



750 1<sup>st</sup> St, NE  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20002  
202.682.6294 Main  
202.682.3050 Fax  
[www.cleanskies.org](http://www.cleanskies.org)

## **American Clean Skies Foundation Says Electric Power Plant Site in Virginia a Step Closer to Cleaner Development with Regional Transmission Study**

Washington, D.C. November 30, 2011 – The American Clean Skies Foundation welcomed a report by PJM that says the 2012 closure of the Alexandria, Va.-based Potomac River Generating Station (PRGS) would not jeopardize reliable electricity supplies for the area.

ACSF released a study in July by the Analysis Group, [www.analysisgroup.com](http://www.analysisgroup.com), a leading national engineering and utility research firm, that reached a similar conclusion. Following ACSF's report, the District of Columbia asked PJM for the formal reliability study. The plant's owner, GenOn Energy, also asked for the study after reaching an agreement with the City of Alexandria in August to close the plant.

"The PJM report removes the last remaining hurdle to closing the plant. That means Alexandria can now focus on the Potomac River Green concept we have proposed to redevelop the site which includes a national energy innovation center as well as extensive riverfront housing and recreation facilities," said Gregory C. Staple, CEO of ACSF.

ACSF, [www.cleanskies.org](http://www.cleanskies.org), commissioned its reliability on the PRGS as part of its ongoing program to research cleaner generating options for PJM and other regional transmission organizations. The Analysis Group study concluded that retiring the coal plant would result in immediate benefits to the local environment because electricity from cleaner generating plants would replace output from the Potomac plant. This would lead to an overall reduction in harmful air pollution – especially from chemicals that contribute to ozone, such as sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>). Total greenhouse gases emissions would also fall substantially.

GenOn decided to close its 62-year-old coal-fired plant three weeks after ACSF unveiled a \$450 million plan for transforming the plant's 25-acre waterfront site into an environmentally friendly, mixed-use community known as Potomac River Green.

ACSF, a Washington-based nonprofit, was founded in 2007 to advance America's energy independence and a cleaner, low-carbon environment through expanded use of natural gas, renewable and efficiency.

Complete information about the Potomac River Green project is at [www.potomacrivergreen.com](http://www.potomacrivergreen.com)

The complete Analysis Group report for ACSF is available here:  
<http://www.cleanskies.org/?publication=prgs>

For more information, contact Communications Director Jack Deutsch at [jdeutsch@cleanskies.org](mailto:jdeutsch@cleanskies.org)