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Also admitted in District of  
Columbia and Massachusetts

*Via Hand Delivery*

November 6, 2009

S. Derek Phelps  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

**Re: Petition of FuelCell Energy, Inc. for a Declaratory Ruling that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Is Not Required for the Installation and Operation of Fuel Cell Test Facilities in Torrington, Connecticut**

Dear Mr. Phelps:

Enclosed please find the original and twenty-five (25) copies of a Petition for Declaratory Ruling submitted on behalf of FuelCell Energy, Inc. for the installation and operation of fuel cell testing facilities in Torrington, Connecticut, together with a filing fee of \$500.00.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joey Lee Miranda

Enclosures

Copy to: Ryan J. Bingham, City of Torrington  
Kirk Arneson, FuelCell Energy, Inc.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:	:	
	:	
PETITION OF FUELCELL ENERGY, INC.	:	PETITION NO. _____
FOR A DECLARATORY RULING THAT A	:	
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL	:	
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED IS	:	
NOT REQUIRED FOR THE INSTALLATION	:	
AND OPERATION OF FUEL CELL TEST	:	
FACILITIES IN TORRINGTON,	:	
CONNECTICUT	:	NOVEMBER 6, 2009

**PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING:**  
**INSTALLATION HAVING NO SUBSTANTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 16-50k(a), FuelCell Energy, Inc. (FCE) hereby petitions the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a declaratory ruling (Petition) that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) is not required for the ongoing installation and operation of fuel cell test facilities at its Torrington, Connecticut location (Project). FCE submits that no Certificate is required because the proposed installations would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect.

**II. THE PETITIONER**

FCE is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut with its global headquarters located at 3 Great Pasture Road, Danbury, Connecticut 06813. FCE's manufacturing facility is located at 539 Technology Park Drive in Torrington, Connecticut (Site).

FCE is the world leader in the development and production of stationary fuel cells for commercial, industrial, municipal and utility customers. FCE's ultra-clean and high efficiency

Direct FuelCell® (DFC) fuel cells are generating power at over 60 installations worldwide. The company's fuel cell power plants have generated more than 150 million kWh of power using a variety of fuels including natural gas and other hydrocarbon fuels, renewable wastewater gas, and biogas.

Correspondence and/or communications regarding this Petition should be addressed to:

Kirk Arneson  
FuelCell Energy, Inc.  
3 Great Pasture Road  
Danbury, CT 06813-1305  
(203) 830-7405 (office)  
(203) 825-6100 (fax)  
[karneson@fce.com](mailto:karneson@fce.com)

A copy of all such correspondence or communications should also be sent to the

Petitioner's attorney:

Joey Lee Miranda, Esq.  
Robinson & Cole LLP  
280 Trumbull Street  
Hartford, CT 06103-3597  
(860) 275-8200 (office)  
(860) 275-8299 (fax)  
[jmiranda@rc.com](mailto:jmiranda@rc.com)

### **III. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

#### **A. Products**

DFC products deliver ultra-clean distributed power efficiently and economically. DFCs run on biofuels and gases from wastewater treatment, food processing and land fills in addition to natural gas, coal gas, and propane. From industrial and commercial applications to the power grid, DFC power plants generate more electricity per unit of fuel than any other distributed energy source. DFCs provide distinct advantages over other forms of distributed power



generation, including: (a) fuel conversion efficiency unsurpassed in the industry; (b) the ability to operate on readily available biofuels and hydrocarbon fuels; and (c) virtually no pollution or greenhouse gas emissions. DFCs operate with minimal nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur oxide (SO<sub>x</sub>) emissions and significantly reduced carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions.

DFC power plants offer the following benefits and features:

- **Efficient:** generate more electricity using less fuel with unparalleled electrical power generation efficiency of 47 percent.
- **Ultra-clean:** emit low CO<sub>2</sub> and virtually zero pollutants into the atmosphere.
- **Quiet:** operate virtually unnoticed, making them suitable for almost any location.
- **Economical:** produce up to six times more electrical power than other forms of distributed generation with the same fuel input and can operate at up to 80 percent efficiency when used in Combined Heat and Power (CHP) applications.
- **Versatile:** operate on a variety of fuels for use in a wide range of applications.

