Dear Secretary Bose:

Re: Docket #: CP13-113

Wild Virginia respectfully submits this public comment to urge FERC to reject Dominion Resources’ application to construct a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export facility at Cove Point in southern Maryland.

1. Given evidence that Dominion’s proposed Cove Point project will harm regional air and water quality, increase the demand for dangerous natural gas fracking, and trigger an exorbitant amount of greenhouse gas pollution, we submit that this project is not in the public interest.

2. The Environmental Assessment fails to adequately analyze the “upstream” damage that Cove Point could trigger via expanded fracking and fracking gas infrastructure. We note that Cabot Oil & Gas has committed to pipe gas to Cove Point for export.

3. We further note that Dominion on May 1, 2014, proposed the Southeast Reliability Pipeline Project. This proposed 564 mile pipeline would connect natural gas supplies in the Mid-Atlantic and Appalachian basin to at least one other pipeline that is linked to Cove Point. The analysis of cumulative impacts of this project as required by the National Environmental Policy Act was not included in the EA.

4. The EA fails to account for the cumulative, lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions Cove Point would trigger from fracking wells to pipelines to tanker ships to final smoke stacks.

5. The EA fails to includes an independent, quantitative risk assessment of explosion hazards that could reach nearby homes. FERC’s reliance on Dominion’s own data – and Dominion’s proposed system of untested “vapor barrier” walls – to dismiss off-site safety concerns is unacceptable.

6. Given the failure of the EA to adequately analyze the environmental impacts of the Cove Point Project under NEPA, we request that a thorough Environmental Impact Statement be produced that addresses all environmental impacts, including but not limited to those previously mentioned, immediate, cumulative and those likely to be generated in the reasonably foreseeable future.

Any thorough and credible cost/benefit examination of the impacts of this project will show that this project is not in the public interest and the public and the environment will come out a significant loser, while the gas industry profits. We urge you to deny Dominion’s application. The only other possible course of action
would be to reinitiate the FERC/NEPA process and conduct a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement for public review and input.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ernest Q. Reed, Jr.

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