

May 13, 2026

Concerned Commenter:

Thank you for contacting the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) to share your concerns regarding Pending Nos. 2025-114 through 2025-117 for the applications submitted by Constellation Energy Generation, LLC (Constellation) for the Christopher M. Crane Clean Energy Center (CCEC).

The Commission shares your concerns about the potential impacts of water withdrawals and consumptive water use, and strives to ensure that water uses are sustainable and that other users and aquatic habitats are protected. The Commission appreciates the public participation for this project and has prepared this response to the comments and questions that have been received to date. Commission staff is sending this letter to address not only your comments, but also comments provided by your neighbors and other concerned citizens. The comment period for this project closed on May 4, 2026, and all public comments have been reviewed and will be provided to our Commissioners prior to the Commission's June 4, 2026, business meeting. Provided below are responses to frequently asked questions and an update regarding the status of the Commission's review:

***1. What is the Susquehanna River Basin Commission?***

The Commission is an independent water resource management agency created as a federal-interstate Compact commission with members from New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the Federal government. The Mission of the Commission, which is defined in the Compact, is to enhance public welfare through comprehensive planning, water supply allocation, and management of the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin. The Commission regulates water withdrawals, consumptive use of water, and diversions into and out of the basin. The Commission does not have the power to regulate land use, zoning, or water quality of discharges.

***2. Why is Constellation requesting a modification to their existing approval?***

Constellation's CCEC facility, formerly Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (TMI), is currently approved at quantities required for decommissioning of the facility. Constellation is requesting to increase surface water withdrawal, groundwater withdrawal, and consumptive use quantities at rates similar to their prior approval associated with power generation operations.

When the facility ceased power generation operations in 2019, less water was required to decommission the facility. Prior to commencing decommissioning operations, Constellation requested a modification to their operational approval (Docket No. 20110610). The facility was

most recently approved in December 2022 (Docket No. 20221203) at the modified reduced rates for water uses only associated with decommissioning operations.

**3. Will any of the requested water be used directly for a data center?**

No. Constellation’s pending applications are for water uses associated only with electric power generation operations at the CCEC facility and do not include a request to use water for a data center.

**4. How do the requested quantities for proposed restart of CCEC compare to prior approved quantities during operations for the facility?**

Constellation’s pending applications requested quantities compared to prior approvals for power generation and decommissioning operations are outlined in Table 1 below.

**Table 1. Facility Approval, Status, and Quantity Comparison**

Approval/ Application	Docket Nos. 19950302, 19950302-1, 19961102, and 19961102-1	Docket No. 20110610	Docket No. 20221203	Pending Nos. 2025-114 to 2025-117
Effective Approval Dates (Year)	1995 to 2011	2011 to 2022	2023 to 2034	--
Plant Status	Operational	Operational	Inactive/ Decommissioning	Proposed Operational
Quantity Status	Prior Approved Quantities (mgd)	Prior Approved Quantities (mgd)	Current Approved Quantities (mgd)	Requested Quantities (mgd)
Consumptive Use <sup>1</sup>	21.000	19.200	6.000	21.000
Susquehanna River <sup>1</sup>	--	122.800	44.000	73.200
Wells A, B, and C <sup>2</sup>	0.225	0.225	0.099	0.099
mgd – million gallons per day <sup>1</sup> Maximum peak day quantity. <sup>2</sup> Maximum quantity based on a consecutive 30-day average.				

**5. How are the requested quantities and the cumulative impacts evaluated in the Commission’s technical review?**

Applications undergo a rigorous, scientific, and independent water resource review using Commission-developed policies and standards. Highly trained hydrologists, and licensed geologists and engineers, apply the latest science and technology to determine whether or not a water use, both individually and combined with cumulative water use of other projects, will negatively impact the environment and/or other users.

Commission staff evaluates the application and determines if the projected demand is justified and realistic for the proposed facility, and if a requested quantity from the proposed source

is sustainable and available, as outlined in the Commission's regulations and policies, including the [Low Flow Protection Policy](#).

For perspective, Constellation's proposed 73,200 mgd withdrawal from the Susquehanna River is equivalent to approximately 0.3 percent of the average daily flow of 36,300 cubic feet per second (cfs) (~24 billion gallons per day [gpd]), or 3 percent of the low flow drought conditions (Q7-10 flow) of 3,200 cfs (~2 billion gpd). The Q7-10 flow is the lowest 7-day average flow that occurs (on average) once every 10 years.

