



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

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FEB 18 1998

4APT-ARB

Howard L. Rhodes, Director
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Air Resources Management
Mail Station 5500
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

SUBJ: EPA's Review of Proposed Title V Permit
for CF Industries, Inc.
Permit no. 0570005-007-AV

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on the proposed title V operating permit for CF Industries, Inc., Plant City Phosphate Complex, which was posted on DEP's web site on January 6, 1998. Based on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) review of the proposed permit and the supporting information for this facility, EPA formally objects, under the authority of Section 505(b) of the Clean Air Act (the Act) and 40 C.F.R. § 70.8(c) (see also Florida Regulation 62-213.450), to the issuance of the title V permit for this facility on the basis that the permit does not fully meet the periodic monitoring requirements of § 70.6(a)(3)(i).

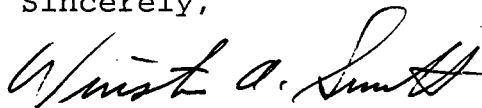
As you know, 40 C.F.R. § 70.8(c) requires EPA to object to the issuance of a proposed permit in writing within 45 days of receipt of the proposed permit (and all necessary supporting information) if EPA determines that the permit is not in compliance with the applicable requirements under the Act or 40 C.F.R. Part 70. Section 70.8(c)(4) and Section 505(c) of the Act further provide that if the State fails to revise and resubmit a proposed permit within 90 days to satisfy the objection, the authority to issue or deny the permit passes to EPA and EPA will act accordingly. Because the objection issues must be fully addressed within the 90 days, we suggest that the revised permit be submitted in advance in order that any outstanding issues may be addressed prior to the expiration of the 90-day period.

On February 6, 1998, EPA provided informal comments to the Southwest District Office on the proposed permit for CF Industries, Inc. The Southwest District provided responses to EPA's comments on February 12, 13, and 17, 1998. After several phone conversations between EPA and the Southwest District staff, one issue remained outstanding: the lack of adequate periodic monitoring to ensure compliance with the State Implementation Plan (SIP) opacity standard which applies to unit 001.

Conditions A.3 through A.8 of the proposed permit, establish a visible emissions limitation of 20% opacity with a two-minute period per hour of 40% opacity. The permit requires an annual test using Method 9, which can be waived on a year by year basis if fuel oil has not been used, or used for less than 400 hours. However, if the boiler operates more than 400 hours using #2 fuel oil, the permit only requires an annual Method 9 test. The requirement for an annual Method 9 test does not constitute the basis for a credible certification of compliance with the visible emission standard for this unit. The Southwest District Office provided EPA with documentation to support the Method 9 waiver if the unit operated under 400 hours using #2 fuel oil. However, since the facility is not limited in the amount of hours that it may burn fuel oil once it has reached the 400 hour threshold established by the State's regulations (rule 62-297.310(7)(a)3. and 5., F.A.C.), the permit, at a minimum, should have required that, when burning fuel oil for more than 400 hours, daily visible emission observations be performed and, if any visible emissions are detected, the permittee would then be required to perform a Method 9 test. With regard to the imposition of periodic monitoring in title V permits, we also refer you to our objection letter of December 11, 1997, which clearly states EPA's position with regard to requiring additional monitoring in order to establish a credible basis for compliance certification.

We regret that we were unable to reach an agreement prior to the expiration of the 45-day review period. However, we commend the efforts of Mr. Gerald Kissel and Mr. Roger Cawkwell, Southwest District Office, for providing EPA with prompt responses to the informal comments and making themselves available for conference calls with EPA staff. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, contact Ms. Carla E. Pierce, Chief, Operating Source Section at (404)562-9105. Should your staff need additional information they may contact Ms. Gracy R. Danois, Florida Title V Contact, at (404) 562-9119, Mr. David McNeal, Regional Monitoring Expert, at(404) 562-9102, or Ms. Lynda Crum, Associate Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9524.

Sincerely,



Winston A. Smith
Director
Air, Pesticides & Toxics
Management Division