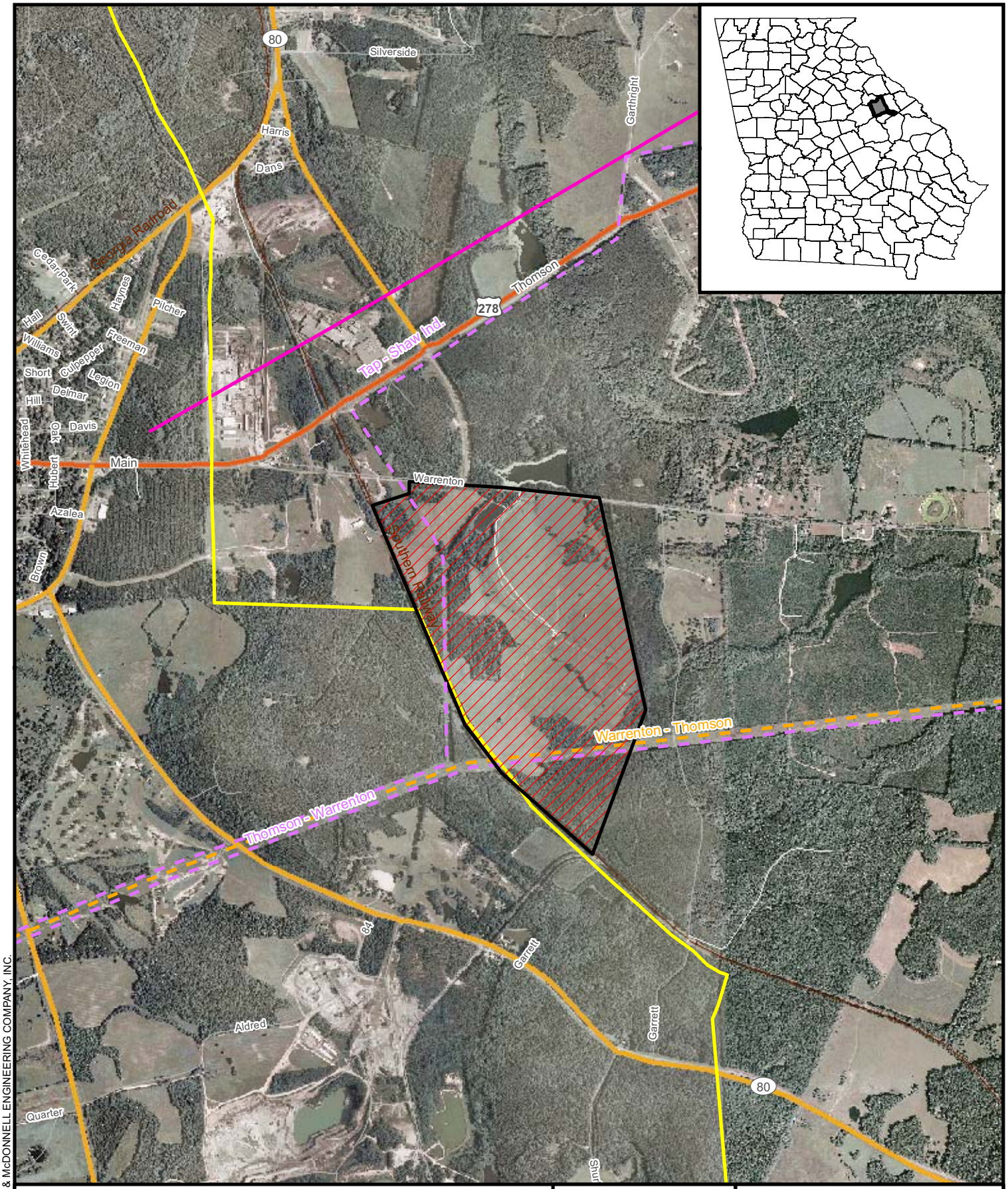
Source: ESRI and Burns & McDonnell Engineering.



Legend

- Site Parcels
- Wetlands

FEMA Floodplains

- 100 yr
- 500 yr

Transmission lines

- 115 kV
- 230 kV
- 500 kV

Utility Lines

- Gas
- Oil
- Telephone

NORTH

0 1000 2000 Feet

OglethorpePower

Attachment 2
Northern Wood Basket:
Warren County Site

Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Alternatives Report

U:\OglethorpeBiomass\51242\DataFiles\ArcDocs\Figure6-8_Warren.mxd jlp 06/18/09 1:24000

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Source: ESRI and Burns & McDonnell Engineering.

TRIBAL COORDINATION LETTERS – C-5

Ms. Elizabeth Shirk
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Division
34 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600
Atlanta, GA 30303-2316

RE: Two Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Ms. Shirk:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities – one located near Warrenton in Warren County, Georgia, and the second located near Baxley in Appling County, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with the SHPO and other consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking, and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects and any disagreement that might arise between the applicant or its authorized representative, and other consulting parties or the public.

RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. Accordingly, the RUS has invited the following nine Indian tribes to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal - the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians, the Thlopthlocco Tribal

Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, , please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, phone 202-720-0468 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES file EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/09: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\ Georgia – OPC Final SHPO Letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Kenneth Carleton
Archeologist
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6005
Choctaw Branch
Philadelphia, MS 39350

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Carleton:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Chief Beasley Denson, the RUS invited the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the

referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately-owned managed forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, , please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

If the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/20/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Harry Harjo
Kialegee Tribal Town
P.O. Box 332
Wetuka, OK 74883

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Harjo:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Kialegee Tribal Town that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Mekko Tiger Hobia, the RUS invited the Kialegee Tribal Town to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Poarch Creek Indians, the

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately-owned managed forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

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If the Kialegee Tribal Town decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Kialegee Tribal Town will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/25/09

Mark L. Plank
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. A.D. Ellis
Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 580
Hyw 75 & Loop 56
Okmulgee OK 74447

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chief Ellis:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Ms. Joyce A. Bear, Manager of the Culture and Historic Preservation Office for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Chad Smith
Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948
Talequah OK 74465

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chief Smith:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

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RUS is inviting the Cherokee Nation to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Richard Allen, Program Analyst with the Cherokee Nation, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Cherokee Nation will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

cc: EES file EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: ldean: 720-9634: 6/22/09: final: EO 6/24/09
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Ms. Christine Norris
Chief
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 14
Jena LA 71342

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chief Norris:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Mike Tarpley, the Section 106 representative for the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

cc: EES file EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: ldean: 720-9634: 6/22/09: final: EO 6/24/09
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Mitchell Cypress
Chairman
Seminole Indian Tribe
6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood FL 33024

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chairman Cypress:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Seminole Indian Tribe to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Willard Steele, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Seminole Indian Tribe, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Seminole Indian Tribe will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. Tiger Hobia
Mekko
Kialegee Tribal Town
P.O. Box 332
Wetuka OK 74883

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mekko Hobia:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

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The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Kialegee Tribal Town to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Harry Harjo of the Kialegee Tribal Town has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Kialegee Tribal Town will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. Buford Rolin
Chairman
Poarch Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore AL 36502

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chairman Rolin:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Poarch Creek Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Robert Thrower, NAGPRA Contact for the Poarch Creek Indians, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Poarch Creek Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. George Wickliffe
Chief
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians
P.O. Box 746
Talequah OK 74465

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chief Wickliffe:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Ms. Lisa Stopp, Director of Language, History and Culture for the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the United Keetoowah Band will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

The RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. Beasley Denson
Chief
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Choctaw Branch
P.O. Box 6010
Philadelphia MS 39350

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Chief Denson:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

RUS is inviting the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Ken Carleton, Archeologist for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. Vernon Yarholar
Mekko
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
P.O. Box 188
Okemah OK 74859-0188

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mekko Yarholar:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

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RUS is inviting the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced undertaking. Please advise the RUS of your decision as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Mr. Charles Coleman of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has been notified of this undertaking and will be provided with Section 106 documentation. I am hopeful that the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds.

RUS appreciates your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571 or via email at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

RICHARD FRISTIK 6/24/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

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Mr. Charles Coleman
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
P.O. Box 188
Okemah, OK 74859

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Mekko Vernon Yarholar, the RUS invited the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee

Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

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In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

If the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank

6/26/09

Mark L. Plank
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

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Mr. Robert Thrower
NAGRPA Contact
Poarch Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Road
Atmore, AL 36502

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Thrower:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Poarch Creek Indians that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Tribal Chairman Buford Rolin, the RUS invited the Poarch Creek Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee

Tribal Town, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

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If the Poarch Creek Indians decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Poarch Creek Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/25/09

Mark L. Plank
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

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Mr. Willard Steele
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Seminole Indian Tribe
Ah Tha Thi Ki Museum
HC 61, Box 21A
Clewiston, FL 33440

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Steele:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Seminole Indian Tribe that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Chairman Mitchell Cypress, the RUS invited the Seminole Indian Tribe to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced

proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately-owned managed forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

If the Seminole Indian Tribe decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Seminole Indian Tribe will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/25/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Mike Tarpley
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Tarpley:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Chief Christine Norris, the RUS invited the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch

Creek Indians, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 278. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 278 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of managed forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately-owned managed forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

If the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/25/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mrs. Joyce Bear
Manager, Culture and Historic Preservation Office
Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 580
Hyw 75 & Loop 56
Okmulgee, OK 74447

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mrs. Bear:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which delivers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs, is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (woody) biomass electric generating facilities – one located near Warrenton in Warren County, Georgia, and the second located near Baxley in Appling County, Georgia. Oglethorpe proposes a 2014 in-service date for the first plant, followed by the second plant one year later. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative, and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Chief A.D. Ellis, the RUS invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Cherokee Nation, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians,

the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to participate.

Oglethorpe's first proposed facility would be located approximately one mile east of Warrenton in Warren County on the south side of US Highway 2788. Road access to the site is provided by turning south from US Highway 2788 onto Queen's Way which terminates at East Warrenton Road, the northern site boundary (Attachment 1). A rail line defines the western border of the site. As proposed by RUS, the area of potential effects (APE) for the first site includes approximately 365 acres that are a mixture of privately owned forest and pastureland.

The proposed site for the second plant is located approximately two miles east of Baxley in Appling County. The site is bordered by a Southern Railroad right-of-way to the north, Hundred's Road (CR 192) and several residential parcels to the west, the Rayonier Forest Resources property on the south, and Swain Break Road to the east. Road access to the site is provided by US Highway 341, which lies approximately 0.1 mile north of the site (Attachment 2). The APE for this second plant includes approximately 345 acres, currently used as a mixture of privately owned forest and crop land.

In an effort to identify historic properties, Oglethorpe surveyed approximately 342 acres and 350 acres, respectively, of the Warren County and Appling County sites in May 2009. The field methods employed are consistent with the *Georgia Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Surveys* for Phase 1 level surveys. None of the nine archeological sites identified appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Oglethorpe will provide you with a copy of the cultural resource survey report for review once it has been authorized to do so by RUS. RUS recognizes that additional study of the APE may be needed in order to respond to your recommendations based on review of this report.

RUS will coordinate compliance with Section 106 and its implementing regulations with the steps taken to meet its requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this coordination, RUS will use its NEPA public involvement procedures to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. You are invited to attend the NEPA public meetings scheduled for July 8 and 9, 2009 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held at the Appling County Courthouse Annex located at 69 Tippins Street, Baxley, Georgia. The second meeting will be held at the Community Service Building located at 48 Warren Street, Warrenton, Georgia. RUS and Oglethorpe will be present at each meeting to solicit your comments and answer questions regarding the proposals. If you are interested in attending the interagency meeting scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at Oglethorpe's Headquarters, 2100 East Exchange Place, Tucker, Georgia, please contact Ms. Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager, by July 1, 2009 at stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

If the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma decides to participate in consultation, please notify the RUS as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, July 27, 2009. Please submit your notification to Ms. Strength, at USDA Rural Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, D.C. 20250-1571, or via email to stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov.

