



News Release

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POWER4Georgians' motion related to Plant Washington permit granted by administrative law judge

Two issues remanded to Georgia Environmental Protection Division and POWER4Georgians for action

(Atlanta, Ga. – January 13, 2011) – POWER4Georgians today announced that Administrative Law Judge Ronit Walker has granted their motion to remand two issues related to certain emissions levels contained in the Plant Washington permit back to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and POWER4Georgians for modification.

The judge's ruling is a positive development, in that POWER4Georgians does not have to re-do the entire permit application. Instead, it must simply address the two specific points related to PM-filterable and carbon monoxide emissions, which the judge said in her ruling required more extensive data and analysis than was contained in Plant Washington's permit.

"There were more than 100 different emissions limitations that were analyzed for this permit, and of those, only two required further analysis, which speaks to the thoroughness of our application," said Dean Alford spokesman for POWER4Georgians. "We know exactly what needs to be done to address Judge Walker's order – it's a simple fix – and we look forward to complying with her directions as soon as possible."

For members of the POWER4Georgians EMCs, the best news is; the delay resulting from this action by opponents is negligible and the Plant Washington project is moving forward on a good schedule.

"The opponents who appealed the permit have been focused on trying to prevent Plant Washington, yet they have no plans for how Georgia's energy needs are going to be met in the years to come," Alford added. "They have been repeatedly encouraged to come up with a viable plan to provide affordable and reliable

electric service for the average Georgia citizen and have yet to do so. At the same time they don't seem to be willing to unplug their cell phones, their computers, their air conditioners, their refrigerators or big screen TVs. Their hypocrisy is very blatant and it's most tiresome."

Plant Washington will feature technologically advanced emissions controls that are far superior to any coal-fired power plant in Georgia and, in fact, the plant's overall emissions profile will be among the lowest that has ever been proposed for a coal-fired power generation facility anywhere in the United States.

When construction begins, the plant is expected to take approximately four years to build and will create up to 1,600 professional construction and skilled trade jobs. When complete, Plant Washington is expected to create between 120 and 130 new jobs onsite, as well as an additional 200 to 300 new secondary jobs in supporting businesses and industries in and around Washington County. The plant will generate enough electricity to meet the annual needs of 500,000 to 700,000 Georgia homes.

About POWER4Georgians

POWER4Georgians is a consortium of Georgia EMCs that have partnered to develop and implement a comprehensive energy strategy to meet the growing demand for affordable and reliable electricity for the members they serve. One of the key components of their strategy is development of new baseload power facilities such as Plant Washington and Plant Ben Hill.

For more information visit: www.power4georgians.com.

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