

Anita Riggleman, Va. Dep't of Environmental Quality
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RE: Concerns About Dominion's Proposed Warren County Power Station

Dear Ms. Riggleman:

My name is Steven Bruckner and my mailing address is 8620 Polk Street / McLean, VA 22102. My telephone number is 703-883-3622 and my email is sbruckner@cox.net.

For the reasons below, I am requesting that the State Air Pollution Control Board directly consider and take final action on Dominion Virginia Power's proposed Warren County Power Station.

I am concerned about the massive, natural-gas fired power plant that Dominion is proposing to build just five miles from one of our nation's most treasured national parks, Shenandoah.

In 2004, after considerable public input and debate, the Air Board approved the construction of a much smaller facility at this location. Now, Dominion Virginia Power is proposing a power plant that is more than double the size of the initially approved project. This significantly raises the likelihood of adverse air quality and public health impacts. The plant site remains in hiking distance of Shenandoah National Park.

I am particularly troubled about the increase of smog, haze, and acid deposition in Shenandoah National Park. In 2004, the Air Board mandated that all of the power plant's smog-forming nitrogen oxide emissions would be offset by reductions from other sources within the immediate vicinity of the plant and that would directly benefit Shenandoah National Park. Now, because of the enormous increase in size of the plant, Dominion states it is unable to obtain 100% of these essential offsets from within the surrounding area. Instead, it seeks to take credit for offsets that might be obtained from sources hundreds of miles away.

The National Park Service has the responsibility of protecting the natural and historic resources of Shenandoah National Park. I strongly encourage the Air Board to work with the National Park Service to assure that this vital asset is fully protected. If, according to the Park Service, adverse impacts to Shenandoah cannot be mitigated, then the Air Board must reject Dominion's application.

Sincerely,
Steven Bruckner