

Michelle Moser

From: Alicia Williamson
Sent: Tuesday, July 01, 2008 4:13 PM
To: Michelle Moser
Subject: FW: NAPS Unit 3 COL Application - NRC's Environmental Review Supplemental Information Needs #4 (Natural Heritage Program), #12, #13, #14 (PJM forecasting information), and #21 (Partlow Gage) - 06/30/08 E-mail 1 of 1

From: Tony.Banks@dom.com [mailto:Tony.Banks@dom.com]
Sent: Monday, June 30, 2008 7:42 PM
To: Alicia Williamson; Laura Quinn; Sandusky, William F III
Cc: Thomas Kevern; Joseph.Hegner@dom.com; Regina.Borsh@dom.com; Joyce.Livingstone@dom.com; Tony.Banks@dom.com
Subject: Fw: NAPS Unit 3 COL Application - NRC's Environmental Review Supplemental Information Needs #4 (Natural Heritage Program), #12, #13, #14 (PJM forecasting information), and #21 (Partlow Gage) - 06/30/08 E-mail 1 of 1

On May 16, 22, and 29, 2008, NRC staff and its contractor, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), held conference calls with representatives from Dominion to discuss a number of supplemental "information needs" to support the North Anna Power Station Unit 3 (NAPS) combined license application environmental review. Several of these information needs were identified during the environmental site audit conducted the week of April 14, 2008. Others were identified by subject matter reviewers following the audit.

This e-mail provides some of the requested information listed in NRC's June 16, 2008 letter, which included a total of 35 items. In certain instances, the file size may dictate that more than one e-mail will be needed to transmit the information. In those instances, the e-mail will clearly be identified as "x of y" to ensure accountability.

Please note that Dominion will respond to some of the information needs via e-mail, and to others by letter. In every case, Dominion's goal is to provide complete and accurate information in a timely manner. The use of both e-mail and letters to achieve this goal has been discussed with the NRC project managers.

To ensure that you have received the information, please acknowledge receipt of this transmission.

I can be contacted at (804) 273-2170 or (tony.banks@dom.com) if there are questions.

Thank you -

Tony Banks, MPH, CHMM
Dominion
ESP/COL Project
Environmental Lead

Information Need Request #4 (Natural Heritage Program)

Describe the interactions the applicant has had with the Natural Heritage Program to perform rare

plant surveys in the transmission corridors. Describe the rationale why the Ladysmith corridor has always been a low priority for survey.

Dominion Response

In the mid-1990s, Virginia's Natural Heritage Program performed a search of their database for historical records and maps prepared for botanists showing records of rare plant occurrences. These areas were overlaid with Dominion transmission line maps. The areas where rare plant occurrences intersected with Dominion transmission lines were visited and evaluated. Approximately 140 rare plant sites were visited over a 3-year period. There were no rare plant occurrences on the Ladysmith corridor. Dominion formed a partnership with the Natural Heritage Program to protect rare plants in the Dominion transmission line corridors.

In addition, the rare plants which occur in Virginia require very wet areas with specific soil types. When these areas of the state were overlaid with Dominion transmission line maps, none occurred on the Ladysmith line. Therefore, no rare plant species would be expected to occur in the Ladysmith corridor.

In the 2004-2006, in cooperation with the National Heritage Program, some of the rare plant areas previously identified in the Dominion transmission corridors were revisited. It was confirmed that the rare plants continue to thrive in these areas. Because it had been previously determined that no rare plant species were found in the Ladysmith corridor, this corridor was not one of those revisited during this time frame.

Based on the results of the database search and the evaluation of areas suitable for rare plant growth, it was determined that rare plant surveys in the Ladysmith corridor would not be necessary.

Information Need Request #12 (PJM demand forecast and population information)

Provide the most recently available (latest update) energy demand forecast for the PJM region as well updated regional population estimate data and forecasts.

Dominion Response

The most recent energy and peak demand forecast for the PJM region is at the following link:
<http://www.pjm.com/planning/res-adequacy/downloads/2008-load-report.pdf>

PJM does not produce a regional population estimate or forecast. Population information is one of the inputs to the economic forecast which PJM purchases from a third party vendor.

For further clarification, the following individuals at PJM may be contacted: Mr. Tom Falin, Manager of Capacity Adequacy Planning; Mr. Dave Egan, Senior Project Manager for Dominion Region; Mr. Steve Herling, Vice-President

Information Need Request #13 (PJM electricity price factor information)

Provide information on how electricity price is factored into the PJM forecasting model.

Dominion Response

One of the drivers of the PJM energy and peak demand forecasts is the forecast of Gross Metropolitan Area Product (GMP) for the PJM region. PJM purchases its GMP forecast from a third party vendor. The vendor has informed PJM that electricity price is one of the inputs to the GMP forecast.

Information Need Request #14 (PJM load forecasting information)

Provide a copy of, or reference to, the most recent PJM load forecasting methodology.

Dominion Response

The following three links provide information on the PJM load forecasting methodology:

Manual 19: Load Forecasting and Analysis <http://www.pjm.com/contributions/pjm-manuals/pdf/m19.pdf>

PJM Load/Energy Forecasting Model Whitepaper <http://www.pjm.com/planning/res-adequacy/downloads/forecast-model-whitepaper.pdf>

Brattle Group Report on PJM Load Forecast Model <http://www.pjm.com/planning/res-adequacy/downloads/brattle-final-report.pdf>

Information Need Request #21 (Partlow Gage)

Provide a rationale why are releases at the USGS Partlow-gage were greater than 40 cfs during April 2008 when the water surface elevation of Lake Anna was less than 250 ft.

Dominion Response

Dominion offers the following explanation for measured flows at the USGS Partlow gage during April 2008:

When the lake level is greater than 248 feet above mean sea level (MSL), Lake Anna Dam discharges are maintained at or above 40 cfs (the legal minimum release) in accordance with VPDES permit (VA0052451) Condition I.D.1. If the lake level lowers to 248 feet above MSL, then the legal minimum discharge changes to 20 cfs (Condition I.D.2).

During the first 29 days in April 2008, only Skimmer Gate #2 was releasing water. Prior to April 21 (the date of torrential rains in the area), the lake level fluctuated from 249.2-249.9 feet MSL due to low intensity rain events throughout the watershed. The Skimmer Gate #2 opening fluctuated from 0.03-1.0 (tenths of a foot) as the operators tried to minimize the discharge without violating the VPDES permit. During this period, the USGS Partlow gage provisional data fluctuated from 43-52 cfs.

Because the lake level did not lower to 248 feet (MSL), the Lake Anna Dam discharges were maintained at or above 40 cfs during the month of April 2008 in compliance with the VPDES permit. CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic message contains information which may be legally confidential and/or privileged and does not in any case represent a firm ENERGY COMMODITY bid or offer relating thereto which binds the sender without an additional express written confirmation to that effect. The information is intended solely for the individual or entity named above and access by anyone else is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this information is prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please reply immediately to the sender that you have received the message in error, and delete it. Thank you.