

## What's next for Cricket Valley Energy?

The public comment period ended August 5 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Cricket Valley Energy's (CVE) proposed, state-of-the-art combined cycle natural gas power plant planned for an inactive industrial site off Route 22. The end of the comment period signaled the start of the next step in the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

CVE and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will prepare the FEIS, incorporate any revisions and address public comments. The DEC will review it for completeness and accuracy before they file a Notice of Completion. Once filed, each agency involved in the process, including the Town of Dover, will review the FEIS and prepare a findings statement for final determination of permit requirements.

Once the project's FEIS is approved, the Town of Dover will review Cricket Valley Energy's Special Permit application, which was initiated in November 2009 to begin the SEQR process.

### Public invited to "Ask Cricket Valley"

The DEIS comment phase included two public hearings on June 28 at Dover Middle School, which were supplemented by comments collected by the Town Board during a Saturday, July 9 meeting at Town Hall.

The CVE team attended every meeting, to provide information, answer questions and listen to comments from the community. They encouraged participation with supplemental advertising, road signs, a printed guide to the DEIS and a new website page, "Ask Cricket Valley".



Matt Martin, Associate Project Manager, answered big and little questions at the Ask Cricket Valley Open House on Saturday, July 23.

In addition, CVE held an Open House at its Community Outreach Office in Dover on Saturday, July 23, with more than 60 people meeting with CVE project experts, including nationally-recognized air quality expert Richard Londergan, PhD. Topics discussed at the Open House included:

**Sound:** When operational, CVE will meet local sound requirements, and occasional noise during construction will be temporary. The project will produce ambient (outdoor) sound levels of 50 dB or less at all property lines except the Metro-North rail line, which bisects the CVE property.

**The National Institutes of Health published this chart of decibels:**

<b>10 dB</b>	<b>Normal breathing</b>
<b>30 dB</b>	<b>Whisper</b>
<b>40 dB</b>	<b>Refrigerator humming</b>
<b>50-60 dB</b>	<b>Quiet office</b>
<b>60 dB</b>	<b>Normal conversation</b>
<b>70 dB</b>	<b>Vacuum cleaner</b>

**Air Quality:** Using EPA's new, more stringent air quality standards, CVE was found to have an insignificant impact on air quality, even for the most vulnerable populations—people with emphysema and asthma.

**Water:** Wells drilled on the CVE site into the bedrock aquifer produced sufficient water to meet the needs of the facility and were tested to ensure that impacts to neighboring wells, the surface aquifer, the Swamp River and associated wetlands are insignificant. Also, rooftop rainwater capture will supplement the water supply.

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# Cricket Valley Addresses Project Need



Artist rendering of CVE's proposed facility

“We believe that New York’s economy is poised for recovery and CVE can provide a competitive, market-based solution to New York’s future energy needs, and at the same time support the State’s Energy Plan,” said Matt Martin, Associate Project Manager. CVE has designed an environmentally-responsible facility on an abandoned industrial site with existing gas and electric infrastructure, making it a smart site for this project.

The Cricket Valley project is located south and east of two major electricity bottlenecks in New York State—which means that CVE’s low-cost, efficient power will be available to meet local needs and maintain reliability in southeast New York, at a cost below the oil-fired and less efficient gas-fired facilities that dominate the region.

## “Ask Cricket Valley”

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**Great Swamp:** There will be no work within the Great Swamp Critical Environmental Area. A Zero Liquid Discharge system will ensure no process water is discharged into the Swamp River, and stormwater management will preserve water quality and minimize impact on the flow of the River.

**Wetlands:** 74 of the project’s 131 acres will be conserved in perpetuity, and existing wetlands damaged by previous uses will be restored.

It is important to note that a more thorough examination of “need” will be conducted by the New York Public Service Commission (PSC), from whom the project must obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, or CPCN. This application will be the subject of review by the Public Service Commission later this year. In addition, CVE will continue to proceed through a state-run interconnection process to assess CVE’s impact on the grid. The interconnection process is managed by the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO), which operates New York’s high-voltage electricity network and plans for the state’s energy future.

**“Fracking”:** There will be no hydraulic fracturing for natural gas (known as “fracking”) at this site.

**Visibility:** Three factors minimize CVE’s visual impact: a 300-foot buffer of existing mature trees along Route 22, a valley location and a compact footprint which co-locates the three 282.5 foot stacks.

## ISSUES & TOPICS

In each Update, CVE examines a question raised by a local resident. This issue, we consider the effect of CVE and other projects proposed for the area.

