



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Martin O'Malley
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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED RELICENSING OF THE CONOWINGO HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT EXELON APPLICATION FOR WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION WITHDRAWN JANUARY 7, 2015 PUBLIC HEARING CANCELED

DECEMBER 15, 2014

Applicant: Exelon Generation Company, LLC
300 Exelon Way
Kennett Square, PA 19348

Application # 14-WQC-03 Withdrawn

Lower Susquehanna River and Upper Chesapeake Bay

Use I & 2 Waters

The purpose of this public notice is to announce that Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) has withdrawn its application to the Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE" or "the Department") for a Clean Water Act, Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) which is required under federal law and as part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process for the continued operation of the Conowingo Hydroelectric facility. The Department initially issued a public notice in the Maryland Register on Exelon's application on November 14, 2014, which announced a public hearing to be held on January 7, 2015. That public hearing is canceled.

Recognizing MDE's position that more information is needed for the State to determine whether the discharges from the Conowingo Dam comply with State water quality standards, Exelon has withdrawn its application for the WQC. FERC regulations/policy require that Exelon resubmit its application for the WQC within 90 days of December 4, 2014, the date of its withdrawal of the application. Exelon has agreed to work with MDE to coordinate the refiling of its application and has agreed to provide up to \$3.5 million to study the effects of sediment and associated nutrients on the water quality of the downstream Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay. Until this additional information is available, it is possible that a refiled application or applications might also be withdrawn.

Any questions on this notice may be directed to Elder Ghigiarelli, Jr., Deputy Program Administrator, Wetlands and Waterways Program, Water Management Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, MD 21230, or by email to elder.ghigiarelli@maryland.gov.