

**Georgia Environmental Protection Division Public Hearing
(Held at Early County High School on July 28, 2009) on
Longleaf Energy Associates, LLC**

Synopsis of Public Comments Received

Comment 1

Sierra Barnes - There is no reason to build this coal plant because all of our energy needs can be met with other energy technologies. Please see the report entitled "Energy Revolution" at the GreenPeace.org web site. Removing the coal from this plant will be the best Maximum Available Control Technology.

Comment 2

Lynn Henley – Her husband experienced skin irritation (burning) after running in the rain near their home next to Plant Scherer. Coal plants are not clean and it is the pollution that one cannot see that can hurt them. Southerners are not stupid, and they do not want this plant here in Georgia.

Comment 3

Debbie Buckner – She introduced legislation that would prohibit permitting of any new coal plants in Georgia. It has not passed the legislature. She asked utility companies if the state could help them with conservation efforts, and they said no. She is concerned with the mercury emissions and water usage of the proposed plant. The plant is unfair because West Virginia loses its mountaintops, and Georgia takes the hit in pollution for the benefit of electricity customers in Florida, and for the benefit of the New Jersey Company that is building it. The state needs jobs for Georgians, and the plant will provide very few good paying permanent jobs.

Comment 4

Ela Orenstein – She gave background information on the dangers of mercury emissions, and how it spreads through the environment. Mercury will be deposited close to the plant. EPD has not limited the type of coal that can be burned in the plant, and did not consider state-of-the-art control technologies that can also remove other pollutants. The PSD increments consumed by this plant could limit other cleaner industry from locating nearby.

Comment 5

Neill Herring – He objects to the permit with the current mercury standard because he feels that a more stringent standard of zero can be achieved. Georgia exports power to other states and Florida, and does not need this plant

Comment 6

Gordon Rogers – Mr. Rogers is a Satilla River keeper. Emissions from the proposed plant will reach the headwaters of the Satilla River, as well as Florida and Alabama. One milligram of mercury per kilogram of fish is enough contamination to set the limit of how much fish one can eat to only 6 ounces per month. Flat head catfish over 30 inches long in the Satilla river are so contaminated that they are inedible. 71.81 kilograms of mercury is enough to contaminate 143,620,000 one-pound fish each year. The Georgia Constitutional right to hunt and fish in this state is being violated because one cannot safely eat the fish one catch in many rivers in the state.

Comment 7

Paul DeLoach – The hearing process has illustrated what EPD does to evaluate permits. Georgia citizens need to work with their legislators to provide systems, processes, and legislation to hold EPD to a higher standard when processing the permits. Citizens and Legislators need to make EPD accountable for the fair and equitable use of our natural resources, their water, and natural animal habitats.

Comment 8

Olin Thompson – Member of the Early County Development Authority. The authority stands behind the project, at Longleaf by LS power. He is confident that EPD will do their jobs to make sure that the plant complies with state and federal laws that are on the books already, and urges EPD to issue the permit.

Comment 9

Paul Black – Building this plant in Early County will be the equivalent of adding 1.5 million cars to the area in terms of emissions. Air quality problems in the Atlanta area are caused by auto emissions, and result in significantly higher incidences of asthma for young athletes. The plant may create 100 jobs, but is that small economic benefit worth risking children's health for years to come. EPD's cost estimates do not account for medical costs when people suffer from asthma and other respiratory problems.

Comment 10

Sammy Prim – Mr. Prim was a local Pediatrician, but is now retired. More global warming will occur due to the additional CO₂ emissions from the plant. Air pollution from the steel mills in Birmingham caused severe asthma and respiratory problems in children there. Mercury exposure is widespread and causes neurological damage. PM_{2.5} bypasses the body's natural defenses and gets inside the lungs and arteries, causing inflammation, lung scarring, heart attacks, and fatal tumors. High pollution areas cause statistically significant reduction in IQ among children.

Comment 11

Mark Redden - The Longleaf energy plant threatens the existence of the shoal bass in the Georgia rivers.

Comment 12

Katy Hinman – Georgia Interfaith Power & Light. She feels that continuing our reliance on non-renewable energy resources and subjecting the environment to 20 to 30 years of emissions from this plant is not good stewardship of the god given resources. One can meet the energy needs with alternative energy sources and more conservation.

Comment 13

Allen York – LS Power should use local Georgia labor to build the plant. At another LS power project in Arkansas, LS Power is using non-local labor including many illegal aliens.

Comment 14

DuBose Porter - He is opposed to a coal power plant, but not to a power plant in general. Other technologies should be examined to generate power without the environmental impacts of mercury. Biomass power technology could produce the power one need with less environmental impacts and would also supply more local jobs, and rely more on local resources of biomass fuel.

Comment 15

Richard Ward – Early County Board of Commerce. He urges EPD to grant the permit extension. The county needs the economic benefits of the plant to be able to run the local county.

Comment 16

Rosie Morrow – Sierra Club. Environmental impacts are of great concern. Particulate and mercury emission impacts outweigh the economic benefits of the plant.

Comment 17

Ben Sharenko – This country is in a period of transition from older dirtier energy technologies to newer, cleaner methods. Georgia has a chance to be a leader toward new, cleaner, and more efficient energy practices. There are better ways to meet our energy needs.

Comment 18

Tom Barksdale – Four of the ten EMCs that pulled out of the Plant Washington coal power project stated that the Longleaf Energy Plant and Plant Washington are not economically viable. One can meet the electricity needs with other energy technologies, conservation, and better efficiency.

Comment 19

Oscar Jackson – Senile Dentist. Georgia Power and the Southern Company are the ones that really run the state of Georgia.