I am hopeful that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma will work closely with Oglethorpe and its authorized representative, Burns & McDonnell, as review under Section 106 proceeds. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Strength at 202-720-0468.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Plank 6/25/09

MARK S. PLANK
Director
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Water and Environmental Programs

Enclosures

cc: EES File EES LDean EES SStrength

Draft: EES: LDean: 720-9634: 6/22/2004: final: EO 6/24/2009
Recall: S:\RUS\WEPFILES\ldean\Georgia – OPC Final Tribal Leader letter 22 june 09.doc

Mr. Richard L. Allen
Policy Analyst
Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465

RE: Proposed Biomass Power Plants
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Appling and Warren Counties, Georgia

Dear Mr. Allen:

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development, Utilities Programs is authorized to provide financial assistance for infrastructure development in rural areas under its Electric Program in accordance with 7 CFR Part 1794. The Oglethorpe Power Corporation (Oglethorpe) has applied to RUS for financial assistance to develop two 100-megawatt (MW) biomass power plants; the first plant being located near Warrenton, Georgia in Warren County, and the second plant being located near Baxley, Georgia in Appling County. The in-service date for first plant is 2014 followed by the second plant in 2015. The RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposal an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. § 470f, and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

This letter serves as notification to the Cherokee Nation that the RUS has authorized Oglethorpe to initiate consultation pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(4). With this authorization, Oglethorpe may work with consulting parties to identify and evaluate historic properties, and assess effects. However, the RUS remains legally responsible for all findings and determinations charged to the agency. The RUS will oversee Section 106 review of the referenced undertaking and remains ready to participate directly to resolve adverse effects, and any disagreement between the applicant or its authorized representative and other consulting parties or the public.

The RUS may not delegate its responsibility to conduct government-to-government consultation with a Federally-recognized Indian tribe to a nonfederal party. By letter dated June 24, 2009 to Chief Chad Smith, the RUS invited the Cherokee Nation to participate in government-to-government consultation for the referenced proposal. RUS also has invited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Seminole Indian Tribe, the Kialegee Tribal Town, the Poarch Creek Indians,

TRIBAL FOLLOW-UP MEMOS – C-6

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

TRIBAL HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
AH-TAH-THI-KI MUSEUM

HC-61, BOX 21A
CLEWISTON, FL 33440

PHONE: (863) 983-6549
FAX: (863) 902-1117

TRIBAL OFFICERS
CHAIRMAN
MITCHELL CYPRESS
VICE CHAIRMAN
RICHARD BOWERS JR.
SECRETARY
PRISCILLA D. SAYEN
TREASURER
MICHAEL D. TIGER

Stephanie Strength, RUS Project Manager
USDA Rural Development
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Room 2244, Mail Stop 1571
Washington D.C. 20250-1571

THPO#: 003729

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

Subject: Oglethorpe Power Corporation Proposed Biomass Power Plants, Warren and Appling County, Georgia

Dear Ms. Strength,

The Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Historic Preservation Office (STOF-THPO) has reviewed the USDA project notification for the aforementioned project. Due to the fact that the proposed project is potentially ground disturbing, the STOF-THPO will await any associated archaeological reports and/or cultural resource surveys for review prior to making any further comment.

We thank you for notification of these proposed projects. Please reference ***THPO-003729*** in any future correspondence concerning this project.

Sincerely,

FOR

Willard Steele,
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Direct routine inquiries to:

Dawn Hutchins,
Compliance Review Supervisor

JLP:dh

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** N/A

With: Mr. Richard Allen, THPO **Tel. No.:** 918-453-5000

Representing: Cherokee Nation

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: Mr. Allen was not in his office at the time of the call. I left a message noting that the Oglethorpe projects were in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia and requested that he return my call.

June 15, 2009: I left another message requesting that Mr. Allen return my call.

June 16, 2009: I left another message requesting that Mr. Allen return my call.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** N/A

With: Mr. Terry Cole, THPO **Tel. No.:** 580-924-8280

Representing: Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 16, 2009: Placed a call to Mr. Terry Cole, but he was not in his office. I spoke with Karen Johnson of the Tribe's Historic Preservation Office in his absence. Ms. Johnson stated that the Choctaw Nation would not be interested in a project in Georgia. Ms. Johnson did not discuss the reason nor did she provide any additional information.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: May 14, 2009 **Time:** 11:22 am

With: Mr. Russell Townsend, THPO **Tel. No.:** 828-497-2771

Representing: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Recorded by: J. Eric Gilliland **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass **Info Acct.:** 51242

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

May 14, 2009: I spoke with Mr. Townsend and introduced myself. I described the reason for my call and the location of the Warren County site. He reviewed the Tribe's records and determined that the project area was south of the traditional Cherokee homeland; therefore, his office would not review the project. I noted that the RUS (i.e., lead Federal agency) would initiate formal consultation in the future, and that this was only a courtesy call prior to conducting our field surveys. Mr. Townsend thanked me for contacting him.

Mr. Townsend recommended that I contact Ms. Joyce Bear of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He thought that Ms. Bear would be interested in reviewing the project.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 13, 2009 **Time:** 10:36am

With: Historic Preservation Office **Tel. No.:** 405-452-3262

Representing: Kialegee Tribal Town

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 13, 2009: I placed a call to the Historic Preservation Office. The receptionist informed me that I needed to speak with Mr. Henry Harjo, but that he would not be in the office until June 19, 2009. Mr. Harjo's phone number is 405-452-5501.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** see below

With: Mr. Kenneth Carleton**,** THPO **Tel. No.:** 601-656-5251 ext 7300

Representing: Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: Mr. Carleton was not in his office at 10:28AM when I placed the call. I left a message noting that the Oglethorpe projects were in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia and requested that he return my call.

June 15, 2009: I left another message requesting that Mr. Carleton return my call.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: May 2009 **Time:** see below

With: Ms. Joyce Bear, THPO **Tel. No.:** 918-732-7731

Representing: Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma

Recorded by: J. Eric Gilliland **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

May 14, 2009: The first call was placed to Ms. Bear at 11:44AM. Upon reaching Ms. Bear's answering voicemail, I left a detailed message regarding who I was and why I was calling. I told her about the Appling County, GA survey, where the site was located, and that we would be in the field starting Monday, May 18, 2009. I noted that the RUS (i.e., lead Federal agency) would initiate formal consultation in the future, and that this was only a courtesy call to let them know that we would be in the field next week. I requested that Ms. Bear t return my call and left my phone number.

May 15, 2009: At 11:12AM I attempted to reach Ms. Bear. Upon reaching Ms. Bear's answering voicemail, I left another message and requested that she return my call.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** see below

With: Mr. Robert Thrower, NAGPRA Contact **Tel. No.:** 251-368-9136

Representing: Poarch Creek

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: At 10:44AM I placed a call to the Historic Preservation Office. There was no answer and no means by which to leave a message for Mr. Thrower.

June 15, 2009: I was given Mr. Thrower's cell phone number. I called Mr. Thrower and left a message requesting that he return my call.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time**: see below

With: Mr. Willard Steele, THPO **Tel. No.:** 954-966-6300

Representing: Seminole Indian Tribe

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: I placed a call to Mr. Steele at 10:31AM. I attempted to leave a voicemail message but his mailbox was full and would not accept any additional messages.

June 15, 2009: I placed a second call to Mr. Steele. Again, I attempted to leave a voicemail message but his mailbox was full and would not accept any additional messages.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** see below

With: Ms. Natalie Deere, THPO **Tel. No.**: 405-627-0122

Representing: Seminole Nation

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: Placed a call to Ms. Deere and left a message requesting that Ms. Deere return my call.

June 15, 2009: Placed a call to Ms. Deere and left a message requesting that Ms. Deere return my call.

June 16, 2009: Placed another call to Ms. Deere and left a message requesting that she return my call. At 11:34AM, a man returned my call and indicated that the Seminole Nation is not the correct contact point and that all contact should made through the Seminole Tribe in Oklahoma. No letters should be sent to the Seminole Nation. He indicated the contact person with the Seminole Indian Tribe is Mr. Harrison, the Assistant Chief of the Seminole Tribe, who can be reached at 402-257-7200. I called Mr. Harrison but was unable to reach him or to leave a message. I was unable to determine when Mr. Harrison might return to his office.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** see below

With: Mr. Charles Coleman, THPO **Tel. No.**: 405-220-2185

Representing: Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: Placed a call to Mr. Coleman and left a message requesting that Mr. Coleman return my call.

June 15, 2009: Placed a call to Mr. Coleman and left a message requesting that Mr. Coleman return my call.

June 16, 2009: Placed another call to Mr. Coleman and spoke with someone who provided Mr. Coleman's cell phone number. I contacted Mr. Coleman on his cell phone and he requested that the project information be sent via email. Mr. Coleman indicated that letters are frequently lost in the tribal office and that he would review the information to see if the Tribe had any interest in the projects.

Burns & McDonnell
SINCE 1898

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND PERMITTING

TELEPHONE MEMO

Date: June 2009 **Time:** N/A

With: Ms. Lisa Stopp, THPO **Tel. No.:** 918-431-1818

Representing: United Keetooway Band of Cherokee Indians

Recorded by: Dan Shinn **Left Message:** see below

Project Name: Oglethorpe Biomass Plant; Appling and Warren Counties GA

Subject: Section 106 Contact/Informal Consultation **Info Acct.:** 51242

June 12, 2009: I placed a call to Ms. Stopp at 11:08AM. I left a message noting that the Oglethorpe projects were in Warren and Appling Counties, Georgia and requested that she return my call.

June 15, 2009: I left another message requesting that Ms. Stopp return my call.

June 16, 2009: I left another message requesting that Ms. Stopp return my call.

APPENDIX D – PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

SIGN-IN SHEETS AND BLANK COMMENT FORM – D-1
MEETING HANDOUTS AND DISPLAYS – D-2

SIGN-IN SHEETS AND BLANK COMMENT FORM – D-1

USDA Rural Development

Warren County Biomass Power Plant Project
Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet
July 9, 2009
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

	Name/Address
1	
2	Jane McMichael 228 Johnson St. Warrenton, Ga. 30828
3	ALLEN FERGUSON 600 W. PEACHTREE ST. ATLANTA GA.
4	Ulmer Bridges 3077 Hwy 17N. Wrens, Ga. 30833
5	William & Jane Mann 1168 Ranger Rd, Warrenton, Ga. 30828
6	Wedley Johnson PO Box 763 Warrenton GA 30828
7	Harold Fenbank P.O. Box 220 Dearing, GA 30808
8	Rita Johnson 299 Jimmy Johnson Rd Warrenton GA 30828
9	Aaron Johnson 299 Jimmy Johnson Rd Warrenton GA 30828
10	Jim Hicks, The Timbermen, Inc. - P.O. Box 107 Camak, GA 30807
11	Scott Johnson 348 Main St. Warrenton GA 30828
12	[illegible] PO Box 92 Warrenton Ga 30828
13	[illegible] Smith 455 Atlanta Hwy Warrenton Ga 30828
14	Linda & Bill Shines 2373 Mesena Rd Warrenton GA 30828
15	Dave Major 890 Ranger Rd Warrenton
	Sara Major " " " " " "

USDA Rural Development

Warren County Biomass Power Plant Project
Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet
July 9, 2009
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Name/Address

16 Garrett Edmunds Thomson, Ga 30824
17 Devon Darnell (706) 542 9219 Athens, GA
18 Joan Wiseman Warrenton Ga
19 DAN CRUMPTON 477 ATLANTA HWY. WARRENTON, GA 30828
20 NANCY BOBBITT PO BOX 2384 EVANS, GA 30809
21 JIM NUSSEY - 1054 CLAUSSEN Rd, SUITE 313 AUGUSTA GA 30907
22 JEFF MERRITH 10693 Hwy 123 Mitchell GA 30820
23 Steve Huff 4074 Adams Chapel Rd SE Harlem GA 30814
24 CRAIG HUNTER PO BOX 226 Warrenton 30828
25 Steve Cooper P.O Box 13 CAMAK GA 30807
26 [illegible], Mayor 69 Lamar Ave. Warrenton, 30828
27 Larry Rachels 37 MILTON WAY WARRENTON
28 Jeremy Rachels 37 Milton Way Warrenton 30828
29 Karl N. Haywood The Warrenton Clipper P.O. Box 306, Warrenton, Ga. 30828
30

USDA Rural Development

Warren County Biomass Power Plant Project
Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheet
July 9, 2009
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Name/Address

31 Jonathan Cushman 224 morris Rd. Thomson GA 30824
32 John Graham Po Box 402 Warrenton, GA 30828
33 Brenda Cooper PO Box 13 Camak GA 30807
34 Gwen Tucker - 2625 Ansley Rd. Warrenton, GA 30828
35 Jonathan Dixie Wiedeveaenders 4037 East Warrenton Road Warrenton GA 30828
36
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Comments/Questions

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development,
Utilities Program (Rural Utilities Service)
Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plants
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

_____

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_____

Optional: Name: _____

Address: _____

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1570
202-720-0468 or stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

MEETING DISPLAYS – D-2

Federal Review Process
Oglethorpe 100-MW Biomass Plants

Oglethorpe Power Corporation has requested financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a federal agency that administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Program for the construction of two proposed biomass plants in Appling and Warren Counties. Given that the provision of funding is considered a federal action, it is thus subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and RUS is required to prepare a separate Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for each of the two proposed 100 MW Biomass Plants.