*Has Cricket Valley studied the cumulative effects of other projects?*

- Air quality – YES! CVE considered existing background air quality, all power plants in the region, Iroquois’ compressor station, the local lumber mill, and other major sources from as far away as Massachusetts. With the addition of CVE, cumulative emissions will still be below all health-based standards, which are designed to protect the most vulnerable individuals, including those with asthma and emphysema.

- Water – YES! CVE tested water supplies during near drought conditions (“Q90” flow rate - June 2010), at twice its requirements, while monitoring existing usage of neighbors and wells at Dover Knolls. There is still sufficient water at the site, with no effect on the regional water budget.

- Traffic – YES! CVE factored in current traffic on Route 22 and projected Dover Knolls’ traffic at full build-out, and still demonstrates acceptable Levels of Service.



Project Manager Bob De Meyere discusses the project at CVE’s office



## Jobs Info

With construction planned to begin in 2012, a three-year average workforce of 300 and a peak construction workforce of 750, Cricket Valley Energy will require construction staff in many skill areas. When approved, CVE will issue bids for construction contracting—and will ensure that qualified local residents are given priority. If you would like to drop off a resume to be submitted to the selected contractor, bring one to an upcoming Advisory Working Group meeting, or drop one off at the CVE Community Outreach Office, 5 Market Street, Dover Plains, NY.



## Your Ideas Count

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and ideas about our project during the June 28 public hearing sessions, hosted by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) at the Dover Middle School, and the Dover Town Board meeting on July 9. Together we can ensure that the CVE project mirrors Dover's priorities—preserving and protecting our watershed, air quality and the rural characteristics of the community.



June 28 Public Hearing at Dover Middle School



Matt Martin introduces the CVE project at the Town of Dover July 9 meeting

## ADVISORY WORKING GROUPS TO MEET

CVE will turn to attendees at the fifth round of Advisory Working Groups (AWG) for input on project-related ideas—questions on any topic are welcome at the upcoming meetings:

### **Water Wetlands & Wildlife** -

September 15: The meeting will focus on planning a Stream Gauging Project suggested by area environmental groups to monitor water flow and collect data in the Great Swamp. This project will be funded by CVE.

**Air Quality** - October 6: The Air Quality AWG will explore which monitoring stations were used in CVE's air quality analysis, and what those monitoring stations tell us.

**Traffic & Safety** - October 13: Traffic & Safety will consider the benefits of adding a second temporary parking lot to support workers during the construction phase.

Meetings are held from 7 - 8 p.m at CVE's community outreach office, 5 Market Street, Dover Plains, NY

### **SCHEDULE A MEETING**

Contact us to schedule a meeting for your organization or neighborhood group:

Email [info@cricketvalley.com](mailto:info@cricketvalley.com) or call (845) 877-0596



Nationally-recognized air quality expert Richard Londergan, PhD, will answer questions at the Cricket Valley Advisory Working Group on October 6.

# Postal Patron

## LEARN MORE

### Attend

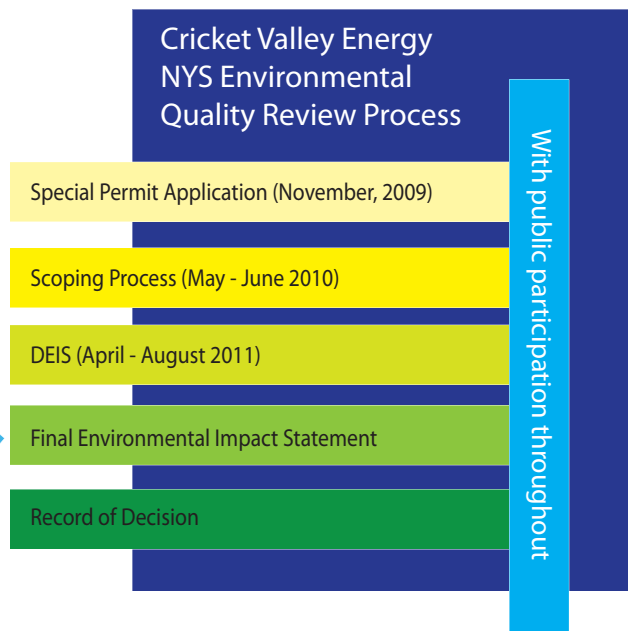
Advisory Working Groups  
Water, Wetlands & Wildlife – September 15  
Air Quality – October 6  
Traffic & Safety – October 13

### Visit

Website: [www.cricketvalley.com](http://www.cricketvalley.com)

Community Outreach Office  
5 Market Street  
Dover Plains, NY 12522  
(845) 877-0596

We are  
here



### Sign Up

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