Smart American energy begins here.

A Guide to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Public Review Process

CVE's environmentally responsible design minimizes water use to protect and preserve the aquifer

Cricket Valley Energy's (CVE) proposed state-of-the-art combined cycle power plant planned for an inactive industrial site off Route 22 in Dover, will provide highly-efficient, environmentally responsible energy for nearly one million homes by converting clean-burning American natural gas into electricity. This guide is an overview of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that includes key environmental, economic and social topics identified by the public during the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process.

Responsible planning

The abandoned industrial site off Route 22 in Dover is well suited for the CVE project with its existing infrastructure—natural gas and electric transmission lines—zoning and topography and natural tree buffer. The portion of the property east of the Metro-North railroad track, where CVE development will occur, has a long history of industrial use as a magnesium refining facility, a Formica production facility and in the early 1990s, a tire recycling facility. A fire in 1996 rendered the site inoperable, leaving dilapidated, vacant industrial buildings and associated debris. Following a Phase II environmental site investigation in the 1990s, the site was delisted from the list of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites. CVE will continue to survey the site to evaluate potential environmental concerns before it cleans up site debris including inactive above-ground storage tanks, a former gas holder and a yellow sawdust-type material that degrades wetland areas.

Responsible energy

Detailed information is available in the DEIS document—corresponding sections for each topic are indicated in parentheses.

Air Quality (Section 4)

CVE's state-of-the-art design, including its use of advanced emissions control equipment and operational practices, will ensure that air emissions will not result in significant environmental or health impacts. The project meets stringent emissions control measures including Best Available Control Technology (BACT) and Lowest Achievable Emissions Rate (LAER). The project's air permit application, which includes the results of a dispersion modeling analysis submitted to the USEPA and DEC, has demonstrated compliance with the latest National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). It shows the project's effect on air quality is insignificant and protective of even the most vulnerable individuals, including those with asthma and the elderly. The impacts of non-criteria

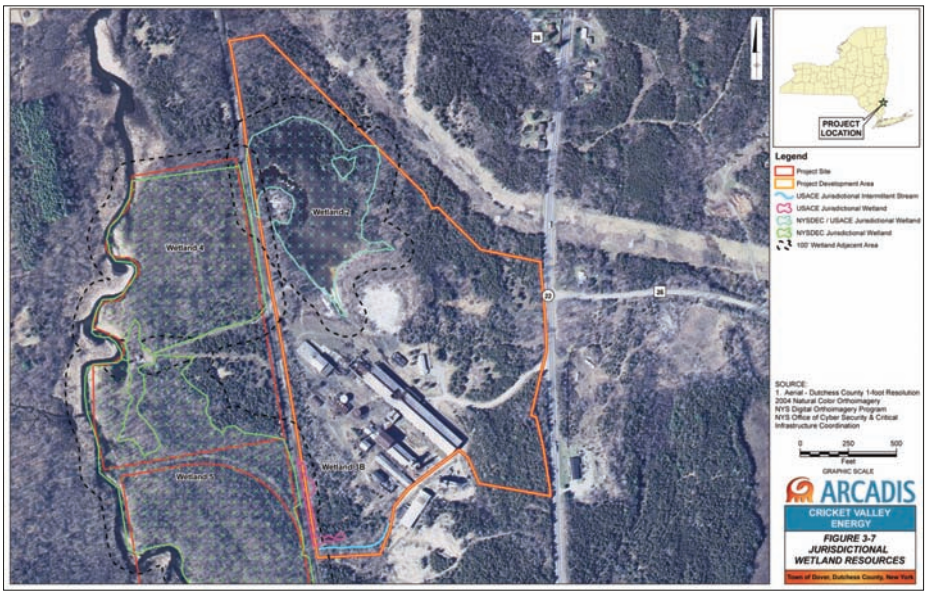
pollutants are well below all health-based guidelines, and the contribution to acid rain resulting from air quality impacts is insignificant.

A Dispatch Analysis shows CVE's operation would result in substantial emissions reductions across the region. By displacing older, less efficient power plants with its clean burning natural gas combined cycle technology, CVE would achieve average annual *reductions* of: NOx - 1,475 tons; SO_2 - 4,301 tons; and CO_2 - 653,242 tons.

Water Resources (Section 5)

CVE conservation measures minimize water demand and make it one of the most water-efficient electric generating facilities in the region. These measures include: air-cooling technology to reduce water use by up to 98 percent; a zero-liquid discharge system to ensure no process water is released outside the site; and rooftop rain capture and stormwater management systems to minimize rainfall run-off.

• **Water Demand**
Pump tests of CVE wells indicated the extraction of up to 120 gallons per minute (gpm) from the bedrock aquifer will not have an adverse impact on the Swamp River, wetlands within and adjacent to the property, the surface aquifer or neighboring wells. The tests confirmed that the primary and backup wells have sufficient production to supply a continuous 60 gpm, the anticipated summer water demand, and a short-term supply of 120 gpm, the maximum amount required during unanticipated upset conditions. The anticipated cool-months demand is 13.4z gpm. The project also incorporates rooftop rainwater collection that will supplement water supplies.



An aerial view of the exiting 131-acre site - the wetlands marked in green will remain undisturbed

• **Stormwater Management**
CVE's stormwater management plan, developed in accordance with the latest New York State Stormwater Design Manual and the Dover Town Code, ensures rainfall run-off is controlled and that potential contamination from unfiltered run-off is negated. Three bio-retention areas and one stormwater management basin will capture stormwater runoff and create a natural filtration system.

