

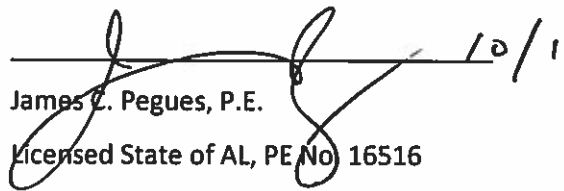
**INITIAL HAZARD POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT
PLANT GORGAS GYPSUM POND
ALABAMA POWER COMPANY**

Section §257.73(a)(2) of EPA's regulations requires the owner or operator of an existing CCR surface impoundment to conduct periodic hazard potential classification assessments. The owner or operator must document the hazard potential of each surface impoundment as a high hazard potential CCR unit, a significant hazard potential CCR unit or a low hazard potential CCR unit.

The CCR surface impoundment located at Alabama Power Company's Plant Gorgas, also referred to as the Plant Gorgas Gypsum Pond, is located near Parrish, Walker County, Alabama. The CCR surface impoundment is formed by an engineered cross-valley embankment on the south-southeast side of the impoundment. The Mulberry Fork of the Black Warrior River is located downstream of the embankment and impoundment. In the unlikely event of an embankment failure, water and CCR could potentially impact the Black Warrior River to the south of the impoundment.

Based on the potential impacts in the unlikely event of an embankment failure, a hazard potential classification of Significant Hazard Potential has been assigned to the Plant Gorgas Gypsum Pond, in that failure or mis-operation of the CCR unit would result in no probable loss of human life but could potentially result in economic loss and/or environmental damage.

I hereby certify that the hazard potential classification was conducted in accordance with 40 C.F.R. Part 257.73 (a)(2).


James C. Pegues, P.E.

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