The purpose of an EIS is to assess the potential impacts of the proposal, for example:

- Land Use
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Wetlands
- Cultural and Historic Properties
- Socioeconomics
- Visual and Audio Impacts

Public Scoping and Hearings

The RUS NEPA process, which incorporates the public involvement components of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, provides many opportunities for public review and submission of comments to be considered and incorporated into the EIS's. The inclusion of public comments and concerns is an imperative component of the EIS process, to ensure the identification of local concerns which may influence the agency's decision.

The NEPA Scoping process includes:

- Soliciting public comments
- Identifying alternatives to a proposed action
- Identifying Significant Impacts
- Initiating consultation with agencies and tribes

Track EIS development, download comment forms, and access all public documentation at the RUS Web site, http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm.

For more information and to submit comments, please contact:
Stephanie Strength, USDA Rural Utilities Service
1400 Independence Ave. SW, Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244 Washington, DC 20250-1571
stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

June 2009
Notice of Intent Published in Federal Register

July 2009
Conduct Public Scoping Meetings

Review & Compile Comments Received

Prepare and Distribute a Draft EIS

Spring 2010
Public Hearings & Submission of Comments on the Draft EIS

Review & Respond to Public Comment

Prepare & Distribute Final EIS

Public Review & Comment on Final

Winter 2010/11
Prepare Record of Decision

OglethorpePower

Biomass Power Plants
Project Overview

Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC) proposes to develop up to three 100 megawatt (MW) biomass electric generating facilities in Georgia as a conscientious and environmentally responsible way to generate energy from one of the state's most abundant renewable resources. Using woody biomass as fuel, these power plants will be carbon-neutral and provide needed energy to OPC's 38 member EMCs (Electric Membership Corporations) that supply power to nearly half of Georgia's population.

Currently, OPC's plans call for the construction of two biomass power plants, one to go online in 2014 and the second in 2015. A third unit may be developed, and that decision will be made later. OPC is currently evaluating potential sites in Georgia in Appling, Echols, Warren and Washington Counties. Our preliminarily preferred sites are in Warren and Appling Counties.

Economic Benefit

The economic benefit of OPC's biomass power plants will be substantial, both for the communities in which they are located and for the state as a whole. A study published by the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates that biomass energy plants create up to 4.9 jobs for each MW of installed capacity – that's nearly 1,000 new, secondary jobs if only two of the plants are developed. The more than $30 million each plant will spend annually for fuel will support hundreds of jobs in the state's forest industry, such as growing, harvesting, processing and delivering biomass for the plants. Each plant will provide up to 40 new full-time jobs on-site. Capital investment in the plants is expected to be $400-500 million each.

Carbon-neutral - Environmentally Responsible

Plants burning woody biomass are considered to be carbon-neutral. Because trees naturally absorb and sequester carbon dioxide (CO_2), the CO_2 that is released during combustion is merely being returned to the atmosphere, with no net increase. When new trees are planted to replace those harvested for fuel, that same CO_2 is removed once again from the atmosphere.

Woody biomass – whether never harvested or left over from typical harvesting or land-clearing activities – will eventually return its carbon to the atmosphere upon decomposition, either in the form of CO_2 or as methane, a much more potent greenhouse gas; combustion prevents the release of methane into the atmosphere that would otherwise occur through decomposition. In addition, the fluidized bed boiler in which the biomass will be combusted results in very little ash. The biomass power plants each will be expected to dispose of about two truckloads of inert ash per day in a local landfill.

A "Renewable" Power Source

Woody biomass is a renewable source of power and Georgia's forests represent an abundant and sustainable fuel source. According to the Georgia Forestry Commission, of Georgia's 37 million acres of land area, more than 24 million acres are timberland available for commercial use. The 18.6 million acres of forest land in Georgia generally located south of I-20 represent 901 million tons of growing stock and 59 million tons in annual growth. There are presently 48 million tons harvested annually, resulting in an approximately 1.25 growth-to-removal ratio. In addition, an estimated 80,000 acres of forestland are naturally regenerated each year. Even with harvesting, there is a net increase in the amount of available wood in Georgia ensuring that future forests will continue to support our economy and environment.

Public Input and Transparency

Once OPC has identified which of the potential sites it will most likely pursue for developing the biomass plants, the company will host public scoping meetings near each of the chosen locations so that the public can learn more about the project. Scoping meetings also are an opportunity for people to express concerns about the project and for Oglethorpe Power and the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to receive input necessary to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Scoping meetings are required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a set of regulations designed to help federal agencies comply with environmental protection laws. Although OPC is not a federal agency, because the federal RUS is providing assistance with financing for the biomass plants, the project must follow NEPA

procedures. There will be additional opportunities for public comment as the EIS is developed and the permitting process goes forward.

Biomass Power Plant Specifications
The specifications below are for each of the proposed 100 MW biomass power plants.

Fuel:	Woody biomass mixture expected to consist primarily of whole tree chips and chipped pulpwood, along with wood from saw mills and wood remaining in the forest after clearing. The power plants will be designed to allow for the co-firing of other types of biomass (pecan hulls, peanut shells, etc.) at a low rate, when available and economical. Each plant will use approximately 1 million green tons of wood per year based on an 85 percent capacity factor. Liquid biofuels or biofuel blend is planned to be used for startup. Presently, there are no plans to use any fossil fuels.
Generation:	Steam-electric generating station consisting of fluidized bed boiler/steam turbine installation.
Output:	Approximately 100 megawatts per power plant.
Water requirement:	The maximum amount of water utilized will range from approximately 1.3 to 2.0 million gallons per day, per power plant, depending on load, temperature and humidity.
Consumptive water usage:	The consumptive water usage (evaporation from cooling towers) will range from approximately 1.1 to 1.7 million gallons per day, per power plant, depending on load, temperature and humidity.
Water discharge:	Approximately one-eighth of the water utilized will be returned to the environment after any treatment that may be required.
Water sources:	Depending on location, water will be obtained either from ground water through onsite wells, nearby surface waters, or from municipal or industrial gray water.
Emissions control:	The biomass plants are subject to both state and federal emissions standards. Emission controls for each biomass plant will be determined in the permitting process but would likely include a filter baghouse to reduce particulate emissions, selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) for control of nitrogen oxide (NOx), and sorbent injection for control of sulfur dioxide (SO_2).
Location:	The power plants will be located in areas of Georgia that are in proximity to the forests from which fuel stocks will be harvested. Each biomass power plant will be developed on a minimum of 150 acres to provide an adequate buffer between the physical plant and its surroundings. OPC is in the process of evaluating possible locations in Appling, Echols, Warren and Washington Counties. Our preliminarily preferred sites are in Warren and Appling Counties.