**6. *What other regulatory agencies have jurisdiction for environmental permitting and approvals for the project?***

The Commission's authority is limited to aspects of water quantity and the Commission is also tasked with not being duplicative of other agencies. Common and understandable environmental concerns related to air quality, noise, water quality of any discharges to the Susquehanna River, and waste/wastewater disposal are issues the Commission does not have jurisdiction over, and are matters under the jurisdiction of other agencies, such as the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP)<sup>1</sup>. Noise concerns are generally regulated by the municipality. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is the federal agency responsible for regulating the facility's licensing and approval<sup>2</sup>.

As a standard condition of any Commission approval, Constellation will be required to obtain all necessary permits and/or approvals required for the project from other federal, state, or local government agencies including those that have jurisdictions related to air emissions, water quality, wastewater treatment, and discharges. All required permits and/or approvals would need to be obtained **prior** to project operation. In addition, Constellation will be required to receive a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification from PADEP.

**7. *What are the Commission's consumptive use mitigation requirements?***

All consumptive use projects approved by the Commission (any industry) are required to mitigate for their consumptive use. The Commission's [Consumptive Use Mitigation Policy](#) outlines in more detail the objectives and methods for mitigating consumptive use. CCEC's existing mitigation method is by releasing water, in an amount equal to the project's consumptive use, for flow augmentation from surface water storage at the upstream Cowanesque Reservoir during critical low flow periods. Constellation maintains an agreement for water storage with the Commission and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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<sup>1</sup> PADEP South-central Regional office has an informational page regarding the project that can be found [here](https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/dep-regions/southcentral-regional-office/crane-clean-energy-center-ccec) (<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/dep-regions/southcentral-regional-office/crane-clean-energy-center-ccec>), and a permit tracking tool that can be found [here](https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/data-and-tools/track-permits) (<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/data-and-tools/track-permits>).

<sup>2</sup> NRC also has an informational page regarding the project's potential restart, that can be found [here](https://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/reactors/ccec) (<https://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/reactors/ccec>).

**8. *How can the Commission ensure Constellation will remain compliant?***

The Commission enforces its rules through dedicated compliance program staff who audit records and conduct facility inspections to ensure compliance with the conditions of an approval and Commission regulations. The Commission maintains the right to inspect a project, at any time, for compliance with a project's approval. Approved projects are required to collect, maintain, and report daily withdrawals and consumptive water use data using certified meters and equipment and approved methodology. These data are submitted quarterly and are screened for compliance with approval conditions upon receipt. Although this information is typically reported quarterly, monitoring data can be requested by Commission staff at any time deemed necessary/appropriate.

**9. *What is the Commission's public process prior to taking action, and will there be a public hearing for the proposed project?***

The Commission has a stringent public notification process that is to ensure effective opportunity for public comment during the review phase of applications submitted to the Commission, and is committed to maintaining open meeting practices that provide similar public access to its processes and transparency with respect to its actions. The Commission's application process requires projects to complete a notification process, which includes the project sending notification letters to the municipality, county, county agency, and state with jurisdiction in the area of the project, and includes a public notice to be published in a newspaper that circulates in the area of the project. Additionally, a summary of the application materials for pending projects and all approvals are available on the Commission's Water Application and Approval Viewer (WAAV) for public access at: <https://www.srbc.gov/waav>.

Applications requiring Commissioner action are subject to a public hearing, which is open to the public in order to provide verbal testimony on those projects. These applications were subject to the public hearing held on April 23, 2026.

Written comments regarding the applications were accepted through May 4, 2026. All written comments submitted to the Commission and a transcript of the testimony received at the public hearing will be provided to the Commissioners so that they may take them into consideration prior to making a final decision.

**10. *What is the status of the Commission's review?***

The Commission's technical review of the applications and coordination with other regulatory agencies is ongoing. Following completion of the technical review, staff will prepare recommendations to be presented to the Commissioners for their consideration at a quarterly Commission business meeting, which is currently scheduled for June 4, 2026. Additional information on the business meeting is available at: <https://www.srbc.gov/about/meetings-events/>.

To monitor the status of the applications or view a summary of the application materials, you can visit: <https://www.srbc.gov/waav>. Additional information regarding the Commission and our process is also available on our website at: [www.srbc.gov](http://www.srbc.gov).

***11. What if I have other questions or would like additional information?***

If you have any additional questions or concerns, you can contact any of the Commission staff below:

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