Developed exclusively for use in stationary applications, there are three main fuel cell products designed to meet a variety of applications: (a) DFC300 (300 kW); (b) DFC1500 (1.4MW); and (c) DFC3000® (2.8MW). The fuel cells for each of these products are manufactured at FCE's Torrington facility.

## **B. Project Description**

As part of its product development process, FCE tests each new product for design and documentation validation. The products are tested using FCE's testing facility at the Site for a two to three month period during which time the products generate electricity that is used on-Site. The installations associated with the fuel cell testing facility include the fuel cell modules, electrical balance of plant, main process skid, desulfurization skid and water treatment skid. *See* DFC3000 Schematic attached at Tab A. The Project is surrounded by a six foot (6') chain link

fence. *See* Site Photos attached at Tab B.

The FCE manufacturing facility is located in an area zoned IP (Industrial Park). The nearest residential property is located 515 feet to the South of the test facility. In 2002, the City of Torrington Planning & Zoning Commission granted site plan approval for a “Fuel Cell Power Plant Test Facility” at the Site. The Project has been constructed in accordance with this approval. *See* Site Plans attached at Tab C. As a consequence, no additional ground disturbance will be required.

## **II. THE INSTALLATION WOULD NOT HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT**

As set forth more fully below, the installation and operation of the Project will not have a substantial adverse environmental effect.

### **A. Natural Environment and Ecological Balance**

Approximately 1,500 liters of nitrogen will be temporarily stored on Site for use by the Project. Nitrogen is non-toxic; however, it is a Department of Transportation (DOT) Division 2.2 (non-flammable gas) hazardous material. There are no U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reporting requirements for nitrogen. The Torrington Fire Department and the Local Emergency Planning Committee are aware of the storage and have expressed no concerns.

### **B. Public Health and Safety**

Relatively small transformers and electrical buses and inverters as well as fans providing ventilation to some of the equipment will produce modest sound. An air blower, located in the center of the fuel cell plant with sound attenuation, provides the only significant noise

contribution. Under normal conditions, these few noise sources would produce consistent sound throughout the day and night.

The Site is categorized as a Class C Noise Zone, where the noise level is limited to 70 dBA at Class C (industrial) receptors, 66 dBA at Class B (commercial) receptors, and 61 dBA at Class A (residential) receptors during the daytime and 51 dBA at Class A receptors during the nighttime. *See Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("R.C.S.A.") § 22a-69-1 et seq.* At a ten foot (10') perimeter around the fuel cell plant, the noise level is expected to be approximately 72 dBA. The noise level at the nearest industrial property line to the north is projected to be below 54 dBA and the noise level at the nearest residential property line to the south is conservatively projected to be below 48 dBA. Accordingly, the Project can be operated at the Site within the applicable noise performance criteria.

#### **C. Scenic Values**

The proposed Project will have little impact on the visual character of the community. Generally, the potential visual impact is inherently small due to the low profile of the equipment in the context of the existing industrial buildings and mature foliage in the area. *See Aerial Photograph attached at Tab D.*

#### **D. Air Quality**

Since the DFC3000 is the largest product manufactured at the Site, it produces the most air emissions. Air emissions from the DFC3000, assuming continuous year-round operation, are expected to be:



<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Total Potential Emissions (tpy)</b>
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO <sub>x</sub> )	0.12
Oxides of Sulfur (SO <sub>x</sub> )	0.001
Particulate Matter (PM)	0.0002
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	1.23
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	0.25

In addition to the emissions from the fuel cell itself, there will also be minor emissions associated with a 10 MMBtu/hr gas-fired startup burner that will be included with the fuel cell power plant. The burner is used at start-up to heat the fuel cell plant to its required operating temperature with expected, annual emissions of less than one (1) tpy. If the burner were to operate continually, the criteria pollutant potential emissions (assuming 8,760 hours of operation) associated with the gas-fired burner would still be less than 15 tons per year (tpy) using conservative EPA AP-42 emission factors.