USDA

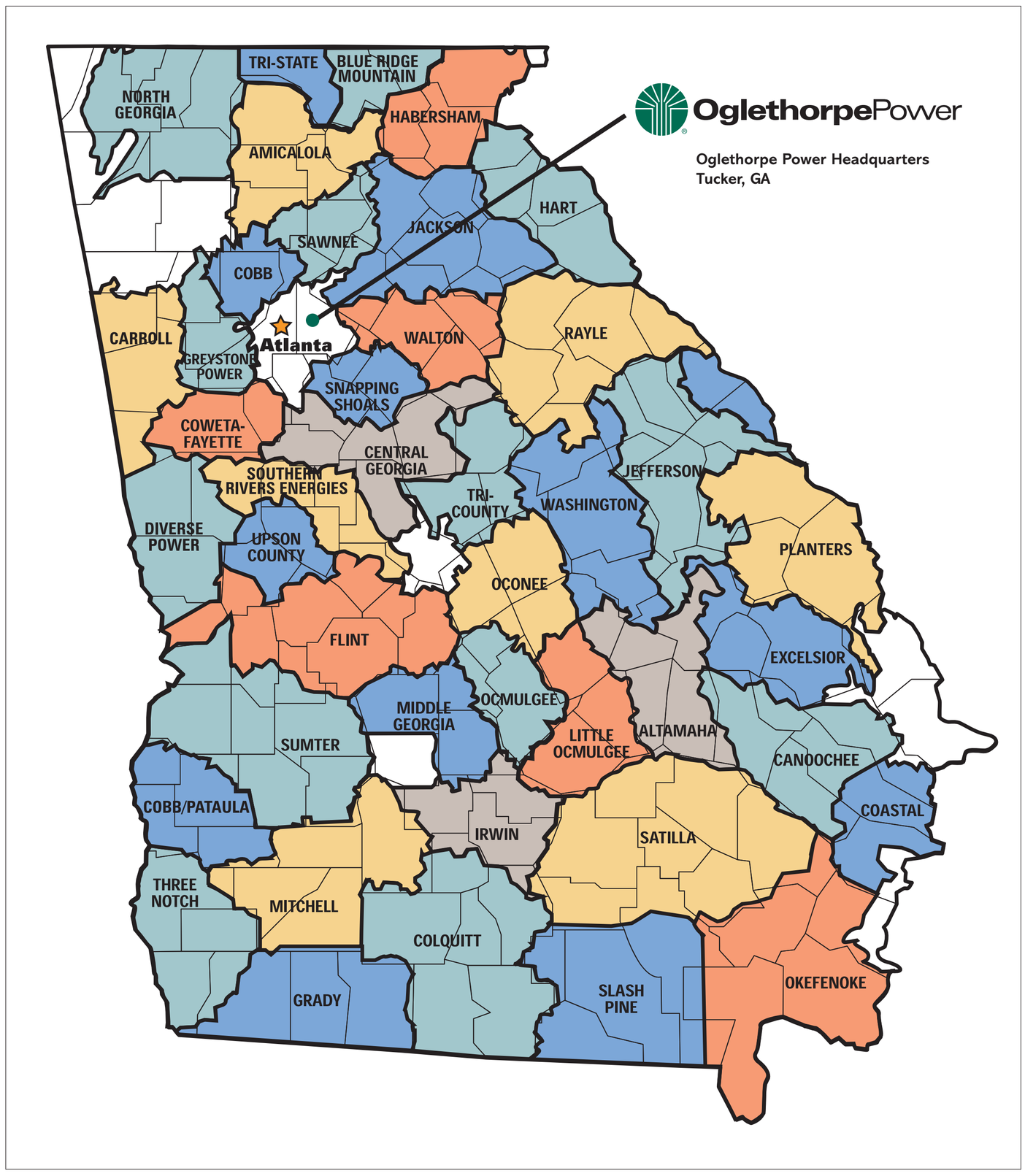
WELCOME

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Ms. Stephanie Strength

OglethorpePower

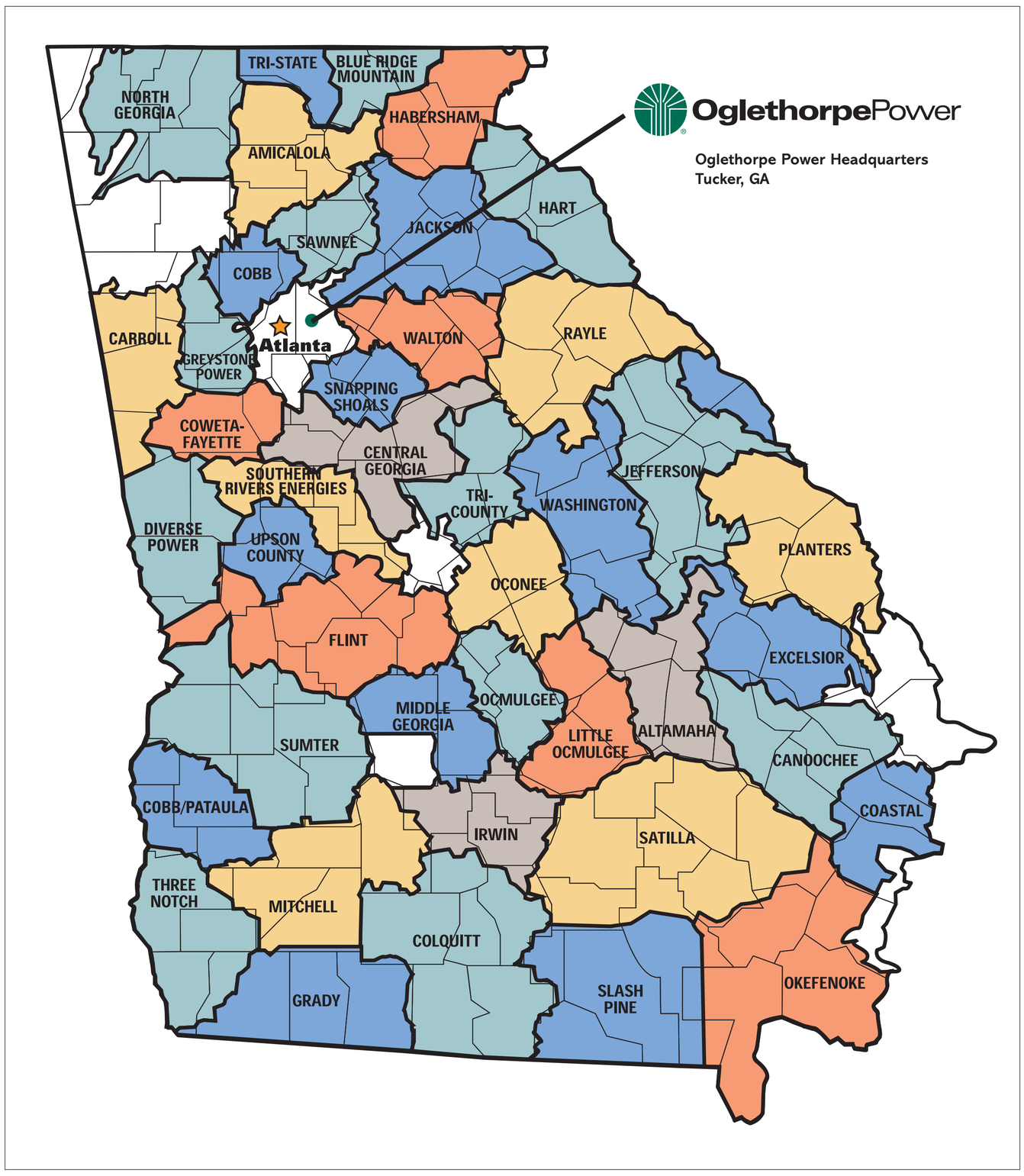
Who Are We?



- We are Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC), a power supply cooperative established in 1974 and owned by 38 Georgia Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs), including Satilla Rural EMC.
- Our Member EMCs provide electricity to more than 4.1 million Georgians.
- We are the nation's largest power supply cooperative, with assets of more than $5 billion.
- We have a diverse energy portfolio, including natural gas, hydroelectric, coal and nuclear generating plants.
- We have an outstanding record of regulatory compliance.

OglethorpePower

Who Are We?

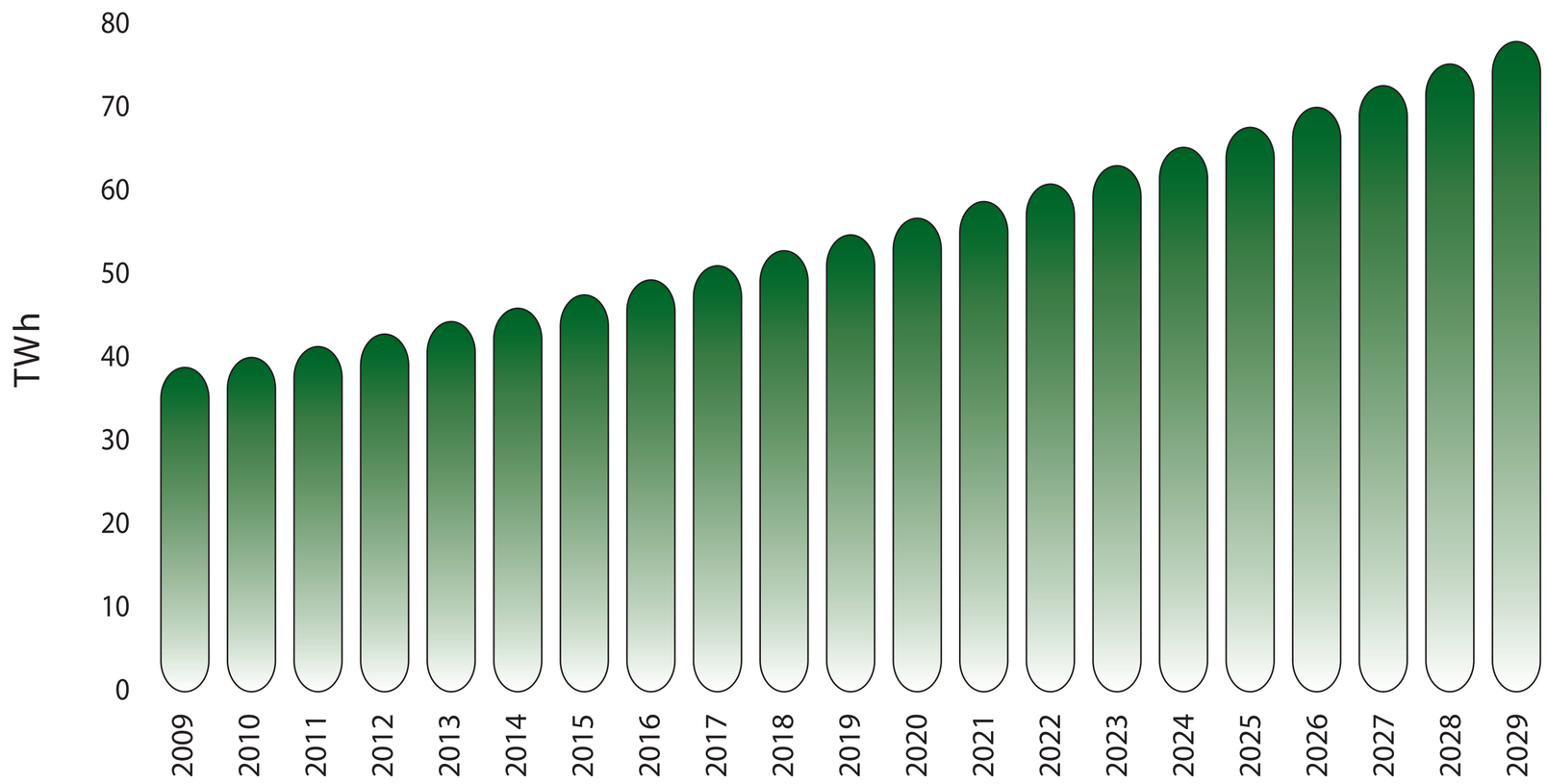


- We are Oglethorpe Power Corporation (OPC), a power supply cooperative established in 1974 and owned by 38 Georgia Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs), including Washington EMC and Jefferson Energy Cooperative.
- Our Member EMCs provide electricity to more than 4.1 million Georgians.
- We are the nation's largest power supply cooperative, with assets of more than $5 billion.
- We have a diverse energy portfolio, including natural gas, hydroelectric, coal and nuclear generating plants.
- We have an outstanding record of regulatory compliance.

