Attached please find our letter regarding the DCPSC complaint that we ask you to please file for consideration in DOE's Docket #EO-05-01.

Thank you.
Elizabeth Chimento and Poul Hertel
Dear Chairman Kelliher:

In the continuing dialogue regarding the Potomac River Generating Station, it is important to recall that this plant, built in 1949, is operating far beyond its useful life. For the past two weeks (10/28/05 through 11/11/05), the plant has been totally off line due to a turbine breakdown on Unit One, the only unit running.

Because of the shutdown, this plant afforded no reliability to the grid, a concern of much angst and the focal point of the ongoing debate. Further, due to the age of the Potomac River plant, mechanical malfunctions are likely to continue occurring, making grid reliability more and more questionable.

At this juncture, an expedient and more practical solution seems necessary. Couldn’t the Benning Road and/or Buzzard Point plants produce the negligible 482 megawatts of power, currently provided by the Potomac River plant?

If the question is not power, but rather transmission, why not build the lines from those plants? Wouldn’t transmission lines running from D.C. plants to D.C. residents be shorter in distance, requiring less time and money to construct than lines from Alexandria to the District?

We ask that the Commission consider this solution to remediate the escalating risks associated with depending on the Potomac River plant for grid reliability.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Chimento and Poul Hertel,
Initiators of the PRGS Emissions Investigation