Natural Resources (Section 3)

CVE's design protects natural resources, and conforms to the federal "no net loss" wetland policy. No significant wildlife habitat areas will be lost as a result of the project and no rare, threatened, or endangered species will be displaced. In fact, the quality of onsite DEC wetlands will be improved through plans to restore existing, damaged wetlands, which will enhance wildlife habitat. Of the 131 acres included in the site, the development area is primarily limited to the portion of the property altered by past industrial uses. The remaining portion of the site, mainly 74-acres west of the Metro-North rail track, will remain undisturbed.


Fred Sellars, ARCADIS, answers questions during an Advisory Working Group meeting

The facility uses the existing industrial footprint to the extent possible and no work is planned within the Great Swamp Critical Environmental Area. Approximately 4.8 acres of forested habitat will be cleared as part of project construction and 6.3 acres of forested habitat will be converted to scrub/shrub or bio-retention pond habitat, resulting in a greater diversity of habitat.

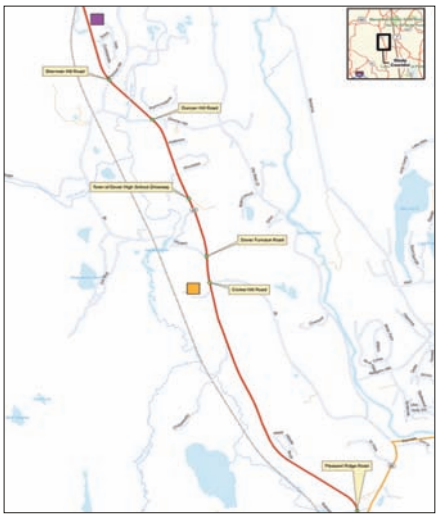
Visual Resources (Section 6.2)

Located within a valley, a natural 300-foot buffer of mature trees along Route 22 and a hillside will reduce the visual impact of the facility and preserve the rural character of Dover. The visual analysis indicates that, although the project will be visible from certain locations, the site characteristics of the property, and project design features that include a compact footprint and co-locating the three stacks will minimize visual impact.

Traffic (Section 6.3)

CVE's traffic analysis demonstrated that long-term impacts on local traffic patterns will be insignificant when the project is operational and that short-term traffic increases during construction can be mitigated by minor temporary improvements. CVE plans to shuttle workers from a temporary parking area located 2.5 miles north of the site on Route 22 and will coordinate the work day to avoid peak travel periods and school bus schedules.

During construction, temporary improvements proposed by CVE include traffic signals or manual control during peak hours at the intersections of NY Route 22 and the project entrance, the temporary remote parking, and Duncan Hill Road. CVE will also construct a temporary passing lane at the temporary remote parking to preserve mobility



Traffic Study Corridor

along Route 22. Following construction, all intersections will operate at an acceptable level of service.

Noise Impacts (Section 6.4)

Noise modeling analysis conducted in accordance with the requirements of the DEC and the Dover Town Zoning Code, indicates that the project is not expected to produce a significant noise impact. Occasional noise during construction will be temporary, with no long-term effects.

Economic Effects (Section 6.7)

CVE represents a $1 billion investment that will contribute economically to the region, without a significant demand on public resources. The project will provide productive reuse of an inactive industrial parcel, meet regional energy needs, add employment opportunities during construction and operation, and contribute substantially to the tax base, without significant impact to the community or environment.

Other Environmental Impacts (Section 8)

The DEIS also discusses other potential short and long-term environmental impacts, irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources, growth-inducing aspects of the proposed project, and the effect of the project on the use and conservation of energy.

Alternatives (Section 8.1)

The DEIS requires a discussion of project alternatives, including a no-action option. In summary, the no-action alternative would result in no economic benefit to the community, region or state nor result in the environmental benefits of site cleanup and displacement of older, dirtier power plants in the region.

Advisory Working Group discusses topical issues

A public process

On June 28, the DEC will hold a public hearing on CVE's DEIS—a document prepared by CVE to more fully examine potential impacts identified by the public during the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process. The CVE team will host an Open House before the hearing to informally discuss the project. The hearing will include a summary of the proposal followed by an opportunity for the public to provide formal comments for the record.

Oral and written comments will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

The public can submit written comments on the DEIS until July 25 to:

Steven Tomasik
Project Manager NYSDEC

Division of Environmental Permits
625 Broadway – 4th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-1750

Tel: (518) 402-9167
Fax: (518) 402-9168

Email:
depprmt@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Hard copies of the DEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

DEC Region 3 Office
21 South Putt Corners Road,
New Paltz, NY

CVE Community Outreach Office
5 Market Street,
Dover Plains, NY

Town of Dover Town Hall
126 East Duncan Hill Road,
Dover Plains, NY

To review the DEIS online:

www.dec.ny.gov/pemits/64754.html

www.cricketvalley.com

www.townofdoverny.us

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

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Cricket Valley Energy

Cricket Valley Energy (CVE), a proposed, state-of-the-art, combined cycle power plant planned for an inactive industrial site off Route 22 in Dover, New York, will provide needed electricity to the New York State power grid and long-term economic and environmental benefits to the Dover community, Dutchess County and New York State. The facility will use combustion turbine technology fueled by natural gas to be among the most efficient energy producers in New York, with the ability to generate electricity for nearly one million homes.

The project is a unique opportunity to clean up and revitalize a dormant industrial site, replacing dilapidated structures for a positive long-term improvement. The property is a "smart site" for the project: it is industrially-zoned with existing infrastructure, including electric power lines and a natural gas pipeline immediately next to the site.

CVE will bolster economic growth with minimal impact on the community and natural environment and will be compatible with local zoning and community planning goals. It will begin construction in mid-2012 and is anticipated to be in operation by 2015.

Artist's rendering of the proposed CVE facility