OglethorpePower

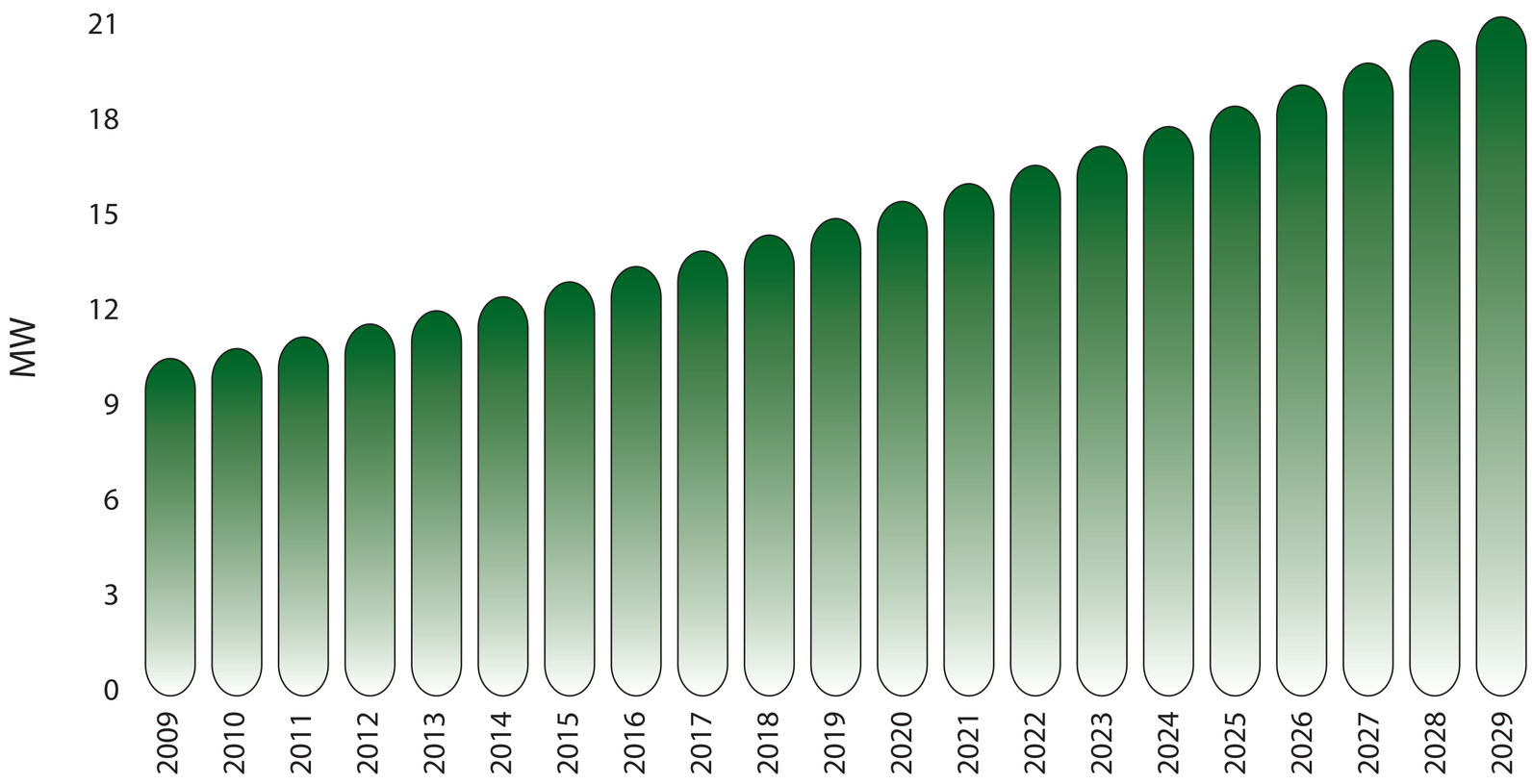
Planning for Georgia's Growth

EMC Forecast Annual Energy Requirements



TWh: terawatt-hours
Source: Oglethorpe 2008 Official Load Forecast

EMC Forecast Peak Demand



MW: Megawatts
Source: Oglethorpe 2008 Official Load Forecast

OglethorpePower

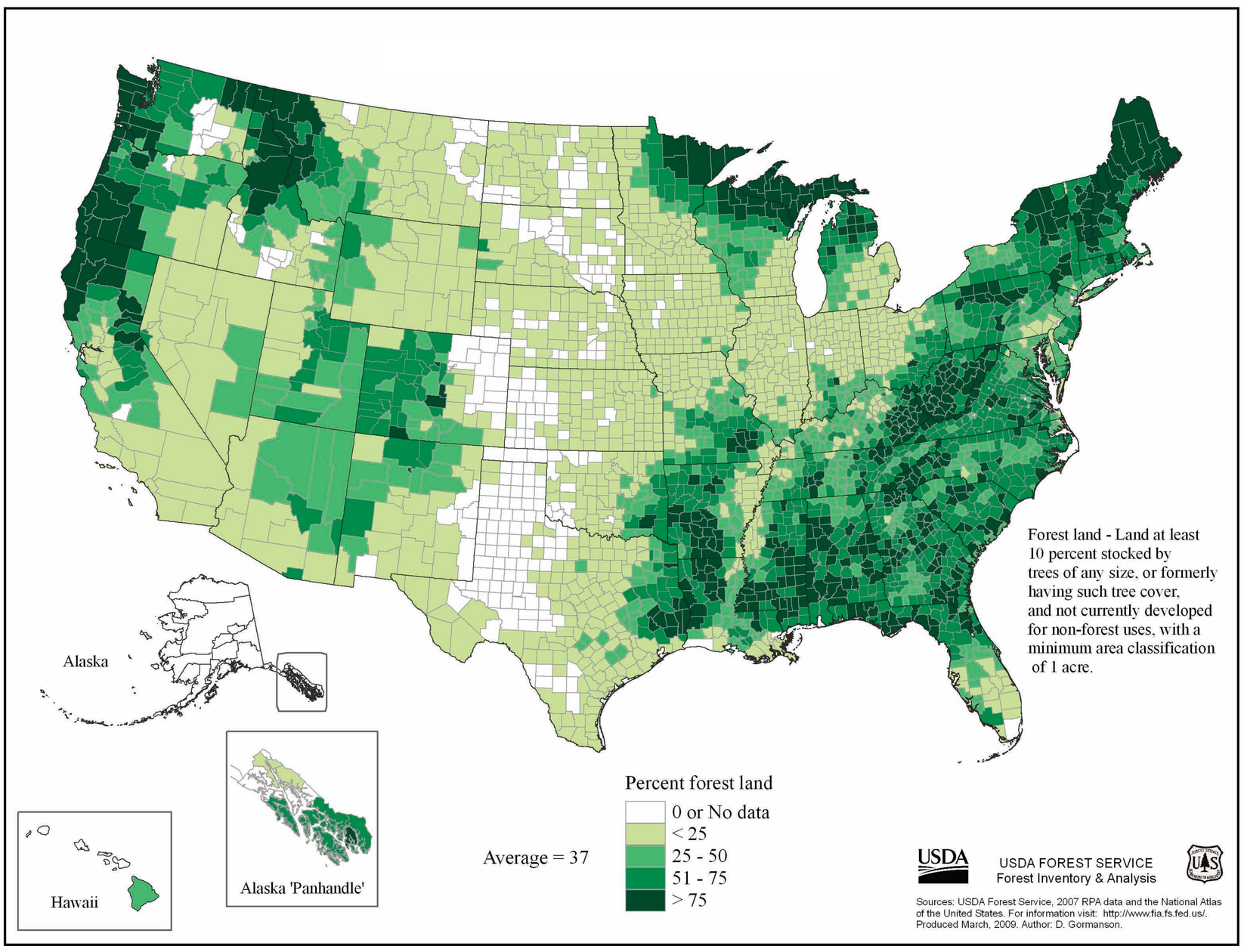
What Is Biomass?

- Biomass refers to biological material that can be used as fuel for power generation.
- Using biomass for energy has been around since people discovered fire.
- Biomass is a carbon-neutral source of electricity. Trees naturally absorb CO_2. They release only that same amount for biomass combustion, resulting in no net increase.

OglethorpePower

Why Biomass?

Proportion of Land That Is Forested

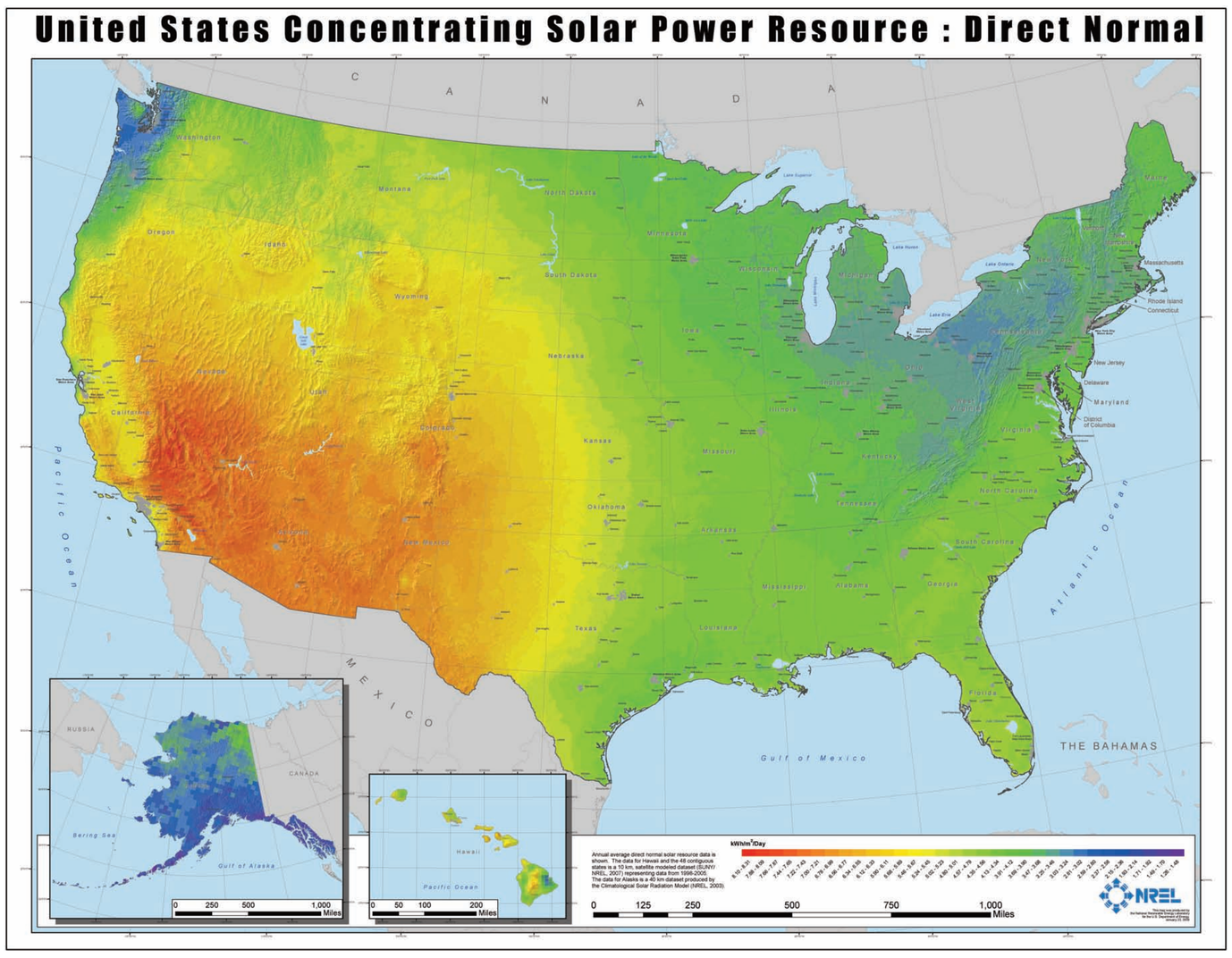


- **Biomass power plants will provide a reliable, long-term supply of renewable and sustainable energy to help Oglethorpe Power's Member EMCs provide the power Georgians need.**
- **Georgia has millions of acres of forest land that provide an environmentally responsible way to generate energy.**
- **Biomass supplies almost 15 times as much energy in the United States as wind and solar power combined—and has the potential to supply much more.**

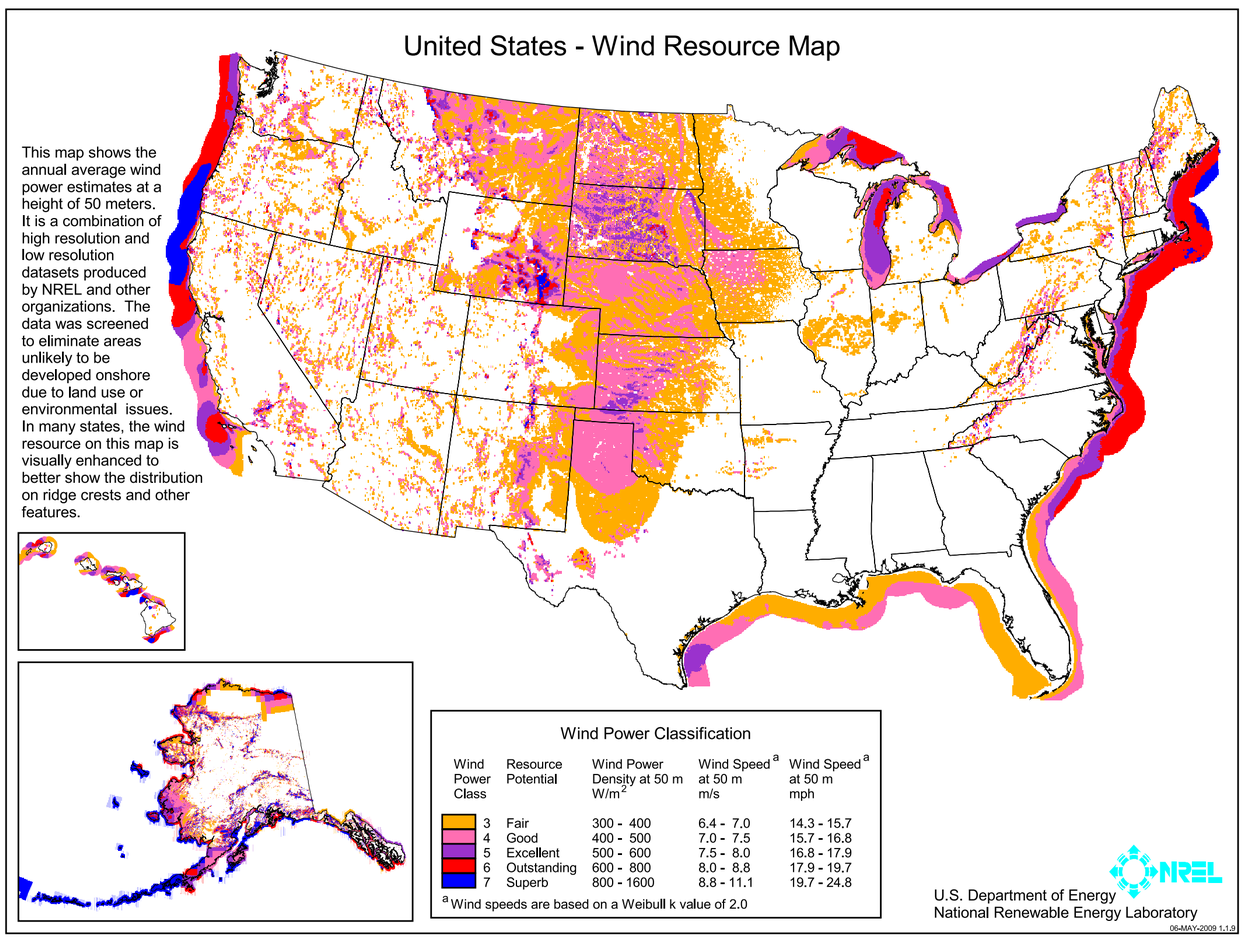
OglethorpePower

Why Not Use Other Renewable Energy Sources?

