



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

March 1, 2006

The Honorable James P. Moran
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Moran:

Thank you for your December 27, 2005, letter concerning my December 20, 2005, emergency order in the matter of the Mirant Potomac River Generating Station (DOE Docket No. EO-05-01).

In your letter, you requested "that all documents and related material, particularly any operational plan covering compliance with the Clean Air Act, should be available for public review and scrutiny." All publicly releasable documents and filings submitted to and relied upon by me in issuing the emergency order, including the compliance plan and the comments thereon, have been posted on the docket's website at www.electricity.doe.gov. We will continue to make all publicly releasable material filed with DOE in this matter available for viewing in the public docket.

Many of the concerns you expressed with respect to the specific terms of the emergency order have been raised in other letters to DOE and pleadings seeking rehearing of the order pursuant to section 313 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 825f). On February 17, 2006, I granted rehearing of the order for the limited purpose of further consideration of the issues raised in the rehearing requests. The rehearing order requested additional comments on the effects of the December 20, 2005 order. I will keep you apprised of any actions on rehearing.

You assert that the emergency order does not adequately address the "region's reliability concerns." As stated on page 9 of the order, "DOE views this order not as a permanent solution to the Central D.C. area's reliability issues, but rather as a bridge between the current untenable situation and a more permanent solution that must be crafted by appropriate parties, including the [District of Columbia Public Service Commission], [the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission], environmental regulatory authorities, and relevant private sector parties." In fact, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on January 9, 2006, issued its own order that complements my December 20, 2005, order in that it addresses long-term reliability in the District of Columbia region. The Commission's order directs the regional grid operator, PJM Interconnection, and the local transmission system owner, the Potomac Electric Power Company, to develop a plan to address long-term reliability needs of the Washington, DC area.



If you have additional questions, please contact me or Ms. Jill L. Sigal, Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel W. Bodman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S" and "B".

Samuel W. Bodman