

MEMORANDUM

To: State Water Control Board Members

From: Kyle Ivar Winter, P.E. – Deputy Regional Director
Joseph Bryan – Water Permit Writer

Date: August 19, 2016

Subject: Reissuance of a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Individual Permit
Dominion – Chesterfield Power Station – VA0004146
Chesterfield County

Background:

The Dominion – Chesterfield Power Station is an existing 1750 megawatt (MW) coal fired and natural gas and oil fired steam electric generating station. The facility began operation in 1945 and continues to burn coal today. Two ash ponds (Upper and Lower) remain on site. Coal combustion residuals (CCRs) are conveyed from the boilers to treatment/disposal units by wetting down the ash and sluicing the mixture to the Lower Ash Pond, which provides settling for the ash and treatment for other low volume waste streams generated by the facility. Solids dredged from the Lower Ash Pond are placed in the Upper Ash Pond and further dewatered. The applicant is proposing to close both ash ponds on site pursuant to a 2015 United States Environmental Protection Agency final Rule that regulates the disposal of CCRs. It should be noted that the requirements for closure will be addressed through the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations. The VPDES reissuance primarily addresses the industrial wastewater and stormwater discharges associated with the closure of the facility's ash ponds. The facility also requested additional changes to the permit that are not related to the closure of the ash ponds.

Pursuant to Section 62.1-44.15:01 of the State Water Control Law, the public notice is to be mailed to the chief elected official and chief administrative officer and planning district commission. By letter dated June 6, 2016, DEQ notified the Chesterfield County Administrator, the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors, and the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission.

Public notice of the draft permit and public hearing was published in the *Richmond Times Dispatch* on June 6, 2016, and June 13, 2016, and in *Style Weekly* on June 8, 2016, and June 15, 2016. A 45-day public comment period ran from June 6, 2016, through July 21, 2016. During this period, there were 730 commenters, some of whom submitted multiple comments.

In addition, DEQ hosted an informational meeting on June 22, 2016, concerning the closure of the coal ash ponds at the Dominion - Chesterfield Power Station. Approximately 40 citizens attended.

Public Hearing:

DEQ held the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on July 6, 2016, at the Thomas Dale High School West Campus in Chesterfield, Virginia. Mr. Robert Dunn served as the hearing officer. DEQ also hosted an informational session prior to the hearing so that questions could be asked and answered prior to the hearing. Approximately 75 people attended the public hearing. Eighteen (18) citizens provided oral comments during the public hearing.

Summary of Comments and DEQ Response:

Attachment B to this memorandum provides summaries of the comments received during the public comment period and staff's responses to those comments. Where possible, comments were grouped and summarized

according to issue. Attachment C to this memorandum provides a listing of all those providing comments. All comments received in response to the permitting action are available upon request.

Changes to the Draft Permit:

Changes to the draft permit were made following the public comment period. The changes were made in response to public comment as well as additional examination from staff. The changes incorporated into the revised, proposed permit from the draft permit that was published for public comment are listed in Attachment A.

Recommendation:

The staff recommendation will be presented at the Board meeting on September 22, 2016.

Staff Contact Information:

Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact us.

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Attachment Listing

Attachment A – Changes to the Draft Permit
Attachment B – Response to Comments
Attachment C – List of Commenters
Attachment D – Revised, Proposed Fact Sheet
Attachment E – Proposed Permit