Solar Potential



Wind Potential



- **According to research by the U.S. Department of Energy, Georgia's geography, ocean currents and weather patterns do not support reliable, large-scale electric production from solar, wave or wind.**

OglethorpePower

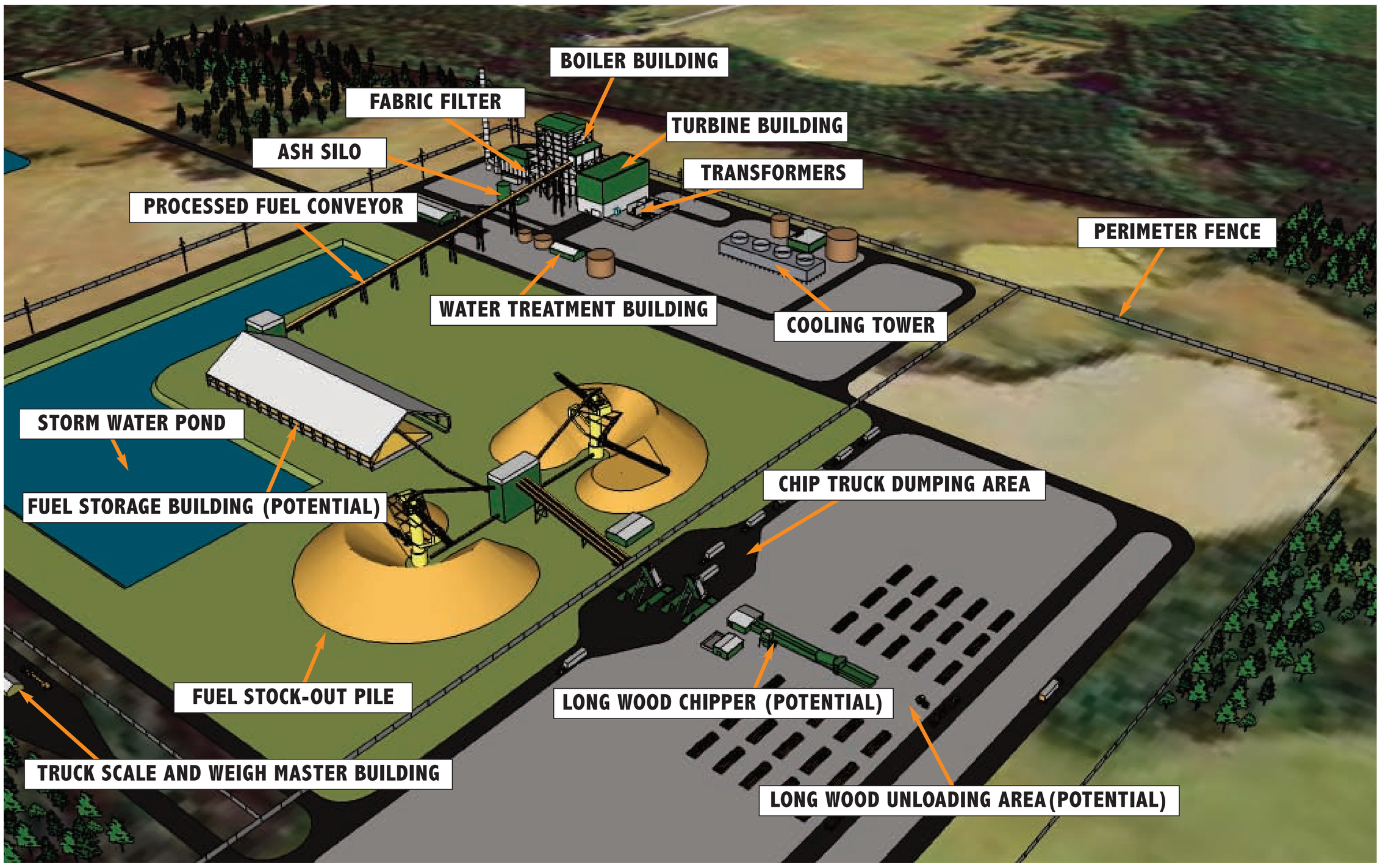
Local Economic Benefits

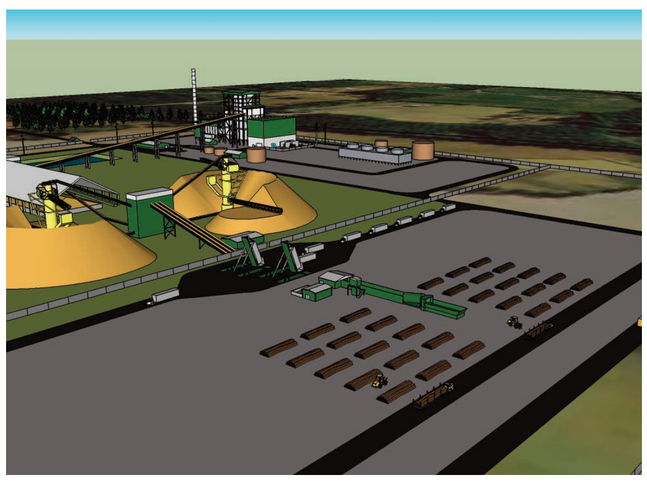
- Capital investment is expected to total $400 million to $500 million for each biomass facility.
- For each facility, OPC is expected to spend more than $30 million annually for fuel—supporting perhaps hundreds of jobs in the state's forest industry, such as growing, harvesting, processing and delivering biomass for the facility.
- Each facility will provide up to 40 full-time jobs in predominately rural areas of the state where the facilities will be developed.

OglethorpePower

Typical Biomass Plant

Rendering of Typical Biomass Plant





OglethorpePower

Biomass Power Plant Profile

Warren County

GENERATION:

- Steam-electric generating station (100 MW) consisting of fluidized bed boiler/steam turbine installation
- Enough power to supply more than 50,000 homes

FUEL:

- Mixture of woody biomass consisting primarily of whole tree chips and chipped pulpwood
- Wood by-products from saw mills and wood remaining in the forest after logging
- Designed to co-fire, at a low rate, other types of biomass (pecan hulls, peanut shells, etc.)
- Biodiesel or biodiesel blend planned to use for start-up fuel

EMISSIONS CONTROLS:

- Plants are subject to stringent state and federal emissions standards
- Specific emissions controls will be determined during the permitting process
- Plants will likely use multiple control technologies, including:
  - Filter baghouse for reduction of particulate emissions
  - Selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR) for control of oxides of nitrogen (NO_X)
  - Sorbent injection for control of sulfur dioxide (SO_2)

WATER USAGE:

- Approximately 1.3 to 2.0 million gallons per day
- For the proposed Warren County location, water may be obtained from a combination of:
  - Recycled municipal treated wastewater
  - Municipal potable water sources
  - Existing surface waters
- Approximately one-eighth of the water utilized will be returned to the municipal wastewater system or environment after any treatment that may be required to comply with state surface water quality standards.

OglethorpePower

Environmental Factors

To Be Considered in the Environmental Impact Statement

- Air quality
- Noise
- Water resources
- Wetlands
- Flood plains
- Protected species
- Cultural resources
- Land-use compatibility
- Transportation
- Geology
- Socioeconomics
- Solid waste

OglethorpePower

Permits, Approvals and Authorizing Agencies

ISSUING AGENCY	PERMIT/APPROVAL NAME
Federal Aviation Administration	Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration, if appropriate
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Floodplain Development Permit or No-rise Certification, if applicable
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Permit (Clean Water Act) General Permit/Individual Permit, if appropriate
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Threatened and Endangered Species Procedures, if appropriate
Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR), Environmental Protection Division (EPD)	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities
GDNR, EPD	NPDES Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
GDNR, EPD	Groundwater Withdrawal Permit
GDNR, EPD	NPDES Individual Permit for Wastewater Discharge
GDNR, EPD	Significant Industrial User Permit
GDNR, EPD	Title V Operating Permit/Title IV Acid Rain Permit
GDNR, EPD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Air Quality Permit
GDNR, Wildlife Resources Division	Threatened and Endangered Species Clearance
GDNR, Historic Preservation Division	Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act Consultation with Tribal Representative and Historic Preservation Officer
Local Issuing Authority (if a delegated authority)	Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act Approval for Construction

Note: *While this list is intended to be comprehensive in terms of the primary permits, licenses or approvals that Oglethorpe Power may need to obtain for the projects, note that 1) not all permits or authorizations would be required at every site, and some requirements may be met through contracts with local governments holding necessary permits; and 2) there may be other local permits or approvals that are not yet identified and/or that local governments may be required to obtain that are not reflected here.*

OglethorpePower

Warren County Schedule

Biomass Project

2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Community Dialog

Environmental Permitting

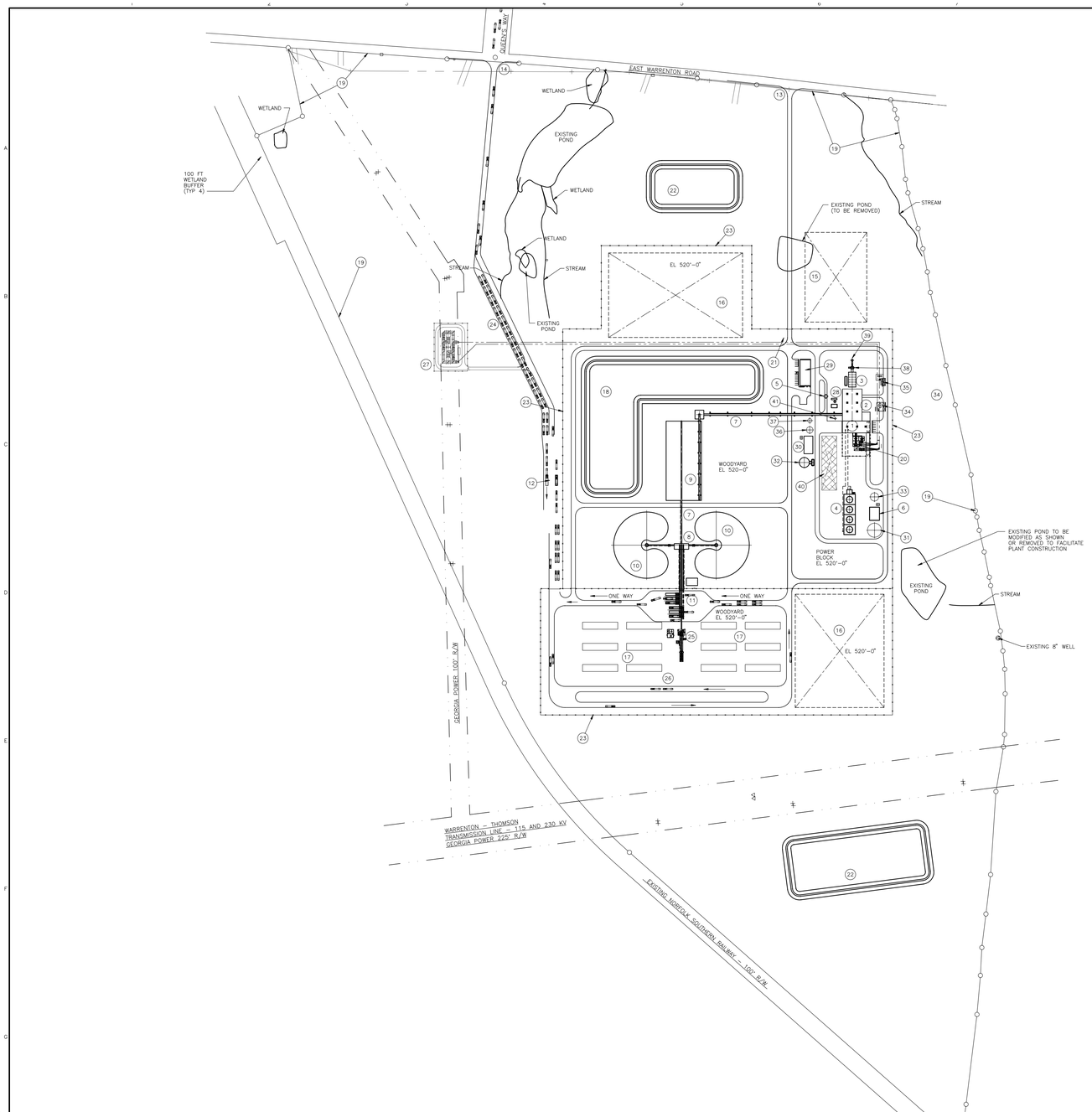
Environmental Monitoring

Construction & Commissioning

Operation

OglethorpePower

Site Plan Proposed Warren County Biomass Plant



SITE FEATURES

ITEM NO.	EQUIP. NO.	DESCRIPTION	TIE DOWN EL.
1	------	TURBINE ROOM	–
2	------	BOILER ROOM	–
3	------	FABRIC FILTER	–
4	------	COOLING TOWER	–
5	------	ASH SILO	–
6	------	WASTEWATER TREATMENT BUILDING	–
7	------	PROCESSED FUEL CONVEYOR	–
8	------	FUEL PROCESSING BUILDING	–
9	------	FUEL STORAGE BUILDING	–
10	------	FUEL STOCK-OUT PILE	–
11	------	FUEL TRUCK DUMPING AREA	–
12	------	TRUCK SCALE AND WEIGH MASTER BUILDING	–
13	------	PLANT ENTRANCE ROAD	–
14	------	FUEL TRUCK ENTRANCE ROAD	–
15	------	CONTRACTOR PARKING LOT	–
16	------	CONSTRUCTION LAYDOWN AREA	–
17	------	LONG WOOD STORAGE AREA	–
18	------	WOOD YARD RUN-OFF POND	–
19	------	PROPERTY OUTLINE	–
20	------	TRANSFORMERS	–
21	------	SECURITY BUILDING	–
22	------	STORM WATER POND	–
23	------	PERIMETER FENCE	–
24	------	FUEL TRUCK STAGING AREA (26 TRUCKS)	–
25	------	LONG WOOD CHIPPER	–
26	------	LONG WOOD UNLOADING AREA	–
27	------	SUBSTATION (BY OTHERS)	–
28	------	SORBENT UNLOADING, STORAGE AND INJECTION EQUIPMENT	–
29	------	ADMINISTRATION/MAINTENANCE/WAREHOUSE BUILDING	–
30	------	WATER TREATMENT BUILDING	–
31	------	GRAYWATER/SURFACE WATER STORAGE TANK	–
32	------	SERVICE/FIRE WATER STORAGE TANK & PUMP BUILDING	–
33	------	POWER PLANT WASTEWATER STORAGE TANK	–
34	------	BIODIESEL STORAGE TANK	–
35	------	AMMONIA STORAGE TANK	–
36	------	CONDENSATE STORAGE TANK	–
37	------	DEMINERALIZED WATER STORAGE TANK	–
38	------	INDUCED DRAFT FAN	–
39	------	STACK	–
40	------	RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION	–
41	------	BOILER SAND TANK	–

NOTES:

1. THIS DRAWING IS CONCEPTUAL DESIGN AND INTENDED TO SHOW TYPICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT OF THIS TYPE AND CAPACITY. THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS A RESULT OF THE SUPSEQUENT DETAILED DESIGN.

