

From: Kathy Smart [ksmart@visuallink.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2010 9:56 AM

To: Riggelman, Anita (DEQ)

Subject: Dominion Power Plant Expansion

Shenandoah National Park generates approximately \$65 million in economic benefits to local communities every year. This resource is already suffering from the effects of industrial and vehicle created pollution from both local and distant sources. At the November 9th public hearing Park Superintendent Martha Boyle said that air quality is the biggest problem threatening the park. Hazy views diminish visitors' experience and acid rain harms the Parks streams and forests. Air pollution has already dramatically limited visibility from the park, down to an average of only 25 miles, where once people could see for more than 100 miles.

The Park Service is currently negotiating with Dominion on new offsets to address the anticipated impact of this new plant. While a natural gas plant is cleaner than coal, it would still pour tons of CO₂ and NO_x and other harmful pollutants into the air. We believe that it is critical to incorporate the recommendations from the Park Service into any new permit. Additionally, the Department of Environmental Quality should solicit comments from other state agencies charged with protecting scenic and historic resources in order to address impacts from the power plant. We believe The Park Service's concerns are valid reasons for the proposal to be reviewed by the State Air Pollution Control Board.

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