



Conowingo MDE -MDE- <conowingo.mde@maryland.gov>

Comments on Conowingo Relicensing

1 message

Thomas Baummer [REDACTED] >
To: conowingo.mde@maryland.gov

Fri, Jul 14, 2023 at 1:59 PM

Hello,

I am writing to voice my support for relicensing Conowingo Dam on terms similar to or the same as the agreement reached in 2019. Conowingo Dam is extremely important to the State of Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay as a source of carbon-free electricity, and as a means to hold back the pollution flowing down the river from Pennsylvania.

Given the revenue that Constellation generates from operating this dam, I think it's reasonable to ask them to pay a share of the cost of keeping the water flowing through it clean. However, I don't think it's right to look at the dam as a "cash cow" to obtain funding for the Bay out of proportion to the dam's influence. The pollution in question is coming from farms across Pennsylvania and much more needs to be done to stop the pollution at its source. It makes no sense to act as if Conowingo is responsible for the pollution coming down the river. Asking Constellation to pay for cleanup in proportion with the pollution coming from the entire state of Pennsylvania is clearly just a pretext to milk this "cash cow". The agreement reached in 2019 was fair and reasonable for all parties and should be the basis for the current license renewal. Funding to clean up Pennsylvania's farms should come from the Federal funding in the Chesapeake Bay Blueprint.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments,
Thomas Baummer
[REDACTED]