2. SURVEY IS BASED ON DRAWINGS GENERATED BY:
   CSRA LAND SURVEYORS, LLC
   34 ALLEN ST
   WARRENTON, GA 30828
   THOMAS L. MAY, GA. RLS#2925
   AND DATED JANUARY 26, 2009.

PRELIMINARY
NOT TO BE USED
FOR CONSTRUCTION

THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE NATIVE FILE FORMAT OF THIS DRAWING OUTSIDE OF BLACK & VEATCH IS UNCONTROLLED AND SHALL BE USED FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY.

REV	DATE	REVISIONS AND RECORD OF ISSUE	DRN	DES	CHK	PDE	APP
I	05/MAY/09	ISSUED FOR PERMITTING SUPPORT	ANG	ANG	SPW	JJB	JJB
H	17/APR/09	ISSUED WITH DRAFT CE REPORT	ANG	ANG	SPW	JJB	JJB
G	23/MAR/09	GENERAL REVISION	ANG	ANG	SPW	JJB	JJB
F	05/MAR/09	ADDED TRAFFIC FLOW ARROWS	ANG	ANG	SPW	JJB	JJB
E	03/MAR/09	GENERAL REVISION	ANG	ANG	JJB		
D	26/FEB/09	GENERAL REVISION	ANG	ANG	JJB		
C	23/FEB/09	GENERAL REVISION	ANG	ANG	JJB		
B	12/FEB/09	GENERAL REVISION	ANG	ANG	JJB		
A	05/FEB/09	INITIAL ISSUE	ANG	ANG	JJB		

NO

N

200' 100' 0 200' 400'
1"=200'

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

SIGNED _____
DATE _____ REG NO. _____

BLACK & VEATCH CORPORATION

ENGINEER SPW | DRAWN ANG
CHECKED | DATE

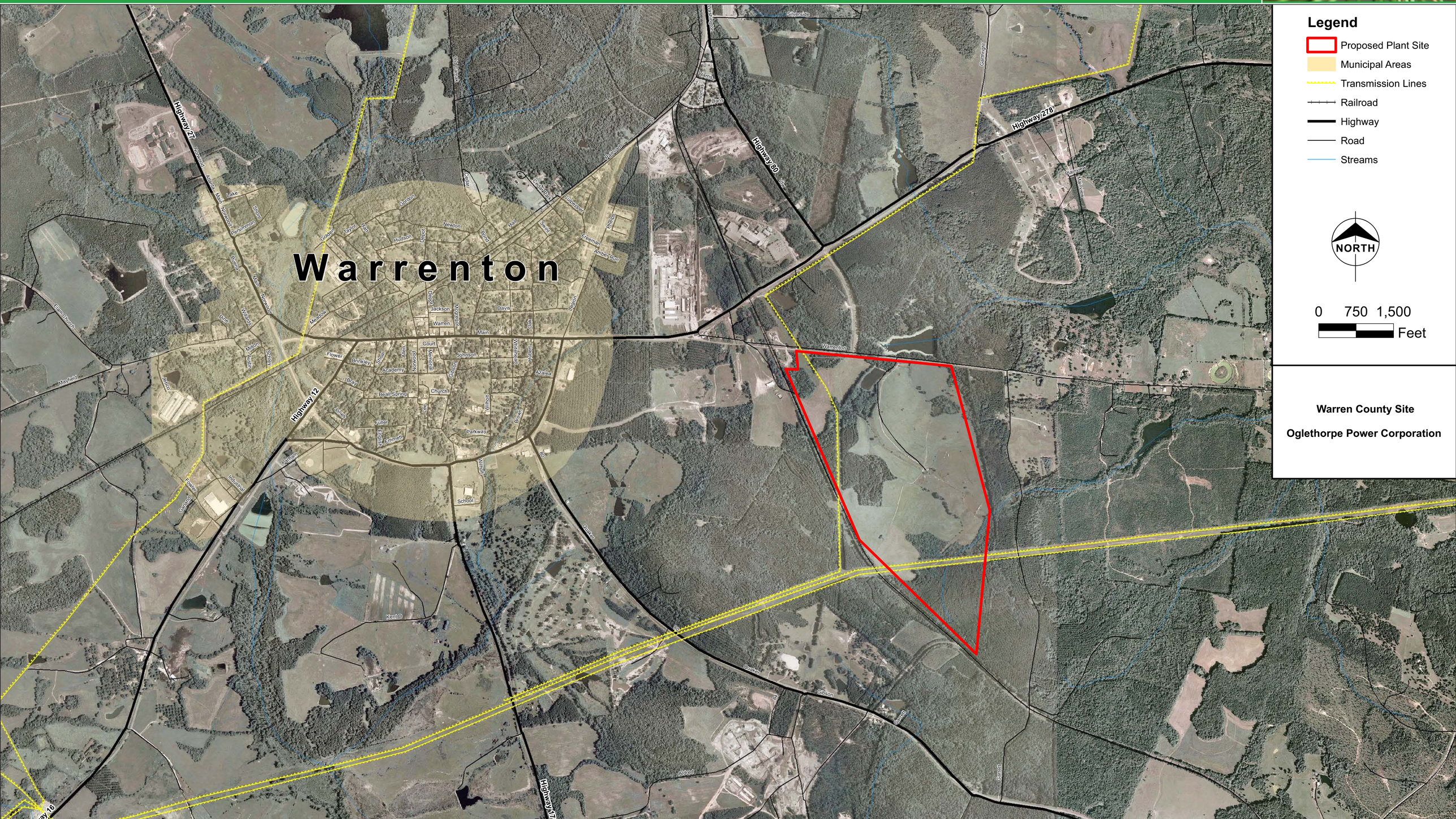
OGLETHORPE POWER CORP.
WARREN COUNTY 100 MW BIOMASS FACILITY

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT – WARREN COUNTY SITE ARRANGEMENT

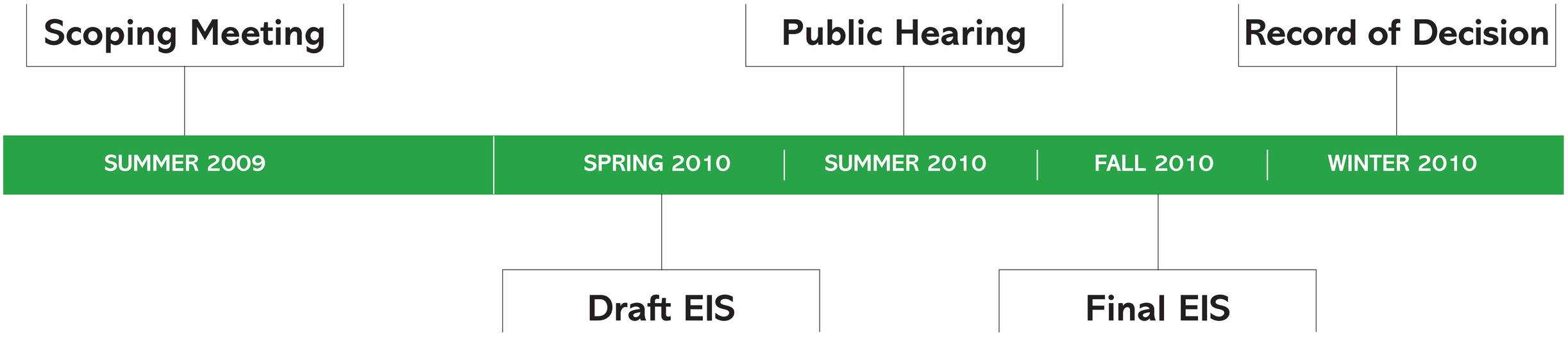
PROJECT DRAWING NUMBER: 163899-SM-1001
REV: I
CODE
AREA

ACAD 16.1s (LMS Tech)
CLASS 1
E1
GUIDO10
MAY/05/09 13:54:00

Warren County Aerial Photograph



RUS Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process



APPENDIX E – PUBLIC COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT INDEX

(Actual comment forms and letters follow the Summary of Public Comments)

Comment Letter #	Commenter	Comment Date
1	Terry Rachels	July 9, 2009
2	[blank]	July 9, 2009
3	[blank]	July 9, 2009
4	[blank]	July 9, 2009
5	Lane McMichael	July 9, 2009
6	Jonathan Cushman	July 9, 2009
7	[blank]	July 9, 2009
8	Gene Smith	July 9, 2009
9	Jeddy Johnson	July 9, 2009
10	Bill Griner	July 9, 2009
11	Craig Hunter	July 9, 2009
12	Dan Crumpton	July 9, 2009
13	Dan Crumpton	July 9, 2009
14	Ogeechee-Canoochee Riverkeeper	July 27, 2009
15	Harold Eubank	July 9, 2009

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Air Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
10	Not carbon neutral	carbon neutral	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
14	Removal of mercury from air emissions is not discussed.	mercury	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process

Alternatives Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	OPC and USDA should be commended on pursuing alternatives to non-renewable sources of electricity production.	alternative fuel sources	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Building of new biomass plants requires decommissioning of coal plants.	alternative fuel sources	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Biomass Supply and Energy Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	Securing woody debris from existing industrial operations is favorable. What is the percent of electricity generated will come from these sources?	biomass fuel supply	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
14	Information of the types of and amounts of biomass and other fuel sources to be used to co-fire the plant needs to be provided.	Other fuel sources	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process

Economics Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
4, 6, 12, 13	We need jobs.	employment	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
5, 9, 11	It will have a positive effect on the local economy.	local economy	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
11	Promote industrial growth in the area.	Industry growth and economic development	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
14	The biomass plant will provide a market for forest products.	regional economy	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Forest Resources/Ecosystem Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
4, 13	We have a lot of trees.	forest resources	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
14	Best Management Practices need to be enforced to maintain the health and sustainability of the forests and the watershed.	sustainable forestry	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Utilization of woody debris from industrial operations will help to reduce pressure on the existing forest resource.	use of industrial debris	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Removal of slash could result in soil nitrogen depletion and require soil additives that could affect the river system.	soil nitrogen depletion	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Health and Safety Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	Trees and other vegetation sequester mercury. Burning of this material will re-introduce the mercury to the atmosphere. Please address the use of mercury control technology at the proposed plant.	mercury	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Social and Community Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
9	Improve quality of life	quality of life	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Water Resources, Supply, and Discharge Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	Converting coal plants to biomass would reduce TMDLs and mercury levels so that waterways could come back into Clean Water Act compliance and allow people to safely eat fish from them.	water quality and fish	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Rocky Comfort Creek provides drinking water for the City of Warrenton. Use of this creek as a water supply for the plant will stress the resource.	Rocky Comfort Creek as a water supply	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Use of graywater or water re-use will reduce stress on surface and groundwater resources.	use of graywater	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Oppose the use of dedicated land application sites for wastewater disposal.	re-use water or graywater	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Wetland and Floodplain Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	Avoid siting the facility in wetlands.	wetlands	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Rocky Comfort Creek provides drinking water for the City of Warrenton. Use of this creek as a water supply for the plant will stress the resource.	Rocky Comfort Creek as a water supply	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.
14	Use of graywater or water re-use will reduce stress on surface and groundwater resources.	use of graywater	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process.

