



James K. Martin - VP Technical Services Dominion

Remarks from  
**Site Announcement News Conference**

VCEDA Offices  
Lebanon, Virginia  
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I am here today to announce that we have reached a major milestone in our efforts toward development of a new clean-coal fired power station. After intensive review of potential sites for the new station our consortium of utilities is pleased to announce that a site known as Virginia City, in Wise county - near Saint Paul - has been selected for further development.

First let me say that we are indebted to Senator William C. Wampler for creating the legislative incentive for development of a power station here in Southwest Virginia. Without enactment of the amendment that he introduced in 2004, I would not be here today making this announcement.

Shortly after enactment of Senator Wampler's amendment, Dominion assembled a team to begin to explore the opportunity that this presented. In addition, Dominion met with other utilities that were interested in the opportunity to develop a power station and it was agreed that we would join together to pursue this objective - with Dominion taking the lead. The other consortium members are, Blue Ridge Power Agency, Appalachian Power, Old Dominion Electric Cooperative and the Virginia Municipal Electric Association #1.

Dominion's team looked at many factors that would be critical to development of a power station in this region and in November of last year they reported that no fatal flaws had been identified.

Since then the work that was already underway has been intensified with the immediate objective of completing the assessment of the various candidate sites that had been identified, in order to select the one that would be the best location for the facility.

After much careful analysis, we have selected the Virginia City site near Saint Paul, in Wise County to use as the basis for further development activities.

I want to personally thank all of those local government officials in Wise and Russell counties that have been helpful and supportive as we narrowed the search down to sites in

these two counties. We are especially appreciative of the efforts of the following folks from Russell County: County Administrator - **Jim Gillespie**, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors - **Danny Brown** and IDA Chairman - **Harry Rutherford**.

And in Wise County, we are grateful for the help from: County Administrator - **Skip Skinner**, Economic Development Chief - **Carl Snodgrass**, **Bill Hunsaker** of the IDA, and the Mayor of Saint Paul - **Jack Kiser**.

And I also want to thank those officials in every county that contained a potential site that we examined. All were very cooperative and helpful.

I also want to thank Charlie Yates and his staff here at the Virginia Coalfield Economic Development Authority for the constant assistance and encouragement that they have provided, and for hosting our news conference here today.

This is an important step toward development of a new power station, and it enables us to proceed to prepare applications for the necessary environmental and other regulatory approvals. And getting approval of all the permits that we need will be challenging.

Anyone who has been involved in, or watched efforts to develop new electric generating facilities knows that there are many hurdles that must be cleared. In order to get this facility constructed by 2012 so that it can help meet Virginia's growing need for new electric energy, we will continue to need support from across Virginia's coalfield region.

In addition to selecting the preferred site, we have identified the generating technology that best fits this location and its resources.

The Clean Coal Technology that we have chosen, known as Circulating Fluidized Bed combustion or CFB, offers numerous advantages including inherently low emissions and fuel flexibility. When this technology is considered along with the site that we have selected, we definitely have a winning combination.

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