

Scoping Period Ends For Environmental Review SEQR Process Next Steps

The Scoping Process for Cricket Valley Energy, a combined cycle power plant planned for an inactive industrial site off Route 22, ended on June 18, 2010, completing the second milestone in the State Environmental Quality Review, or SEQR, process.

The Scoping Process included numerous opportunities for public participation, including the distribution of a draft Scoping Document in May, two public hearings in June and announcements to keep the public informed about the deadline for submission of comments to the project's lead agency, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The Cricket Valley Energy team supported the formal process with additional outreach that included advertisements and direct mail to encourage public participation, along with newsletter articles, press releases and meetings of Cricket Valley Energy's three Advisory Working Groups.

The final Scoping Document is available online at:

- o DEC Website:
www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6061.html
- o Cricket Valley Energy Website:
www.cricketvalley.com
- o Town of Dover Website:
www.townofdovery.us

New York's SEQR process is the framework for environmental decision-making in the state. The process requires that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared for projects that could affect the environment, and includes such topics as air quality, water supply,



The CVE team answers questions at SEQR Scoping Hearing.

wetlands, wildlife, traffic, safety and economic impacts. The process for Cricket Valley Energy was initiated in November 2009 with the filing of a Special Permit Application to the Town of Dover.

The next step in the SEQR process will be the submission of a Draft EIS (DEIS) by Cricket Valley Energy, addressing all of the topics identified in the Scoping Document along with supporting conclusions, detailed reports and back-up data. Comments were received and incorporated into the Scope from the Town of Dover, the public and other key stakeholders, including local environmental organizations, health and safety officials, and industry experts. Submission of the DEIS is expected early this fall.

A robust public outreach effort will be conducted following submission of the DEIS to encourage participation in public hearings that will be held to solicit comments. Feedback gathered during these hearings will be reviewed by the DEC and incorporated, as appropriate, into the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

"We will continue to support the environmental review process with efforts that exceed requirements and encourage everyone interested to share their ideas and stay involved," said Bob De Meyere, Cricket Valley Energy Project Manager.

Cricket Valley Energy will distribute fact sheets and newsletters, place local advertisements, and update its Website to ensure the public is well informed as the process advances.

Inside

- Issues & Topics
- Advisory Working Groups Report

Schedule a Speaker

Contact us to schedule a speaker for your organization or neighborhood group's next meeting.
Email: info@cricketvalley.com
or call (845) 877-0596.

Advisory Working Group Meetings Scheduled

The third series of meetings has been scheduled for Cricket Valley Energy's Advisory Working Groups (AWG). AWGs offer the public an opportunity to meet in small groups with project experts to focus on specific topics of interest related to the project—most meetings include a presentation and an open and informal discussion. The three groups meet at Cricket Valley Energy's Community Outreach Office to address Air Quality, Traffic & Safety and Water, Wetlands & Wildlife.

"The Advisory Working Groups have been well attended, and there is always room for more people to join," said Matt Martin, Associate Project Manager. "The groups set the agendas and we make every effort to answer questions—whether those in attendance participate in the discussion or prefer to just listen. The AWGs are a comfortable way to learn more about Cricket Valley Energy."

The next meetings include the following dates and will all be held at 7 p.m. at the Cricket Valley Energy Community Outreach Office, 5 Market Street, Dover Plains, NY:

August 26:
Water, Wetlands & Wildlife

September 16:
Air Quality

September 23:
Traffic & Safety

Water, Wetlands & Wildlife Group to Discuss Pump Test Results

Topics for the August 26 meeting of the Water, Wetlands & Wildlife AWG will focus on the results of the long-term pump test conducted on wells around the project property. CVE engineers will also describe how the project's zero-liquid discharge system will reduce water use to the greatest extent possible.

On April 29, Cricket Valley Energy consultant Christopher Lapine, P.E., LEED® AP led the Water, Wetlands & Wildlife group in a discussion of CVE's stormwater management plan,

which is designed to protect the local ecosystem by capturing rainfall runoff and directing it through a ground-water recharge facility that will mimic native ecosystems and create a natural filtration system.

Air Quality Group to Review Plant Technology

The September 16 meeting of the Air Quality Advisory Working Group will focus on a review of additional air quality requirements, the technology that will be used in the plant and its potential impact on air quality.