Other Comments

Comment Letter #	Comment	Issue	EIS Relevance
14	Information on the types	Fuel use	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
4, 5, 8, 10,15	Shorten process and begin construction	general support for the project	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process
6	Greener emissions, green power	good for the environment	Comments will be addressed throughout the EIS process

* * * * *

USDA Rural Development

Comments/Questions

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development,
Utilities Program (Rural Utilities Service)
Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

We're Ready for this PLANT to Come
To WARREN COUNTY. BRING IT ON.

Optional: Name: Terry Rachels

Address:

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1570
202-720-0468 or stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

USDA Rural Development

Comments/Questions

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development,
Utilities Program (Rural Utilities Service)
Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

We are very excited at the prospect of Oglethorpe in Warren County.

Optional: Name: _____

Address: _____

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

We are very excited to have Oglethorpe Power Corporation coming to Warren County. We feel it will be a boost to our County. And as long as the guidelines and requirements are met concerning the environment, and other impacts, it should be a good partnership.

Optional: Name: _____

Address: _____

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
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Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Comments/Questions

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Utilities Program (Rural Utilities Service)
Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

It is a great plan to create jobs
and produce power.
We have an aburdance of trees and
a need for jobs.
Well planned from beginning to production
not compromising enviroment.
Need to shorten process and begin construction, shortly.

Optional: Name: _____

Address: _____

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

Please speed the process up any way you can. Looking forward to this industry being in the community and the positive impact it will have on the local economy!

Optional: Name: Lane McMichael

Address: 228 Johnson St. Warrenton, GA 30828

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1570
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Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

Can't WAIT for you To Come.
more Employment, Greener Emmission
more Green power. you have my
vote & support

Optional: Name: Jonathan Cushman

Address: 224 morris Rd Thomson GA 30824

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

found meeting to be very informative. Can not find any reason as why not to choose warrenton as your future place of business.

Optional: Name:

Address: 4674 Adams chapel Rd SE Harlem GA

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

I'm very excited about the plant.

please hurry up —

Optional: Name: Gene Smith

Address: 495 Atlanta Hiway - Warrenton, Ga 30828

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

We are very excited about the proposed plant. I feel this would be a great addition to Warren County. The financial impact on the County would raise quality of life for all stake holders

Optional: Name: Judy J ~~Johnson~~ Johnson

Address: Po Box 768 Warrenton GA

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

Excellent
please continue
NOT CARBON NEUTRAL

Optional: Name: B. H Grimes

Address: 2373 Mesena Rd, Warrenton GA 30828

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
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Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

this project is a "Win-Win" situation for all parties involved. The economical impact will be of great importance to Warren County + surrounding areas, and will promote industrial growth to this area.
I only wish we could start in 2010 and not wait until 2014.

Optional: Name: Craig Hunter

Address: PO Box 226 Warrenton GA 30828

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1570
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Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

9 July 2009:
WARREN COUNTY, GA. NEEDS THIS BIMASS PLANT. WE have ABOUT 6200 people (MAN, WOMAN & child) ON 182,000 ACRES = 28 ACRES / person! WE have an ABUNDANCE OF TREE FARMS, AND good, hard WORKING PEOPLE. WE NEED THIS plant. Our unemployment RATE is high. WARREN County WELCOMES you.

Optional: Name: DAN Crumpton, TREE FARMER
Address: 477 ATLANTA HWY, WARRENTON, GA. 30828

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
Washington, DC 20250-1570
202-720-0468 or stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov

OGLETHORPE POWER CORPORATION
BIOMASS POWER PLANT

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Thursday, July 9, 2009
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Community Service Building
48 Warren Street
Warrenton, Georgia 30828

Brenda M. Taylor
Certified Court Reporter
233 South Whitehead Street - Warrenton, Georgia 30828
(706) 465-2426

1 INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS

2 Statement of D. N. Crumpton 1

3 Certificate of Court Reporter 2

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[WARRENTON, WARREN COUNTY, GEORGIA; THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2009, FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M.]

DAN CRUMPTON

477 Atlanta Highway

Warrenton, Georgia 30828

I'm a tree farmer and been living in Warren County for over 50 years growing trees. We need this Biomass Plant here in Warren County. We have a lot of acres and few people. We have a lot of wide open spaces but we also have a lot of pine trees. We have a lot of good hardworking folks in this county. So we need this plant. Our unemployment rate is high and we need the jobs. Warren County would welcome Oglethorpe Power with open arms and we hope that these environmental studies are successful and we can get this plant built.

Thank you very much.

[No other commends were offered and the meeting concluded at 7:30 p.m.]

1 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

2 G E O R G I A

3 Warren County

4 I, BRENDA M. TAYLOR, Certified Court

5 Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported the comments

6 offered at the public scoping meeting held as stated in the

7 caption and typed a true and complete transcript of same

8 as contained in the foregoing page.

9 I further certify that I am not a party to,

10 related to, nor interested in the event or outcome of such

11 proceedings.

12 This the 14th day of July, 2009.

13

14

15 Brenda M. Taylor

16 BRENDA M. TAYLOR, B-884

17 CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

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OGEECHEE-CANOOCHEE RIVERKEEPER®
Protecting Our Rivers. Preserving Our Way of Life.

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Statesboro, GA 30459

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Fax: 413-639-3757
www.ogeecheecanoocheeriverkeeper.org

WATERKEEPER® Alliance Member

Via Email

July 27, 2009

Stephanie Strength
Environmental Protection Specialist
USDA Rural Development Utilities Program
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Stop 1571
Washington, DC 20250-1571

RE: Proposed Biomass Facility Warren or Appling Counties, Oglethorpe Power

Dear Ms. Strength,

I am writing to you on behalf of Ogeechee-Canoochee Riverkeeper (OCRK), a citizen-based nonprofit organization comprised of over 1,000 members who support our mission of protecting the health and quality of the Ogeechee River and its tributaries. I have reviewed the alternatives analysis for the proposed biomass facility by Oglethorpe Power and appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on this proposal. This document contains both our general perception towards biomass for electricity production and site-specific comments regarding the proposed site in Warren County, located within the Ogeechee watershed.

General Comments on Biomass for Electricity Production

Oglethorpe Power and the USDA should be commended for pursuing alternatives to non-renewable sources of electricity production. OCRK views the movement towards burning biomass in its various forms as an important interim step towards relieving Georgia and the southeast on its dependence on coal and other non-renewable sources of electricity. To that end, we wholly support the conversion of existing coal-fired power plants to biomass. However, the building of new biomass facilities without the concurrent decommissioning of antiquated coal plants will continue to put undue stress on southeast Georgia's ecosystems, without the added benefit of the removal of existing pollution sources.

Coal-fired power plants, Georgia's predominant source of electricity production, have introduced thousands of pounds of mercury and other pollutants to Georgia's vulnerable blackwater river systems. There is so much mercury in these systems that the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plan for this system anticipates a needed 45% reduction in mercury emissions for the mercury levels in fish tissue to fall below the tissue residue criterion established by EPA. [1] Converting existing coal-fired power plants to biomass could help bring these waterways back into compliance with the Clean Water Act and restore our ability to safely eat fish from the waterways again.

However, this restoration will only occur if the biomass facilities are brought online concurrent with the decommissioning of existing coal-fired facilities and the biomass is not co-fired with coal. Additionally, trees and other vegetation can sequester mercury as it is introduced into the air from coal-fired power plants. While the amount of mercury in the vegetation is much lower than that in the soil or organic matter, [2] the burning of this material may still re-introduce mercury to the atmosphere and potentially to this vulnerable ecosystem. The alternatives analysis did not state if any mercury control technology would be installed to ensure that mercury released from these proposed plants is not introduced to the air or water.

Biomass provides other potential benefits to the Ogeechee system. By providing a market for forest products and by-products, landowners in the Ogeechee river watershed will have an additional incentive to keep their land in working forests, which, when managed properly, can provide significant ecosystem services, such as protecting water quality, reducing contaminated runoff, and providing flood control. These benefits are only realized, however, if the timber practices meet or exceed existing best management practices for forestry. OCRK has some concerns that increased harvesting pressure could have negative impacts on the health of the watershed by encouraging unsustainable forestry practices, such as conversion of wetlands to faster growing pine plantations, the introduction of non-native species, conversion of more native forest land to monoculture row crop forestry, and increasing pressure to harvest sensitive wetland areas.

Utilization of woody debris from pulp, paperboard, wood chipping, and other existing industrial operations will help to reduce pressures on existing forests. However, the proposed removal of slash left at timber harvesting sites could result in the removal of up to 85% of the nitrogen in the soil,[3] thus resulting in the need to amend the soil with fertilizers, adding to the cost of production, and potentially adding pollution to the river system.

---

[1] US EPA. 2004. Total Maximum Daily Load for Total Mercury in Ogeechee River.

[2] Grigal, D.F. 2003. Mercury Sequestration in Forests and Peatlands: A Review. Journal of Environmental Quality. 32:393–405.

[3] Curtis, W. et al. 2003. THE FEASIBILITY OF GENERATING ELECTRICITY FROM BIOMASS FUEL SOURCES IN GEORGIA. The University of Georgia Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. FR 03-06.

Site-Specific Comments, Warren County Proposal

Biomass Fuel Supply

As mentioned previously, securing woody debris and by-product from existing industrial operations is preferable. The Warren County site's proximity to a saw mill may provide the proposed plant with a reliable source of byproduct to burn. However, the alternatives analysis does not indicate what percentage of the electricity needed can be provided by this fuel source alone and how much and what kind of supplemental fuel may be needed.

Water Supply

Rocky Comfort Creek, a tributary of the Ogeechee, provides the drinking water for the City of Warrenton. The alternatives analysis indicates that this small tributary may be tapped through an agreement with the Development Authority of Warren County to provide the water. It is estimated that the proposed biomass facility will need from 1.5 – 2 million gallons of water/day (MGD). Currently, Warrenton has a permit to withdraw 0.36 MGD. Quadrupling the water withdrawals from this small tributary would put an undue stress on this waterway and greatly reduce its assimilative capacity. Furthermore, groundwater supplies in this area of the state has been in steady decline. OCRK strongly supports proposals for the biomass facility to utilize gray water or reuse water instead of relying on additional surface water supply.

Air Quality

While the alternatives analysis discusses particulate matter, as mentioned previously, it does not address any other pollutant removal, such as mercury.

Wetlands/Floodplains

All efforts should be made to avoid siting any part of this facility in wetlands (jurisdictional or isolated/non-jurisdictional).

Fuel Use

This section mentions co-firing the facility with other types of biomass. OCRK requests clarification of this proposal. Specifically, we request information on the types and amounts of biomass to be co-fired and information on the possibility of using coal for co-firing.

Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal

Since the majority of the 1.5 – 2 MGD of water per day will be used for cooling water, OCRK strongly suggests that the facility utilize the gray water or reuse water supplied by existing or proposed wastewater treatment facilities and develop a closed-loop system to capture and re-use as much water onsite as possible. As mentioned previously, OCRK has concerns that additional surface water withdrawals may affect the assimilative capacity of Rocky Comfort Creek and groundwater levels in this area of the state have been in steady decline. Re-using as much of the water as possible would help to reduce stress on these water supplies.

As for wastewater treatment, if the water is re-used very little would need to be discharged back to surface streams through an NPDES permit or to a POTW. OCRK strongly opposes the use of dedicated land application sites for wastewater disposal. All efforts should be made to re-use the water and/or discharge any remaining water to surface streams as highly treated effluent.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit comments on this proposed facility. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this document.

Sincerely,

Chandra Brown
Riverkeeper/Executive Director

USDA Rural Development

Comments/Questions

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development,
Utilities Program (Rural Utilities Service)
Scoping Meeting

Warren County Biomass Power Plant
Community Service Building
Warrenton, Georgia
July 9, 2009

Thank you for the meeting. The information was good; the expanation very helpful about what to expect from this project. It appears to be a great project for the Warrenton area with little to NO downside or ill effect.

Is there any way this whole process can be expedited. We need it to happen sooner rather than later.

Optional: Name: Harold Eubank

Address: P.O. Box 720, Dearing, GA 30808

If you would like to take this form with you, please mail to:

Stephanie A. Strength
USDA, Rural Utilities Service,
Engineering & Environmental Staff
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Mail Stop 1571, Room 2244
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202-720-0468 or stephanie.strength@wdc.usda.gov