

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**777 North Capitol Street, NE**  
**Washington, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION RAISING CONCERNS REGARDING PROPOSED COAL-FIRED POWER PLANT  
IN WISE COUNTY, VIRGINIA**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), by Resolution 31-07, authorized the development of a COG Regional Climate Change Initiative and the creation of the COG Climate Change Steering Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Climate Change Steering Committee is reviewing local working models of greenhouse gas reduction initiatives that reinforce other high-priority policy objectives and stimulate private actions, by businesses and citizens, and thereby encouraging statewide and national leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Dominion Power has proposed to build a 668-megawatt coal-fired power station in Wise County, Virginia known as the "Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center"; and

**WHEREAS**, analyses of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from the proposed facility indicate levels are expected to be between 4 million and 5 million metric tonnes per year; and

**WHEREAS**, a regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory has been developed for the Metropolitan Washington region by COG, indicating that 74 million metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents were produced in 2005, forty-percent (40%) of which comes from electric power generation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Climate Change Steering Committee notes that the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the proposed facility are approximately five percent (5%) of the 2005 regional inventory, and could offset as much as fifty (50%) percent of the actions being contemplated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Washington metropolitan region between now and 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the COG Climate Change Steering Committee believes, before an air quality permit is issued for the facility, that a thorough analysis of possible alternatives including renewable energy and energy conservation should be conducted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:**

The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall transmit a comment letter to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality that:

1. Expresses strong concerns with the greenhouse gas and air quality impacts on the Washington area of the proposed coal-fired power plant.
2. Conveys the technical analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions from the proposed facility relative to the Washington region inventory and the potential negative implications constructing the facility may have in lessening the benefits from actions being contemplated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region.
3. Urge that prior to issuance of an air quality permit, a thorough analysis of alternatives be carried out including the potential for substitution of renewable energy and/or energy conservation as options for meeting the energy demands in lieu of the proposed coal-fired facility.
4. Strongly supports the conversion of the Bremono power station from coal to natural gas.

Copy Teste:

Nicole Hange  
Board Clerk

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