

### Memorandum

Date:	January 17, 2024
То:	Billi Jo Huddleston, CHMM, Florida Power & Light Company
From:	Ben Amos, Ph.D., P.E. and Lane Dorman, P.G., Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
Subject:	2021 Groundwater Velocity Estimate, Gulf Clean Energy Center, Ash Landfill No. 2, Pensacola, FL

#### **INTRODUCTION**

On behalf of Florida Power & Light Company ("FPL"), Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. ("Geosyntec") prepared this 2021 Groundwater Velocity Estimate Memorandum ("Memo") for FPL's Gulf Clean Energy Center ("GCEC") Coal Combustion Residuals ("CCR") unit Ash Landfill No. 2 ("LF2"). The purpose of this Memo is to document the calculated horizontal groundwater velocities at LF2 in 2021. This Memo supplements the summary of CCR groundwater monitoring activities conducted in 2021 and reported in the 2021 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report (Geosyntec, 2022<sup>1</sup>), in accordance with groundwater sampling and analysis requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("CFR") Section 257.93(c).

#### **GROUNDWATER VELOCITY CALCULATIONS**

Groundwater flow rates were calculated based on the following:

- 1. Horizontal hydraulic gradients estimated from groundwater elevations measured during each sampling event in 2021.
- 2. The geometric mean (geomean) hydraulic conductivity (37 feet per day [ft/day]) for LF2 documented in the Groundwater Hydraulic Conductivity Evaluation, Ash Landfill Number 1 and Ash Landfill Number 2 (Geosyntec, 2023<sup>2</sup>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Geosyntec Consultants, 2022. 2021 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, Florida Power & Light Company, Gulf Clean Energy Center, Ash Landfill No. 2. January 28, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., 2023. Groundwater Hydraulic Conductivity Evaluation, Ash Landfill Number 1 and Ash Landfill Number 2, Florida Power & Light Company, July 2023 FR8309/PR23041



3. An estimated effective porosity of 0.25, based on the lithologic materials surrounding the screened interval (Sterrett, 2007<sup>3</sup>).

Input parameters and calculations are summarized in **Table 1**. Groundwater elevation maps from 2021 are included as Figures 1 and 2.

Horizontal hydraulic gradients between MW-301 and MW-304, a monitoring well-pair representative of groundwater flow near LF2, were calculated based on groundwater elevation data from both 2021 groundwater sampling events. The resulting horizontal gradients were approximately 0.0032 ft/ft and 0.0034 ft/ft in March and September 2021, respectively.

The geomean hydraulic conductivity for the uppermost aquifer adjacent to LF2 was estimated from pneumatic slug tests performed at seven monitoring wells around LF2 (Geosyntec, 2023). The lithology of this aquifer generally consists of fine to coarse sand (SCS, 2017<sup>4</sup>); the geomean hydraulic conductivity (37 ft/day) is within the anticipated hydraulic conductivity range for a fine to coarse sand (Freeze and Cherry, 1979<sup>5</sup>).

The horizontal groundwater flow velocity was calculated using a form of Darcy's Law:

 $V = (K^*i)/n_e$ 

Where:

V = groundwater velocity (ft/day);

K = hydraulic conductivity (ft/day);

i = horizontal hydraulic gradient (ft/ft); and

 $n_e = effective porosity (unitless).$ 

The calculated horizontal groundwater flow velocities at LF2 were 0.47 ft/day (172 ft/year) in March 2021 and 0.50 ft/day (183 ft/year) in September 2021.

#### **CLOSING**

In accordance with the groundwater sampling and analysis requirements of 40 CFR Section 257.93(c), the horizontal groundwater velocities calculated for the selected well pair at LF2 (i.e., MW-301 and MW-304) were approximately 0.47 ft/day (172 ft/year) in March 2021 and 0.50 ft/day (183 ft/year)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Sterret, R.J., 2007. Groundwater and Wells, Third Edition, New Brighton, MN: Johnson Screens, A Weatherford Company.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Southern Company Services, 2017. Gulf Power Company, Plant Crist, Ash Landfill No. 1, Ash Landfill No. 2, and Gypsum Storage Area Well Design, Installation, Development and Decommissioning Report, October.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Freeze, R.A. and J.A. Cherry, 1979. *Groundwater*, Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall. FR8309/PR23041



in September 2021. The calculated horizontal groundwater velocities for 2021 are similar to those calculated previously (Geosyntec, 2023<sup>6</sup>). This Memo has been prepared under the supervision of a State of Florida licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Geologist with Geosyntec.

<sup>6</sup> Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., 2023. 2022 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report, Florida Power & Light Company, Gulf Clean Energy Center Ash Landfill No.2, January 31, 2023 FR8309/PR23041 3 January 17, 2024



Benjamin K. Amos, Ph.D., P.E. Florida Professional Engineer No. 82837

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Lane Dorman, P.G. Florida Professional Geologist No. PG2861

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## TABLE

# Table 1. 2021 Groundwater Velocity Input Parameters and CalculationsGulf Clean Energy Center, Landfill Number 2Pensacola, FL

Flow Paths	Groundwater Elevation (ft) <sup>2,3</sup>		Change in Groundwater Elevation $(\Delta h)^4$ (ft)	Distance $(\Delta l)^4$ (ft)	Hydraulic Gradient $(\Delta h/\Delta l)^4 (ft/ft)^5$	Hydraulic Conductivity <sup>6</sup> , K (ft/day) <sup>7</sup>	Effective Porosity (n <sub>e</sub> )	Linear Groundwater Velocity <sup>8</sup>	
								ft/day	ft/year9
MW-301/ MW-304	Mar-21	11.72 7.20	4.52	1418	0.0032	37	0.25	0.47	172.2
MW-301/ MW-304	Sep-21	13.23 8.43	4.80		0.0034	37	0.25	0.50	182.9

Notes:

1. Elevations are in feet relative to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988.

2. ft = feet

3.  $\Delta h$  = Change in groundwater elevation,  $\Delta l$ = Distance along flow path

4. ft/ft = feet per foot

5. K values were calculated based on 2020 slug tests.

6. ft/day = feet per day

7. Groundwater flow velocity equation =  $(\Delta h/\Delta l^* K)/n_e$ 

8. ft/year = feet per year

## **FIGURES**



