



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Michael S. Rolband, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director
(804) 698-4020

July 1, 2024

Joseph P. Casey, Ph.D.
Chesterfield County Administrator
9901 Lori Rd.
P.O. Box 40
Chesterfield, Virginia 23832-0040

Dear Mr. Casey:

DEQ Director Michael Rolband has asked me to respond to your letter of June 24 regarding Dominion Energy's proposed Chesterfield Energy Reliability Center (CERC) to be located on or adjacent to Dominion's existing Chesterfield Power Station site at Dutch Gap.

Regarding Chesterfield County's request that DEQ hold a public hearing, DEQ has always planned to do so. Virginia statute and air pollution control regulations require DEQ to hold a minimum of two public hearings as part of the permitting process for the CERC project. Once DEQ has prepared a draft air permit for the proposed project, there will be a 30-day public comment period on the draft permit with a mandatory public hearing at the end of that period. After the public hearing, there is an additional 15 days for the public to submit further comments on the draft permit. At the end of the entire 45-day public comment period, DEQ will prepare a document responding to the public comments and distribute it to everyone who provided written or verbal comments to the Department. DEQ will then hold a second public hearing to give the public an opportunity to respond to DEQ's "response to comments" document. By law and regulation, the public comment period and hearings only consider issues germane to a proposed project's impact to air quality, application of Best Available Control Technology, and related air pollution matters.

DEQ does not know at this time when the draft air permit for the proposed CERC project will be ready for public comment. It is always DEQ's intention, however, to hold public hearings in the communities most greatly impacted by proposed projects and we appreciate your kind offer to help us secure appropriate venues for these hearings. We may contact your office for such assistance when the timeline for the project's permit process firms up.

With respect to two other issues related to your June 24 letter, DEQ considers your letter as notification that in the event Dominion Energy locates the proposed CERC project on the site of the existing Chesterfield Power Station, the location and operation of the project is consistent with all applicable Chesterfield County ordinances and zoning conditions as required by Va. Code §10.1-1321.1.

In addition, DEQ considers your June 24 letter as notification that in the event Dominion Energy locates the proposed CERC project on the site of the existing Chesterfield Power Station, Chesterfield County has determined that that site is suitable for the project pursuant to Va. Code §10.1-1307 E. If that was not the intent of your June 24 letter, please clearly so indicate to me in writing within 15 business days of your receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions about the issues raised in this letter or about DEQ's air permit process in general, please contact me or Tamera Thompson, Manager of DEQ's air and renewable energy permit programs at 804-698-4502.

Sincerely,



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cc: Michael S. Rolband, Director, Va. Dept. of Environmental Quality
Jehmal T. Hudson, Chairman, Va. State Corporation Commission
James Beazley, VP Environmental and Sustainability, Dominion Energy