

Photos courtesy of Air Resource Specialists, Inc.

## Shenandoah National Park: Air Quality at Risk

### Park highlights

- Located within the Blue Ridge Mountains and containing headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay, Shenandoah National Park is heavily forested and is home to a large variety of wildlife and birds. In fact, this single park is believed to have more plant and animal species than now live in all of Europe.
- Close to large population centers in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC, and with the 105-mile long Skyline Drive traversing its spine, the park is a major destination for hikers and bikers who escape the cities to enjoy more than 500 miles of trails, including 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail.

### Current air quality

- Natural views of 100 miles now extend only 24 miles on average, and less than one mile on the most polluted days. Park visitors can no longer reliably see the Washington Monument, some 70 miles distant. Some visitors today may not even see the next mountain ridge.
- The number and diversity of native fish are declining due to air pollution making park streams more acidic.

- Ozone, a lung-searing gas, can exceed EPA health standards during summer months, exposing visitors to breathing problems, including asthma attacks.

### New coal-fired power plants

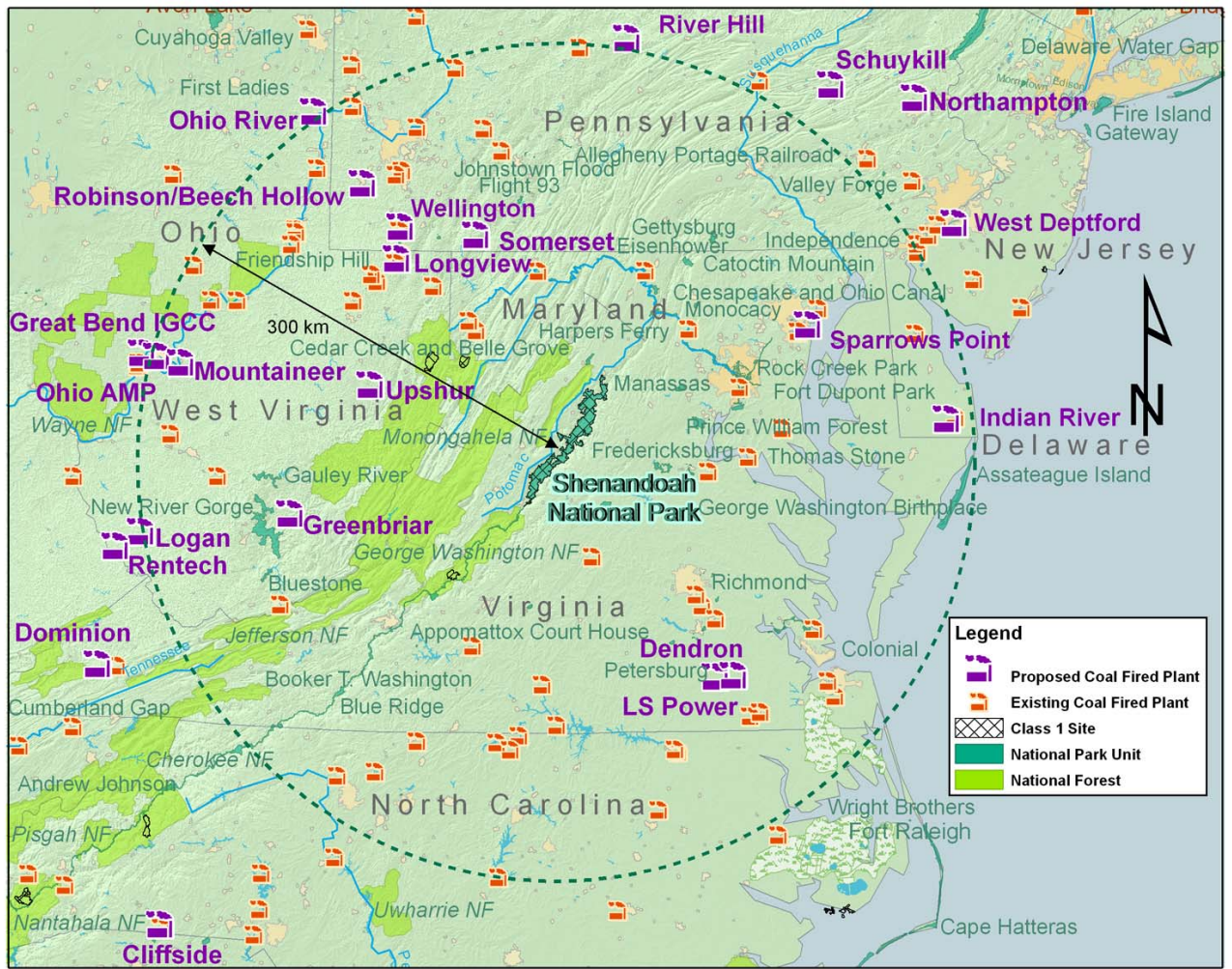
- Eight new coal-fired power plants are under active development within 186 miles (300 kilometers) of Shenandoah National Park, an area that already contains dozens of operating coal plants.
- Each year these new plants would emit into the Shenandoah area air shed more than 28 million tons of carbon dioxide, 28,250 tons of sulfur dioxide, 13,617 tons of nitrogen oxides, and 576 pounds of toxic mercury. Park skies will be hazier, waters more polluted, and air unhealthier.

### National Park Service findings

- Pollution from the Greene Energy coal-fired power plant will cause hazier skies at Shenandoah and will also harm fish and other aquatic life in the park.
- “The [Ohio] AMP project would significantly impact” pollution levels in Shenandoah National Park.



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Shenandoah: Proposed Coal Fired Power Plants

Power plants that have received permits or are in active permit process

Plant * = waste coal	Location	Owner	Size (MW)	Distance from Park	CO2 tons/yr	SO2 tons/yr	NOx tons/yr	Hg lbs/yr	Permit Status
Ohio American Municipal Power Generating Sta.	Meigs County, OH	Ohio American Municipal Power	960	280km	7,300,000	6,820	3,194	172	Final air permit issued February 2008
*Greene Energy Resource Recovery Project	Greene County, PA	Wellington Development	580	185 km	3,045,755	3,766	1,931	22	Final air permit issued April 2005
* Somerset Power	Somerset County, PA	Sithe Global Energy	300	140 km	1,950,000	2,146	924	27	Air permit application submitted December 2007
* River Hill Power	Clearfield County, PA	River Hill Power Company Inc., Sithe Global Power Co, LLC	290	246 km	1,717,078	2,515	880	53	Final air permit issued in July 2005
* Beech Hollow Waste Coal Plant	Washington County, PA	Robinson Power Company	250	240 km	1,773,492	3,154	976	3	Final air permit issued September 2006
Dendron	Sussex County, VA	Old Dominion Electric Cooperative	1500	200 km	9,750,000	6,000	3,000	~170	Preapplication; ~Hg est. based on best in class.
Longview Power Plant	Monongalia County, WV	Longview Power, LLC, GenPower LLC	600	173 km	1,800,000	3,217	2,183	128	Final air Permit issued March 2004
Western Greenbrier	Western Greenbrier County, WV	Western Greenbrier Co-Generation LLC.	85	180 km	948,029	632	529	1	Final air permit issued in April 2006
<b>Total New Pollution into Shenandoah Area Airshed</b>					<b>28,284,354</b>	<b>28,250</b>	<b>13,617</b>	<b>576</b>	

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