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Subject: NSR - An Alternate Path - The Multi-Pollutant Reg

In case you have not caught up to it, DNREC has adopted the Muli-Pollutant Regulation (number 1146) regulating the emissions of NOx; SO2 and Hg from power plants. The Newsroom brief is replicated below. You can find more information on their website

www.awm.delaware.gov/Info/Regs/AQMMultiPReg.htm. Scroll down to **Regulation** and click on Final Regulation to see the final form. There are other interesting documents displayed on this website like the Technical Support Document and the Final Response Document.

Newsroom

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Division of Air and Waste Management

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DNREC Adopts New Regulations to Substantially Reduce Air Emissions from Power Plants

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary John A. Hughes yesterday signed an order adopting a new regulation that will require air emissions reductions from the state's eight largest electrical generating units that burn coal or residual oil.

The regulation will require reductions of mercury emissions of more than 80 percent, and will reduce allowable sulfur dioxide by 87 percent and nitrogen oxides by 76 percent by 2012. These reductions are a major component of Delaware's plan to meet federal air quality standards by 2010. Units that will be regulated are NRG's Indian River power plant, three units at Conectiv's Edge Moor plant and the City of Dover's largest unit at the McKean Run plant. The Indian River power plant is the State's largest source of toxic releases to the environment with the Edge Moor power plants ranking second.

"This is a historic milestone in Delaware's efforts to improve air quality," said Secretary Hughes. "I believe this is a firm, but fair approach that will bring these

old power plants into compliance with modern standards. These reductions are achievable and absolutely necessary for us to meet compliance with federal health-based standards.”

Delaware does currently not meet the federal standard for ground-level ozone, a pollutant that is formed during the summer on hot, sunny days when nitrogen oxides and other emissions from cars, manufacturing facilities, power plants and a host of other sources combine. High levels of ozone can affect the respiratory function of the young, elderly and those with existing respiratory conditions such as asthma.

Sulfur dioxides is another pollutant generated from the combustion of fossil fuels such as coal and oil. It is a major cause of acid rain and is also a respiratory irritant. It is also a contributor to the generation of fine particulates which can adversely affect health when tiny particles become lodged in the lungs. New Castle County does not meet the federal standard for fine particulate matter. Mercury poses a severe public health risk from its bioaccumulation in the food chain, particularly in fish and shellfish. Delaware has a number of fish consumption advisories on waterways throughout the state, in part due to elevated levels of mercury in fish.

The regulation requires initial reductions by May, 2009 and further reductions by January 2012. The Department included a provision in the regulation that allows an extension of the compliance date if the plant operator demonstrates that it is unable to meet the deadlines due to circumstances beyond its control. The Department has also committed to reexamining the progress of the regulated parties in meeting the requirements in 2010.

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