

Conowingo Dam Water Quality Certification

The State of Maryland should take an aggressive position on issuing the Water Quality Certification for Conowingo Dam. The Dam was designed to accumulate and filter silt from upstream. Unfortunately, although the Dam brings in roughly \$40-50,000,000 a year more than Constellation Energy and previous operator Exelon spend to operate the Dam, over the years, very little has been spent to clean up the silt. While Exelon agreed to spend 200 million dollars over 50 years, the present value at 6% is roughly \$10,000,000.

According to Wikipedia, the bulk of the energy goes to Philadelphia and the surrounding area. The silt goes down the Conowingo river and into the Chesapeake Bay. The Bay has been described as having a \$700 Billion value to the State Of Maryland.

Actions:

Consider a shorter than 50 year license

Insist of a minimum of \$15,000,000 per year in cleanup from Constellation.

Insist on a silt reduction program from the State of Pennsylvania

Negotiate a substantial payment from the State of Pennsylvania to clean up silt before it reaches the Dam

The silt damages the water quality of the Bay and is particularly damaging to the Oyster Beds. When I was a Commissioner of the Maryland Oyster Advisory Commission, the only thing that Oysterman, Conservationists, Scientists on the OAC and Republicans and Democrats agreed on during the ten years that I served, was that silt destroyed the Oyster beds and therefore the oyster population.

The electricity goes to Pennsylvania and the silt comes to Maryland.

This is our last chance to help Maryland.

Doug Legum

Qualifying experience:

Member, Moore-Miller Transition Team

Commissioner, Maryland Oyster Advisory Commission 2011-2022

Board Member Emeritus Friends of The Earth

Former Trustee, Maryland Democratic Party

Lifetime Member, Mensa