Total emissions from the proposed Project will be below levels that would render the Project a “major stationary source” as defined at RCSA section 22a-174-1(57). The Project’s maximum emissions will operate well below the serious non-attainment area thresholds for VOC and NO<sub>x</sub>. Thus, the Project will be a minor source and is not subject to Federal Non-Attainment New Source Review (NSR). Also, there is no requirement for emission offsets for this Project as it will be below the non-attainment NSR major source thresholds.

Per the EPA, the entire State of Connecticut is designated as attainment for SO<sub>2</sub> and CO. In December 2004, the EPA designated Fairfield and New Haven Counties as non-attainment areas for fine particles (PM 2.5). However, the Project is located in Litchfield County, which is designated as an attainment area for PM 2.5.

A Permit to Construct and Operate Stationary Sources is not required for the Project because the potential emissions of any individual air pollutant are less than 15 tpy; the source is not a new major stationary source; and, the source is not a new major source of hazardous air pollutants. The Project is also not subject to the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) "permit by rules" because the potential emissions from the fuel cell are less than 15 tpy. Thus, there are no registrations or applications required to be submitted to the DEP; nor are there anticipated to be any approvals from the DEP Air Bureau required prior to the operation of the Project.

#### **E. Water Quality**

The Site is not located within either 100- or 500-year floodplains or the coastal zone. There are also no surface water bodies or wetlands on the Site. The Site is not in an aquifer protection area. Thus, no impacts to surface water bodies will occur from the operation of the Project.

A certified Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan has been developed for operation of the testing facilities. Stormwater discharge approval for construction was obtained under DEP's General Permit for Stormwater and Dewatering from Construction Activities. Stormwater discharge approval for operation has been obtained under DEP's General Permit for Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities.

Since the DFC3000 is the largest product manufactured at the Site, it would require the most water for operation. The DFC3000 requires approximately 12,960 gallons per day (gpd) of raw water, which is available via the municipal water system, and wastewater will be discharged to the municipal treatment facility via the existing sewer system. Adequate water supply and



infrastructure are available to supply the Project. Therefore, no substantial adverse environmental effect will occur from the Project's water use and wastewater disposal.

**F. Summary**

Overall, the proposed installation would not cause any significant change or alteration in the physical or environmental characteristics of the Site or the surrounding area.

**IV. CONCLUSION**

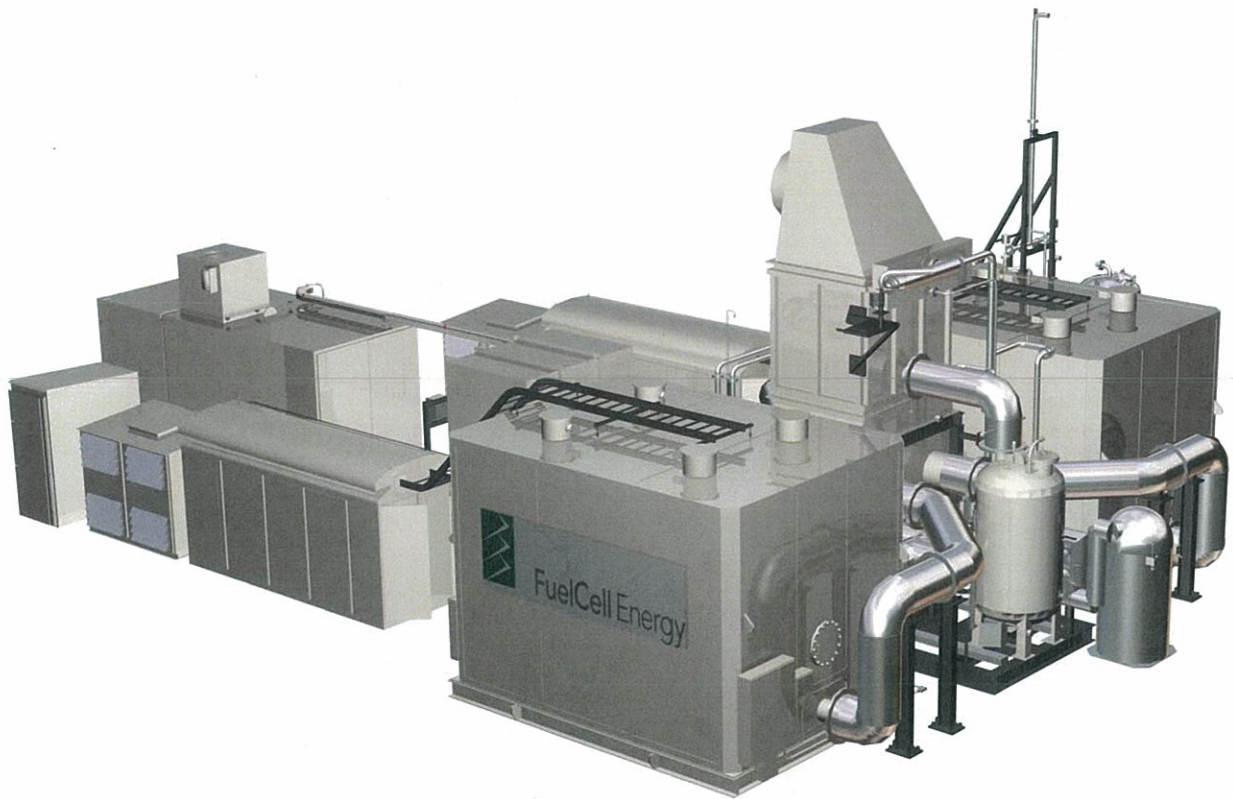
For all the foregoing reasons, FCE requests that the Council issue a determination, in the form of a declaratory ruling, that the ongoing installation and operation of fuel testing facilities at the Site would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect and, therefore, that a Certificate is not required.