At its April 15 meeting, the Air Quality Advisory Working Group reviewed Cricket Valley Energy's air quality permit application with Fred Sellars of ARCADIS, lead environmental engineer for the Cricket Valley Energy project. The application, which has been submitted to the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation and to the US Environmental Protection Agency, demonstrates full compliance with state and federal air quality regulations. It includes study data that document compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards and concludes:

- Impacts on air quality are insignificant and protective of health, even of the most vulnerable individuals including those with asthma and emphysema
- Impacts of non-criteria pollutants are well below all health-based guidelines
- Contribution to acid rain resulting from air quality impacts is insignificant
- Modeling of a "worst-case" hypothetical indicates no off-site health risk
- There is no significant visual impact related to air quality on the nearest park and natural resources, no significant impact on soil or vegetation and no significant impact to disadvantaged communities

ISSUES & TOPICS Jobs

In each issue, CVE addresses a question raised by a local resident. This issue, we look at how the economic benefits of CVE will be analyzed in the DEIS. We also update last issue's question about the weather-related delay of the long-term pump test on local wells.

How many jobs will this project create?

The DEIS will consider the socio-economic impacts of the \$1 billion CVE facility on the Town of Dover, Dutchess County and the State of New York. CVE will use quantitative and qualitative analysis to assess the benefits of the addition of up to 750 jobs during construction, and up to 30 permanent jobs when the plant is operational, along with the demand these employees will create for goods and services from local businesses. The analysis will also detail the project's tax contribution to the Town of Dover, its schools, and Dutchess County, which is expected to be up to \$4 million per year.

Update: Pump Test Completed

The pump test, initially scheduled for April 2010, was rescheduled for June in order to ensure results were not influenced by record rainfall in March. Neighbors who agreed to the voluntary test allowed CVE to install and monitor data loggers to record water levels over a three-week period. The purpose of the test was to ensure water withdrawal will have no adverse affect on neighboring water supplies. Test results indicate that CVE's 600-900 foot deep bedrock wells will minimize potential impacts on the Swamp River, wetlands, surface aquifer and neighboring wells. Results will be published in the DEIS.



Traffic & Safety Group to Discuss Project Safety

Topics for the September 23 meeting of the Traffic & Safety Advisory Working Group include safety technology, project safety related to the Dover Schools, and a follow-up on the Chemical Safety Board's report on the Kleen Energy accident in Middletown, CT.

At its May 13 meeting, the Traffic & Safety group reviewed the results of Cricket Valley Energy's traffic study and discussed safety systems for the facility with Gus Sambrano, Advanced Power's Health & Safety Officer, and

Fred Sellars, CVE's lead environmental consultant. The traffic study assessed current and projected traffic, and proposed a temporary parking area with shuttles to reduce the number of vehicles on the road during construction. In addition, temporary improvements—a new signal or traffic control agent—were indicated to improve the level of service at the driveway of the temporary construction parking area and at Duncan Hill Road. All other intersections will operate at acceptable levels of service without improvements during construction and operation.



Ample supplies of water are recorded during CVE's long-term pump test.

GETTING INVOLVED

Additional opportunities to learn about the project include:

- Advisory Working Groups on air quality, the environment and safety
- Open houses during important stages of the process
- Community Outreach Office at 5 Market Street in Dover Plains
- Brochures, newsletters and fact sheets, available at CVE's office
- A project Website (cricketvalley.com)
- Distribution of study documents to convenient area locations and online
- Press releases and media updates

"The public has actively participated throughout the process," said Matt Martin, Associate Project Manager. "We will continue to distribute materials in order to keep everyone up-to-date on how to get involved and stay involved as the process continues."

To schedule a presentation for your group or neighbors, contact Matthew Martin, Associate Project Manager, (845) 877-0596, info@cricketvalley.com

CVE Community Meetings

Water, Wetlands & Wildlife Advisory Working Group
August 26, 2010

Air Quality Advisory Working Group
September 16, 2010

Traffic & Safety Advisory Working Group
September 23, 2010

For additional information on meetings and events visit www.cricketvalley.com

Postal Patron

LEARN MORE

Meet

Water, Wetlands & Wildlife
Advisory Working Group
August 26, 2010

Air Quality Advisory Working Group
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Traffic & Safety Advisory Working Group
September 23, 2010

Visit

Website: www.cricketvalley.com

Community Outreach Office
5 Market Street
Dover Plains, NY
(845) 877-0596

Sign Up

To subscribe to this newsletter and electronic notifications, or to join an Advisory Working Group, please email: info@cricketvalley.com (write "subscribe" in the subject line), call: (845) 877-0596 or visit the project Website: www.cricketvalley.com

