

BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE

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Dear Mr. Derting:

Additional comments regarding Draft Clean Air Act Title V permit #SWRO10236 for the American Electric Power Clinch River Power Plant in Russell County, Virginia from Public Hearing

In addition to my comments of July 17, 2002, I want to briefly mention some stats of health impacts from the Clinch River power plant. These local and regional health impacts are not addressed by the Clean Air Act Title V program.

The Clean Air Task Force using U.S. Census and American Lung Association data lists a 30 mile radius population around the Clinch River plant as 257,092 people. Of that, 62,806 are children. There is an estimated 3,231 cases of pediatric asthma within this 30 mile area.

The Task Force further reports that in Virginia, annually there are 30.3 deaths related to power plant pollution per 100,000 adults. This breaks down to 1,240 annual deaths, 823 hospitalizations, 341 asthma ER visits, and 27,900 asthma attacks.

The Southern Environmental Law Center and Izaak Walton League estimate that within a 50 mile radius of the Clinch River plant there many citizens that may be impacted by the facility. This includes 451 cases of lung cancer, 4,517 cases of emphysema, 13,703 cases of chronic bronchitis, 10,389 cases of adult asthma, and 4,948 cases of pediatric asthma within this 50 mile area.

While many of these cases may not be directly linked to the facility, emissions from the plant do impact existing health conditions, such as triggering asthma attacks.

Thank you for this additional opportunity to comment.

Sincerely submitted,

Mark E. Barker
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