Respectfully submitted,  
FUELCELL ENERGY, INC.

By   
Joey Lee Miranda, Esq.  
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E-mail: [jmiranda@rc.com](mailto:jmiranda@rc.com)

Its Attorneys

## DFC-3000 Power Plant















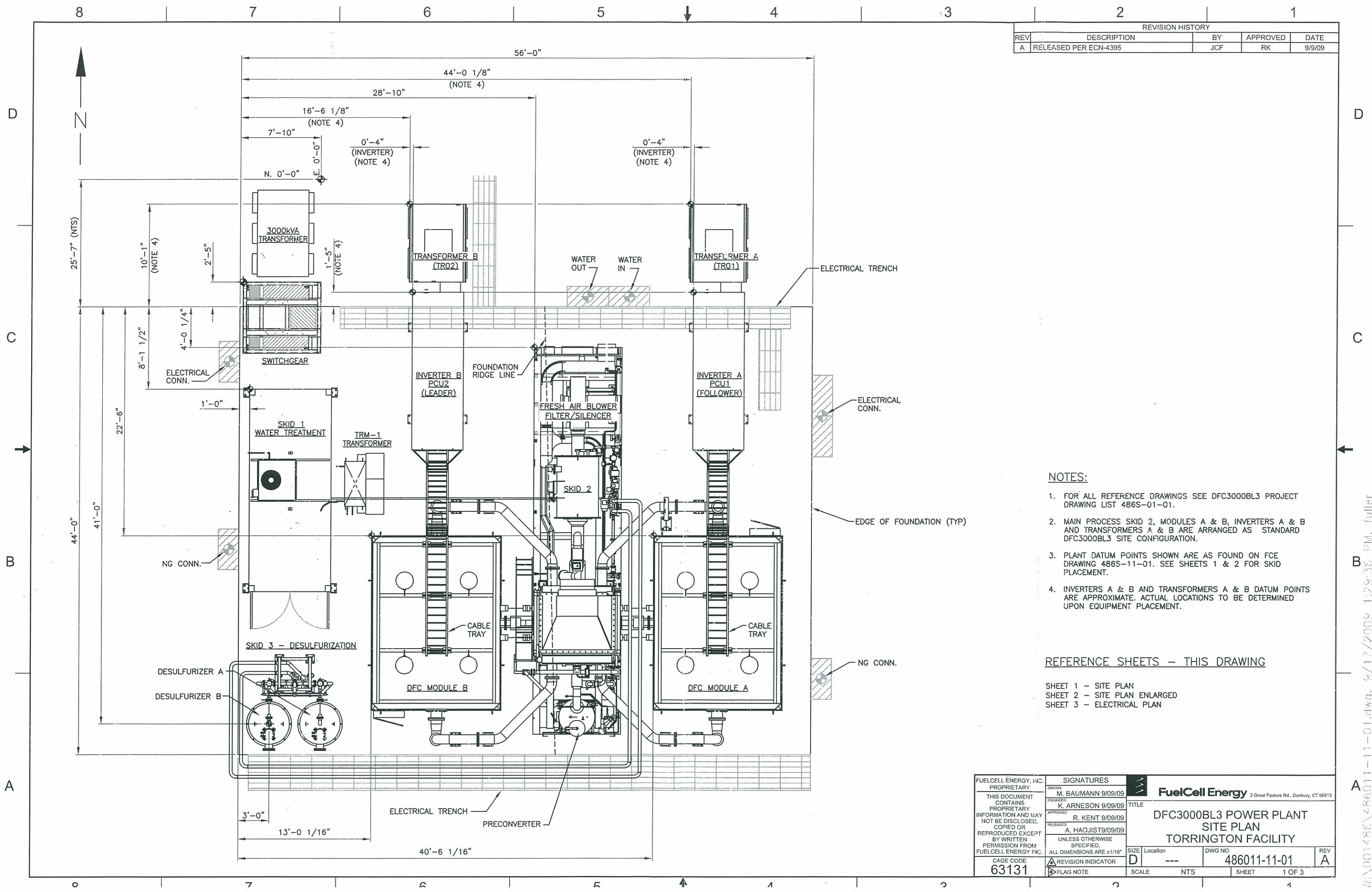













REVISION HISTORY				
REV	DESCRIPTION	BY	APPROVED	DATE
A	RELEASED PER ECN-4395	JCF	RK	9/9/09

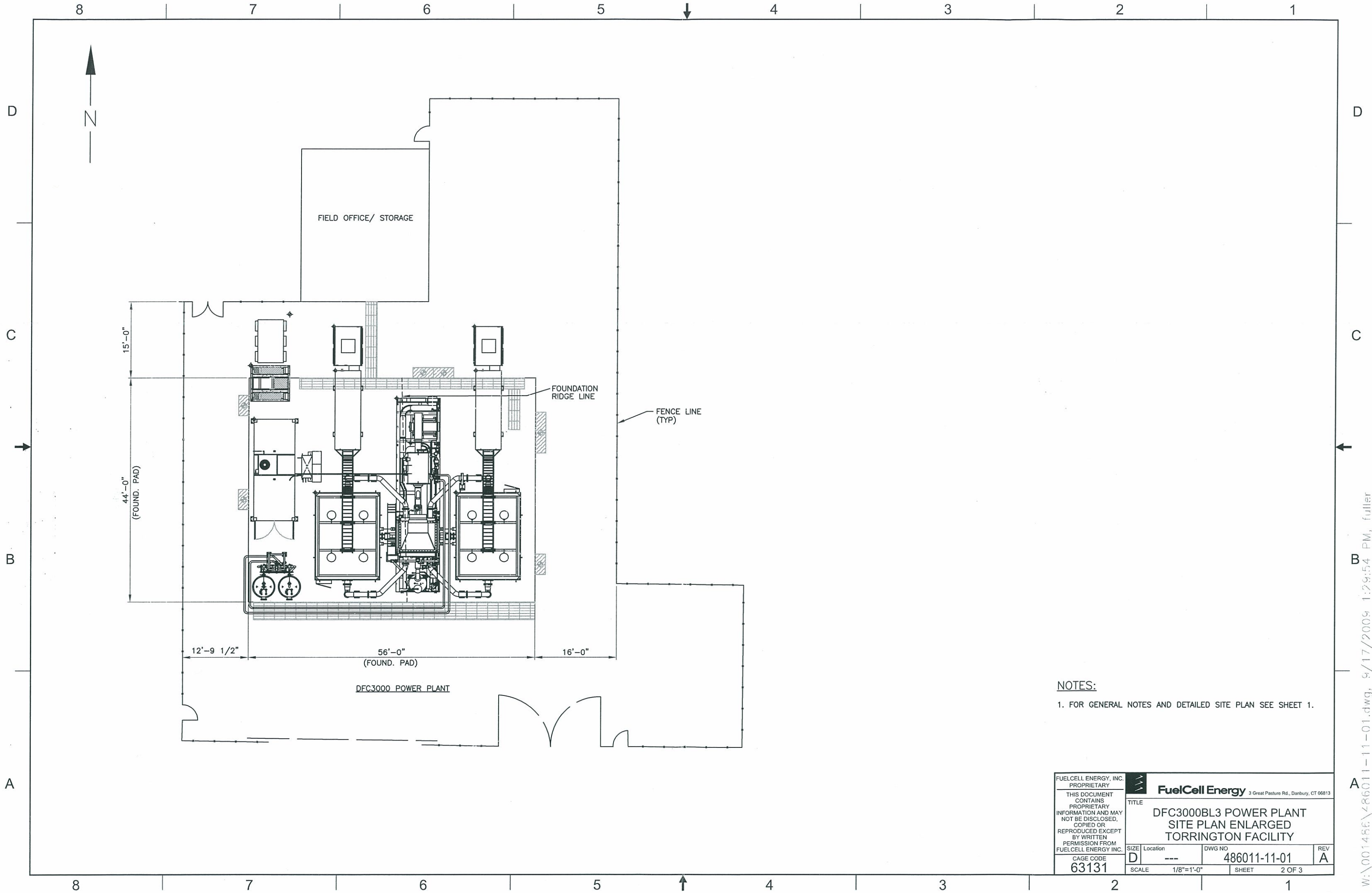
- NOTES:
- FOR ALL REFERENCE DRAWINGS SEE DFC3000BL3 PROJECT DRAWING LIST 486S-01-01.
