

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Larry Hogan Governor

Boyd Rutherford Lieutenant Governor Ben Grumbles Secretary

January 15, 2016

VIA EMAIL AND FEDEX

Cristina Fernandez, Associate Director Office of Air Program Planning (3AP30) Air Protection Division U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2023

RE: Air Dispersion Modeling of Sulfur Dioxide Pollution from Maryland's H.A. Wagner, C.P. Crane and Brandon Shores Electric Generating Plants

Dear Ms. Fernandez: Cristin a

Attached for your information is a copy of air dispersion modeling that Raven Power, subsidiary of Talen Energy, has conducted through contractor AECOM. This will be part of the modeling package described in the November 20, 2015, Maryland Governor's recommendation letter to EPA. The attached modeling supports the conclusion from the November 20 letter that the H. A. Wagner Generating Station area is attaining the 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). The area shows a modeled design value of 186 micrograms per meter cubed (μ g/m³), equal to 71 ppb, which is below the 75 ppb SO₂ standard.

Also attached for your information are our initial comments on the modeling package that Sierra Club sent to us in June 2015. We continue to have concerns that the Sierra Club modeling was limited and overly simplistic for an issue as important as designations.

If I may provide further information, please contact me at 410-537-3255 or by email at <u>george.aburn@maryland.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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George (Tad) S. Aburn, Jr. Director of Air and Radiation Management Administration

Enclosures