

Update

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Cricket Valley Energy Center Construction Brings Jobs and Economic Benefits to Dover and the Local Community

Once a dormant industrial site, the Cricket Valley Energy Center (CVEC) is now bustling with activity. More than 200 craft workers are busy remediating the site, laying a strong foundation, and preparing it for vertical construction. Bechtel, a leader in the power industry for more than 60 years, is the engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractor leading the project's construction phase. Bechtel estimates that the project has already contributed \$500,000 in local procurements and another \$290 million in local subcontracts. There are currently eight active local contractors working daily at the site, including Dutchess County Constructors from Dover Plains, E-J/Perreca Electric JV LLC and Tectonic Engineering & Surveying from Newburgh, NY.

At peak construction, approximately 1,100 construction workers will be needed to complete this project, and up to 28 permanent employees once fully-operational.

CVEC Recognized for Wetlands Remediation

CVEC received the Ducks Unlimited Wetlands Remediation Award at the fifth annual Great Swamp Shoot & Conservation Program at Tamarak Preserve in Millbrook on September 30. The project was recognized for revitalizing and conserving the site's 79 acres of wetlands, and its commitment to protecting and preserving the wetlands for future generations.

The organization applauded CVEC's successful restoration of the damaged habitat and the precedent it has set for other companies. Ducks Unlimited also praised the energy center's efforts in public outreach and reflection of the Dover community's commitment to low-impact and environmentally responsible design.

"Cricket Valley is proud to be among one of the most water-efficient power generation plants in the country, and is committed to restoring and preserving the wetlands on our site," said Scott Curry, Project Manager for CVEC. Ducks Unlimited Inc. is the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving North America's continually disappearing waterfowl habitats.

Ask

Cricket Valley

In addition to required public hearings and notifications, CVEC held more than a dozen meetings of its topical Advisory Working Groups, published 10 issues of a project newsletter, distributed more than 40,000 postcards, and updated a project email list and website during the permitting process. CVEC continues to respond to community inquiries, on topics of interest, including:

Q: Is Cricket Valley Energy Center a "fracked" natural gas project?

A: No. CVEC does not and will not "frack" gas. Like homes and businesses in the area that use natural gas, CVEC is a consumer, not a producer of natural gas, and receives its natural gas from the existing Iroquois Pipeline.

Q: Will CVEC have an adverse impact on air quality and health?

A: No. The project will not have an adverse impact on air quality and health in the Valley or elsewhere. A rigorous review by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) of CVEC's air quality impact analysis found that this project will comply with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) at levels determined to be protective of the health of the most sensitive members of the

public, including children, the elderly, and those with respiratory illness, such as chronic asthma and emphysema.

Q: Will CVEC have impacts on vegetation, crops and/or organic farms in the region?

A: No. CVEC will not impact vegetation, food crops, or organic farming in the area. As part of the permitting process, the USEPA required CVEC to demonstrate that even the most sensitive soils and vegetation—including crops—will not be adversely affected by its project. USEPA and NYSDEC concurred with CVEC's findings.

Q: Will CVEC's carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions contribute to climate change?

A: No. The dispatch analysis in the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concluded that adding the project to New York State's generation portfolio would result in a net decrease of more than 650,000 tons per year of CO₂ emissions, as compared to the electric grid without the addition of CVEC.

Here's how dispatching energy works. The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) turns power plants on and off—dispatches them—to meet the demand for energy. It considers fuel and cost in making dispatch choices. Because of CVEC's superior efficiencies, it will be dispatched ahead of older power generation plants that need to burn more fuel to make the same amount of electricity.



A Community Project: See What's Happening with Your Good Ideas

Ideas shared by the public at open houses, public hearings, and Advisory Working Groups (AWG) on Water, Wetlands & Wildlife, Air Quality, and Traffic & Safety have been integrated into CVEC's project design and community benefits package.

Here are three important project enhancements that have resulted from public involvement:

- The Air Quality AWG helped plan a CVEC-funded Air Quality Monitoring Station that is being installed at Dover High School. The Station will measure air quality, and contribute to science programs for Dover students.
- Informed by the work of the Water, Wetlands & Wildlife AWG, CVEC is working with the Town of Dover to install a Stream Gauging Station to measure water flow in the aquifer. The Station will also provide live-feed data to support Dover's emergency services.
- Public comment also contributed to the modified footprint now being utilized at the construction site, as well as preservation of 79 acres in the Great Swamp, and the purchase and remediation of an adjacent property locally known as the Rasco site.

Community Benefits Package Adds Services, Programs, and Tax Revenue

Beginning with the preservation of wetlands on the project site, the CVEC Community Benefits Package is providing tax benefits starting at approximately \$3.3 million and escalating to about \$7.9 million. In addition, it includes a roster of improvement projects for the community, such as the following:

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- Purchase of mini-excavator and 10-wheel truck for Town of Dover use
- Annual, 30-year, \$5,000 STEM scholarship at Dover School District (seven students have already been awarded scholarships)
- Baseball Field 2 for the Town of Pleasant Valley

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Well and filtration system at Thomas J. Boyce Park
- New salt shed and pole barn
- J. H. Ketcham Memorial Park improvements
- Athletic field lighting and sound system at Dover High School
- Dover Educational Enrichment Program
- Board of Education Discretionary Fund

We're Listening



CVEC keeps the Town of Dover up-to-date on project progress with a monthly presentation at the Town Board meeting. The report covers what's been completed and next steps to ensure that local residents are fully informed as the project advances. Presentations are also available on the project website, www.cricketvalley.com.

Questions can be directed to the project team at info@cricketvalley.com or (845) 877-0596.