  - MAIN PROCESS SKID 2, MODULES A & B, INVERTERS A & B AND TRANSFORMERS A & B ARE ARRANGED AS STANDARD DFC3000BL3 SITE CONFIGURATION.
  - PLANT DATUM POINTS SHOWN ARE AS FOUND ON FCE DRAWING 486S-11-01. SEE SHEETS 1 & 2 FOR SKID PLACEMENT.
  - INVERTERS A & B AND TRANSFORMERS A & B DATUM POINTS ARE APPROXIMATE. ACTUAL LOCATIONS TO BE DETERMINED UPON EQUIPMENT PLACEMENT.

REFERENCE SHEETS - THIS DRAWING


SHEET 1 - SITE PLAN  
SHEET 2 - SITE PLAN ENLARGED  
SHEET 3 - ELECTRICAL PLAN

FUELCELL ENERGY, INC. PROPRIETARY  THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND MAY NOT BE DISCLOSED, COPIED OR REPRODUCED EXCEPT BY WRITERS PERMISSION FROM FUELCELL ENERGY INC.  CAGE CODE 63131	SIGNATURES			FuelCell Energy 3 Great Pasture Rd., Danbury, CT 06813			
	DRAWN	M. BAUMANN 9/09/09		TITLE	DFC3000BL3 POWER PLANT SITE PLAN TORRINGTON FACILITY		
	ENGINEER	K. ARNESON 9/09/09					
	APPROVED	R. KENT 9/09/09					
	RELEASED	A. HADJIST9/09/09					
	UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.						
	ALL DIMENSIONS ARE ±1/16"						
REVISION INDICATOR		SIZE	Location	DWG NO	REV		
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SCALE			NTS		SHEET	1 OF 3	



