

UPDATE

We're Nearly There!

State and local approvals open the door to construction

The past year has been a landmark period of important approvals for the Cricket Valley Energy Center (CVE) in Dover Plains, New York. State and local governments have given the green light for construction. CVE continues to work with the Town of Dover on a number of pending items.



ARTIST'S RENDERING OF THE CRICKET VALLEY ENERGY CENTER

Environmental Quality

In October 2012, after a rigorous review by New York's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) during the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR), the agency formally approved the project and issued permits for air and water quality. "As the lead agency for SEQR review of the project, DEC has carefully and thoroughly examined this project and its environmental impacts," said DEC Commissioner Joseph Martens when the approval was announced. "This new plant not only offers environmental benefits but also economic benefits to the state and local economy." (To read the complete DEC Findings Statement, visit the "Study Process" page of the cricketvalley.com website and click on "CVE Documents.")

Public Convenience and Necessity

Four months later, in February 2013, the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) approved construction of the plant and granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN). As the state agency that regulates the electric, water, gas,

and telecommunications industries in New York, the PSC requires the issuance of a CPCN before a new power plant can begin construction. This process reviews proposed power plants for safety, security, reliability, and economic and environmental impacts and benefits.

When it granted the CPCN, the Commission noted that CVE "will provide more cost-effective electricity with lower emissions than many existing plants and improve power reliability throughout the downstate region." To read the complete CPCN Petition, visit the cricketvalley.com website. Go to the "Study Process" page and then click on "CVE Documents."

Town of Dover

Locally, the Town of Dover Town Board has voted to grant a Special Use Permit and a Site Plan Approval to CVE that will allow construction to go forward. Pending an agreement between the Dover School District, the Town Board and Dutchess County regarding tax payment, a community benefits package and approvals for building permits, CVE anticipates

construction to begin in early 2015. Dover Town Supervisor Ryan Courtien and State Senator Terry Gipson, who represents Dover, have both said that the region is likely to benefit from the Cricket Valley project, which is expected to contribute tax revenues as well as create jobs in Dutchess County.

"State and local officials have been very responsive during the entire review process, a process that assures that the Cricket Valley Energy Center will be energy efficient, environmentally sound, and a major contributor to the revitalization of the region's electric power system," says CVE Project Manager Bob De Meyere. "With these critical approvals in hand, we anticipate breaking ground on the project sometime in early 2015."

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Water Quality: Your Ideas at Work

Based on the work of the CVE Advisory Working Groups, CVE is coordinating with local environmental groups to install a new water monitoring station at the Route 22 bridge over the Swamp River, north of the CVE site in Dover. The station was previously maintained for 40 years by the U.S. Geological Service. The new monitoring station will gauge water flow and quality. In addition, it will enhance the approximately 40 years of existing data on water flow, temperature, and salinity to ensure that the area's very important aquifer remains healthy. CVE plans to complete the water monitoring station before the build phase of the Dover energy plant begins. CVE is committed to the highest principles of environmental stewardship. To ensure that water quality will be protected, strict environmental protection measures will be taken, including:

- *The facility will obtain water from deep underground wells to prevent impact on the Swamp River and surface aquifer.*
- *Damaged wetlands on the site will be restored.*
- *CVE will be a Zero Liquid Discharge facility. No process water will be discharged from the facility.*
- *74 acres of wetlands west of the railroad tracks will remain untouched.*



DAMAGED WETLAND SCHEDULED TO BE RESTORED

Jobs and More!

There are numerous benefits expected from the proposed state-of-the-art Cricket Valley Energy Center, from the highly efficient use of North American natural gas to fuel power generation and a more resilient and less costly electric energy grid, to direct support of the local economy in Dutchess County. Once under way, the project will revamp an existing, inactive industrial site, meet regional energy needs, and contribute to the tax base without significant impact to the community or environment.

During peak construction, 750 jobs will be created, with an average of 300 workers required throughout the 3-year construction period. These jobs will produce approximately \$50 million dollars in annual salaries.

