August 21, 2009

A. Stanley Meiburg
Acting Regional Administrator
USEPA Region 4
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Meiburg:

I am pleased to submit the North Carolina Fine Particulate Matter Attainment Demonstration for the Hickory and Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Areas. This package was noticed in three local newspapers on April 2, 2009, in accordance with 40 CFR 51.102, allowing the public the opportunity to request a public hearing and to submit written comments. There were no requests for a public hearing received, therefore the hearing scheduled for May 7, 2009, was cancelled. The public comment period was open from April 2, 2009, through May 11, 2009.

The attainment demonstration documents that the Hickory and Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point areas will attain the 1997 fine particulate matter national ambient air quality standard, fulfilling requirements of Section 172(c), 182(a) and 182(b) of the Federal Clean Air Act as amended. Enclosed is the complete package containing the narrative and all of the appendices with the supporting documentation and the complete public notice record.

I am requesting that the system-wide emission caps from the North Carolina Clean Smokestacks Act (CSA) be incorporated into the North Carolina Federally Approved State Implementation Plan. The language from the CSA to be incorporated is in the attachment to this letter. I respectfully request that you commence the federal approval process for the North Carolina fine particulate matter attainment demonstration and incorporation of the CSA system-wide emission caps.
If you should have any questions, please contact Laura Boothe of my staff at (919) 733-1488 or laura.boothe@ncdenr.gov.

Sincerely,

B. Keith Overcash, P.E.

cc: Dick Schutt, USEPA
    Lynorae Benjamin, USEPA
    Nacosta Ward, USEPA
    Donnie Redmond, NCDAQ
    Laura Boothe, NCDAQ
North Carolina General Statute for Clean Smokestacks Act
For Incorporation into the North Carolina Federally Approved SIP

§ 143-215.107D. Emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and sulfur dioxide (SO2) from certain coal-fired generating units.

(a) As used in this section:
(1) "Coal-fired generating unit" means a coal-fired generating unit, as defined by 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 96.2 (1 July 2001 Edition), that is located in this State and has the capacity to generate 25 or more megawatts of electricity.
(2) "Investor-owned public utility" means an investor-owned public utility, as defined in G.S. 62-3.

(b) An investor-owned public utility that owns or operates coal-fired generating units that collectively emitted more than 75,000 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in calendar year 2000:
(1) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 35,000 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2007.
(2) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 31,000 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2009.

(c) An investor-owned public utility that owns or operates coal-fired generating units that collectively emitted 75,000 tons or less of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in calendar year 2000 shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 25,000 tons of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2007.

(d) An investor-owned public utility that owns or operates coal-fired generating units that collectively emitted more than 225,000 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in calendar year 2000:
(1) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 150,000 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2009.
(2) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 80,000 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2013.

(e) An investor-owned public utility that owns or operates coal-fired generating units that collectively emitted 225,000 tons or less of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in calendar year 2000:
(1) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 100,000 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2009.
(2) Shall not collectively emit from the coal-fired generating units that it owns or operates more than 50,000 tons of sulfur dioxide (SO2) in any calendar year beginning 1 January 2013.