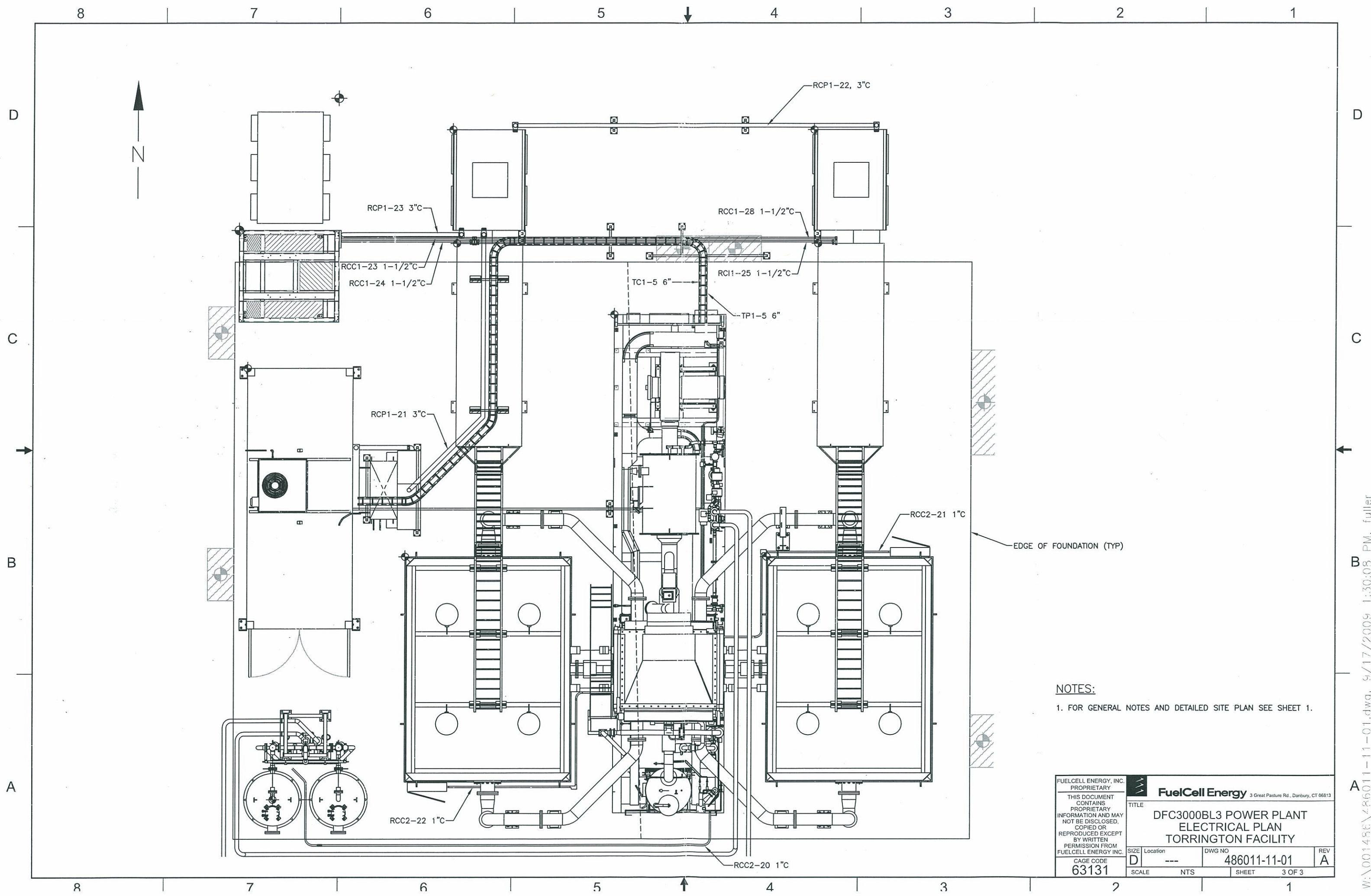


NOTES:  
1. FOR GENERAL NOTES AND DETAILED SITE PLAN SEE SHEET 1.

FUELCELL ENERGY, INC. PROPRIETARY		 <b>FuelCell Energy</b> 3 Great Pasture Rd., Danbury, CT 06813	
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CAGE CODE <b>63131</b>	SIZE <b>D</b>	Location <b>---</b>	DWG NO <b>486011-11-01</b>
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NOTES:  
1. FOR GENERAL NOTES AND DETAILED SITE PLAN SEE SHEET 1.

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CAGE CODE 63131		TITLE DFC3000BL3 POWER PLANT ELECTRICAL PLAN TORRINGTON FACILITY	
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Testing Facility

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