

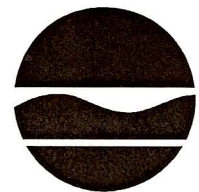
**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Air Resources, Region One**

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Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner

October 31, 2007

Deborah Strube
Hicksville Gardens Civic Association
P O Box 624
Hicksville, NY 11801-0624

Dear Ms. Strube:

This is in response to your October 2, 2007 letter concerning the Bethpage Energy Center. Your letter expressed concern regarding the potential for contaminants in the cooling tower water supply to become airborne and requested sampling and analysis of the well water used in the cooling tower and the plume of water droplets from the cooling tower.

With regard to the "grey water" issue, I believe your concern is related to the facility's use of treated ground water from the remediation underway at the former Grumman Bethpage facility. Technically this is not "grey water", as that term is used to describe any water that has been used in the home except water from toilets. The treated water used by the Bethpage Energy Center is routinely analyzed for contaminants related to the ground water remediation at the former Grumman facility, and the laboratory results for the First Quarter of 2007 are at non-detectable levels. Certain additives are added to the treated water for the purposes of corrosion inhibition and biological control in the cooling tower. Calpine has provided the enclosed Material Safety Data Sheets for these additives, which indicate that neither product contains any listed carcinogens, hazardous substances, or listed toxic substances.

With respect to your request for air sampling, general ambient air sampling in urban areas, for analytes which are not known or expected to result from a remedial operation, as a means of confirming the absence of such contaminants, is not usually undertaken. This is because false positives (detections from other sources) are considered likely in an urban environment, and as a result, the sampling is of limited value. However, in order to resolve the concern regarding the cooling tower emissions, we requested that Calpine conduct a comprehensive analysis of the air emissions from the cooling tower. Calpine has submitted a protocol for ambient air monitoring which is being currently reviewed by Department staff. The results of the sampling will be forwarded to you upon receipt.

Deborah Strube
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In addition, Calpine is also investigating a change in the operation of the cooling tower mechanical equipment in an effort to mitigate the visible plume.

I trust this addresses the concerns of your membership. Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ajay R. Shah". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Ajay R. Shah, P.E.
Regional Air pollution Control Engineer

Enclosures