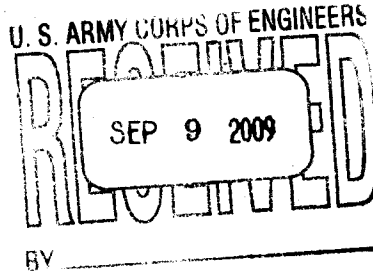




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029  
September 4, 2009

Ms. Melessa Nash,  
Project Manager  
Norfolk District, Corps of Engineers  
Fort Norfolk  
803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-1096



Re: Request to be a Cooperating Agency for the Old Dominion Electric Cooperative's Proposed Coal/Biomass Fired Stream Electric Power Plant

Dear Ms. Nash:

Thank you for your August 17, 2009 letter requesting EPA Region III to be a cooperating agency in the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Old Dominion Electric Cooperative's proposed coal/biomass stream electric power plant.

According to the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementation regulations (40 CFR 1501.6) a cooperating agency has the responsibility to assist the lead agency by participating in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process at the earliest possible time. This participation includes engaging in the scoping process, in developing information and preparing environmental analyses including portions of the environmental impact statement where the cooperating agency has special technical expertise, and in making available staff support at the lead agency's request to enhance the lead agency's interdisciplinary capabilities.

As a cooperating agency, EPA agrees to support the subject DEIS in a manner consistent with CEQ's implementation regulations and specifically, as requested to provide document reviews regarding air quality issues as well as other issues the agency has special expertise.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to engage in the development of the DEIS to satisfy the requirements of NEPA and the Clean Water Act as a cooperating agency while we retain our independent obligations under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act to review and comment on every draft environmental impact statement. If you have any questions regarding our role as a cooperating agency, please feel free to contact Mr. Kevin Magerr at (215)814-5724.

Sincerely,

Kevin Magerr  
Environmental Engineer  
Office of Environmental Programs

