

**INITIAL HAZARD POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT
PLANT GASTON 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 Gaston, also referred to as the Plant Gaston Gypsum Pond, is located just east of Wilsonville, Alabama. The CCR surface impoundment is a lined facility formed by an engineered perimeter dike. The CCR unit is bounded on the north by an undeveloped hillside on plant property and Alabama Highway 25 beyond; on the east and west by plant property; and on the south by Yellowleaf Creek. In the unlikely event of an embankment failure, water and CCR could potentially impact Yellowleaf Creek to the south.

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 Gaston 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 environmental damage to Yellowleaf Creek.

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


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