

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch

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Noel Holcomb, Commissioner

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For Immediate Release

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EPD to Host Q & A Session in Sandersville on Proposed Power Plant Applications Submitted by Power4Georgians

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to present information and to answer questions on applications for permits submitted by Power4Georgians, LLC to construct and operate a coal-fired power plant proposed for location in Washington County under the name of Plant Washington.

EPD will hold the meeting on Thursday, March 5, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., in the Sandersville Technical College Auditorium. Sandersville Tech is located at 1189 Deepstep Road in Sandersville.

“The purpose of this meeting is to present information and to answer questions about the permitting review process for the six permits required to operate this type of power generating facility,” said Jim Ussery, assistant director of EPD. “We are hosting this initial meeting to be sure the residents of Sandersville, Washington County and surrounding areas know the general rules and review process we’re conducting for Plant Washington. We invite all who are interested to come to the meeting and to learn about this process. We will have EPD staff from the Air, Land and Watershed Protection branches to discuss the pending permit applications.”

Power4Georgians is a consortium of 10 Georgia electric membership cooperatives, or EMCs, that have combined to propose this power plant. Plant Washington has submitted an application to construct and operate an 850-megawatt, coal-fired power plant. The consortium has 1,134 acres of land set aside for the project northeast of Sandersville.

EPD has received permit applications for air emissions, solid waste handling, ground water withdrawal, surface water withdrawal, stream buffer variance and wastewater treatment. EPD has not issued draft permits for any of the six permits sought by Power4Georgians. EPD will provide drafts for public review and comment in the next several months. In the meantime, EPD believes it is in the public interest to hold this public meeting before any draft permits are issued. EPD will host another meeting after the three branches involved in the permitting process issue draft permits.

For information on the permit applications review process, please contact Jim Ussery, 404-656-4713, or Jac Capp, Air Protection Branch chief, 404-363-7000. For information about the Q&A Session, please contact Thomas Smith, 404-362-2790.

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