

Special Documents

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION  
Water Quality Certification 17-WQC-02 (R1)

*Constellation Energy Generation LLC - Conowingo Hydroelectric Plant  
2569 Shures Landing Road,  
Darlington, Maryland 21034*

**Add'l. Info:** Pursuant to COMAR 26.08.02.10F(3)(c), The Maryland Department of the Environment is providing notice of its issuance of revised Water Quality Certification 17-WQC-02 (R1).

**Location:** Conowingo Hydroelectric Project/FERC Project No. P-405 Susquehanna River, at river mile 10 in Maryland, spanning the river between Cecil and Harford Counties, Maryland. The lowermost six miles of the Project's reservoir lie within Maryland, while the remaining eight miles extend into York and Lancaster counties, Pennsylvania.

The Project is a peaking hydroelectric facility that includes: (1) the Dam, (2) a spillway, (3) the Reservoir, (4) an intake and powerhouse, (5) the West Fish Lift and the East Fish Lift, and (6) an Eel passage facility on the west side, all of which are located on the River approximately 10 miles north of the River's confluence with the Chesapeake Bay. The West Fish Lift, adjacent to the Dam's right abutment, is currently operated under an agreement with USFWS for Shad egg production and other research purposes. The newer East Fish Lift, located near the midpoint of the Dam, is used primarily to pass Shad, Herring, and other migratory fish during the March-June migration season. The Reservoir serves as the lower reservoir for the Muddy Run Pumped Storage Project. It also serves as the source of cooling water for Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station and the York Energy Center. The Reservoir is also a public water supply source, with the City of Baltimore and Chester Water Authority (in Pennsylvania) having permitted withdrawals of 250 million gallons per day and 30 million gallons a day, respectively. The powerhouse is integrated with the Dam. There are 13 turbine-generator units, associated draft tubes, and transformer bays. Water flowing through the turbines is discharged via the draft tubes into the Tailrace.

A Public Notice for the Certification request was issued on July 10, 2017, and a Public Hearing for the Certification request was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at the Harford Community College in Bel Air, Maryland. The Department issued an initial decision on the Certification request on April 27, 2018. After administrative reconsideration requested by the Certification Holder and Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association and Waterkeepers Chesapeake, the Department issued a revised Certification (17-WQC-02(R1)) on October 2, 2025.

The revised Certification and its attachments may be viewed at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/wetlandsandwaterways/pages/exelonmd-conowingo-wqcapp.aspx> or:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/WetlandsandWaterways/Pages/WQC.aspx>.

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