

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460 January 11, 2022

> OFFICE OF LAND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mr. William Matthews Cleco Power LLC Big Cajun II Power Plant 2030 Donahue Ferry Rd P.O. Box 5000 Pineville, LA 71361-5000

Dear Mr. Matthews:

On November 25, 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received a demonstration for the Big Cajun II Power Plant requesting authorization to continue using the Bottom Ash Basin until April 1, 2025, and completing closure no later than October 17, 2028, pursuant to the alternative closure provision 40 C.F.R. § 257.103(f)(2). EPA reviewed your demonstration to determine whether it included the required information, analyses and documentation specified under 40 C.F.R. § 257.103(f)(2), and we have determined that your demonstration is complete.

This letter merely communicates EPA's determination that your submitted demonstration contains sufficient information for EPA to evaluate the merits of your demonstration. EPA has not made any decision on whether to approve your request. The demonstration will undergo further review to make such a determination. After this review, EPA will publish its proposed decision for public comment in a docket on www.regulations.gov. After consideration of the comments, EPA will issue its final decision on the demonstration.

As a consequence of your submission of a complete demonstration, the deadline for the Coal Combustion Residuals unit covered by the demonstration to cease receipt of waste is tolled until EPA issues a final decision on the demonstration. 40 C.F.R. § 257.103(f)(3)(ii).

EPA will notify you when a proposed decision on the demonstration is issued. If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Hillyer at Hillyer.Kirsten@epa.gov.

Sincerely.

Barry N. Breen

Acting Assistant Administrator