



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary
Eric Schwaab, Deputy Secretary

January 13, 2009

Kimberly D. Bose
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St., N.E., Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Attention: Gas Branch 2

RE: Docket Nos. CP07-62-000, CP07-63-000, CP07-64-000, and CP07-65-000 –
Comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Proposed AES
Sparrows Point LNG Terminal and Pipeline Project

Dear Ms. Bose:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the State of Maryland's comments to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the AES Sparrows Point LNG licensing project (referred hereinafter 'the Project'). Pursuant to Section 311 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and Section 3, 15 USC §717b-1(b), of the Natural Gas Act, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Power Plant Research Program (PPRP) was designated by the State of Maryland Governor's office to be the lead agency for the purpose of coordinating with FERC throughout the FERC licensing process for the Project. Consistent with this role, PPRP has been the lead agency in coordinating the State's review for the Project and in developing the State's response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and FEIS.

The Maryland State agencies (herein referred to collectively as the "State of Maryland") that have participated in the review of the DEIS and FEIS and provided input to this response, and who will continue to provide support throughout the FERC licensing process are:

- Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR);
- Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA);
- Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE);
- Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED);
- Maryland Department of Planning (MDP);
- Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT);
- Maryland Energy Administration (MEA);
- Maryland Port Administration (MPA); and the
- Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA).

The State of Maryland appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIS FERC's consideration of the State's comments, and the substantive responses to our submittal.

Tawes State Office Building • 580 Taylor Avenue • Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410.260.8DNR or toll free in Maryland 877.620.8DNR • www.dnr.maryland.gov • TTY users call via Maryland Relay

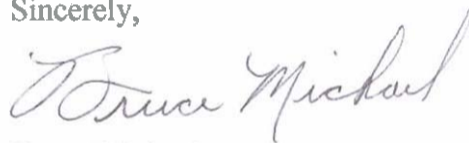
While FERC's responses to many of the State's comments are acceptable to the State of Maryland, the State of Maryland's comments and concerns related to the Project continue to be substantial and numerous. Outlined in the attached letter are the outstanding comments from the DEIS comment period accompanied by any additional State response resulting from our review of the FEIS. The State will continue to review the FEIS and provide additional comments through the Coastal Facilities Review Act (CFRA) review under coordination of Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE).

As an overarching comment, it is the position of the State of Maryland that authorization of this project is premature and further consideration should be given until critical information required prior to construction is provided by the applicant and all outstanding concerns by the State and local governments are adequately addressed. The position of FERC to allow numerous submissions and critical documentation post-authorization compromises the ability of State agencies to conduct meaningful reviews. The State of Maryland recommends that a supplemental EIS addressing the State's concerns, as articulated in this correspondence, be released for public review and comment, prior to authorization of the Project.

One significant additional comment that warrants mentioning herein relates to the proposed site and the surrounding cultural resources, including the land and waterscape, warrant the strongest protection possible. The site lies in the view corridor between Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, the Patapsco River, and Chesapeake Bay, where the extraordinary events which inspired our nation's anthem took place. The consideration of effects on these nationally significant resources demands far greater scrutiny than has been given to date.

We appreciate FERC's consideration of our comments on the FEIS. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if the State of Maryland can be of any assistance to FERC during this process, or should you have questions regarding the attached comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Michael".

Bruce Michael
Director, Resource Assessment Service