



Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Exhibit # - APL000029-00-BD01

Docket # - 05200016

Identified: 01/26/2012

Admitted: 01/26/2012

Rejected:

Withdrawn:

Stricken:

Constellation.com: Criterion Wind Project

APL000029
10/21/11

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Criterion Wind Project

Criterion Wind Project, Garret County, Maryland

Constellation Energy acquired the Criterion Wind Project from Clipper Windpower in April 2010. The 70-megawatt project was then developed and constructed by Constellation Energy, which wholly owns and operates the facility today. It is composed of 28 Clipper 2.5 MW Liberty Turbines in Garrett County, Maryland. Each wind turbine is approximately 415 feet tall.

Key Facts

Location: Garrett County, MD on an eight-mile stretch of Backbone Mountain east of the county seat of Oakland.

Fuel Type: Wind

Installed Capacity: 70 MW

In-Service Date: Dec. 27, 2010

Ownership: 100 percent owned by Constellation Energy

Criterion is Maryland's first wind project. Constellation Energy entered into a 20-year power purchase agreement with the Old Dominion Electric Cooperative for energy and renewable energy credits produced the facility. Old Dominion is a not-for-profit wholesale power provider serving public electric cooperative in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

Clean Energy in Western Maryland

What are the benefits to Garrett County?

During the construction and now operating phase, the Criterion Wind Project has brought a number of benefits to Garrett County. These include the generation of property tax revenues, the economic impact of construction and permanent positions once the plant began operation, and the addition to the county of a committed community partner in Constellation Energy.

Will jobs be created?

As one of the largest projects ever constructed in Garrett County, the Criterion Wind Project employed an average of 150 employees during the height of construction; more than half of those workers were classified as local employees. Now that the project is in operation there are nine permanent positions at the site.

What is the timing of the project?

The project was completed and operating in late December 2010.

How tall are the wind turbines?

Each of the 28 wind turbines are approximately 415 feet tall, to the tip of a turbine blade rotated straight up.

Where is the power generated by Criterion going?

Criterion Wind Project Video



The Criterion Wind Project entered into a 20-year power purchase agreement with the Old Dominion Electric Cooperative for energy and renewable energy credits produced by the wind facility. Old Dominion is a not-for-profit wholesale power provider serving public electric cooperatives in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

What is Constellation Energy's commitment to the environment?

Constellation Energy is committed to operating the Criterion Wind Project in an environmentally responsible manner. Special attention has been given to avoid, minimize and mitigate any potential wildlife impacts. We are also working with state and federal governmental authorities to avoid impacts to the Indiana bat, specifically working with governmental authorities in connection with the "incidental take" process.

Who is Constellation Energy?

Based in Baltimore, Maryland, Constellation Energy is a national energy company with a diverse fleet of generating units in the United States and Canada, totaling over 12,000 megawatts. Constellation Energy's generating portfolio currently has renewable power generation from sources including solar, hydro, biomass, and now wind.

Constellation Energy has a long history of community partnership at generating facilities across the country. We plan to continue that commitment as a long-term partner with the communities of Garrett County.

Questions?

If you have questions about the Criterion Wind Project, please contact Bonnie Johansen of Constellation Energy at Criterionwind@constellation.com.

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