During construction, 74 percent of the total jobs created are anticipated to be filled by residents of Dutchess County. Once in service, CVE will require approximately 30 permanent employees for operations, with annual salaries totaling approximately \$2 million.

Interested job applicants and contractors who would like to submit resumes can visit the cricketvalley.com website. Click on "Ask Cricket Valley" on the top menu and then select "Jobs and Taxes" from the side menu on the left.

CVE Welcomes New Team Members

Cricket Valley Energy (CVE) is proud to announce the addition of two experienced executives to the project staff in Dover, Andrew Degon and Amy Frazier, JD.



Andrew Degon, Project Engineer, has built an impressive career in development engineering, construction management and combined cycle operations. Since graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rutgers University in 2000, Andrew has played a critical role in numerous large-scale infrastructure projects, including more than 3,000 megawatts of fossil-fueled power plants.



Amy Frazier, Manager, Environmental Permitting, brings extensive knowledge of environmental regulation and a wealth of experience in management consulting to the CVE team. Prior to joining CVE, Amy was a senior associate at Deloitte Consulting and an associate in the Environmental Law Department of the Foley Hoag law firm in Boston. She holds a law degree from Northeastern University and a degree in computer information systems from Bentley University.

CVE to Improve the Grid

CVE has been required to increase transmission capacity, redundancy, and operational capabilities to the New York State grid by funding and installing an electric power transmission line in the existing Consolidated Edison, Inc., (Con Edison) right-of-way between the Town of Dover and the Con Edison substation in the Town of Pleasant Valley. CVE will co-locate a transmission line on approximately 14.6 miles of the right-of-way, adding new technology, improved resilience, and strengthening the grid. Additionally, the project, to be known as the Cricket Valley Transmission project, will re-conductor the approximately 3.4-mile segment of the existing transmission line in the same right-of-way in the Town of Dover between the CVE substation and the New York-Connecticut state line. Because of its location on the existing right-of-way, there will be minimal disruption to neighboring communities during the build phase, which is expected to take up to 24 months.

Construction of the line will coincide with the construction of the generation facility. The public review process for the transmission line project, also called the Cricket Valley Transmission Upgrade, began in January 2014. To learn more, please visit www.CricketValleyTransmission.com.



More Jobs!

Another source of hiring will come from the new transmission line project (see “CVE to Improve the Grid,” above). Preparation, installation and site restoration for the new transmission line will require a labor force of about 60 and take up to 24 months to complete.

Job applicants and contractors who would like to submit resumes can visit the cricketvalley.com website. Go to “Ask Cricket Valley” and then click on “Jobs and Taxes.”



Your Ideas Count

The very first thing Cricket Valley is building in the Hudson Valley is trust. We are committed to ensuring that New Yorkers have the most affordable power they need with the least impact to the environment. And public involvement is a core component of our mission. That’s why we are scheduling a set of informational meetings in convenient locations to provide you with information about our project and to listen to your ideas and concerns.



PROPOSED MONOPOLE

Information regarding upcoming public information meetings will be posted on the Cricket Valley Transmission Upgrade website and in weekly newspapers. CVE encourages the public to call the project’s Community Outreach Office at (845) 877-0596 and to sign up for email updates at www.cricketvalley.com to receive information about news, events, and opportunities to get involved.

At our meetings, area residents will be introduced to project team members and learn about key milestones as well as health, economic and environmental impacts associated with the proposed transmission line.

Since the SEQR process for the Cricket Valley Energy Center began in 2009, CVE has worked closely with the Dover community to share information and collect ideas from community members to make sure that their values are reflected in the project.

CVE will be extending this commitment to public engagement to the transmission project and will soon be announcing the formation of Advisory Working Groups. Our team looks forward to meeting with the community as we seek approval to upgrade the transmission line — a project that will ensure that the Hudson Valley has the energy it needs today and in the future.

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LEARN MORE

Visit

Website: www.cricketvalley.com

Attend

Advisory Working Groups met throughout the New York State Environmental Quality Review process to ensure public input on key topics, including air quality, traffic and safety, and the environment. New Advisory Working Groups related to the construction process and to the transmission line project will be announced soon — all are welcome.

Sign Up

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

