

Feb. 15, 2017

Dear Energy Facility Siting Board,

I ask you to oppose Invenergy's Clear River gas/oil power plant. For 16 years I served the people of the MA, CT, and RI corner as a physician. I own no property in or near Burrillville. My motivation is a) affection for the people of the tri-state corner whom I served for so many years, b) appreciation for the beautiful wild spaces there and c) dismay at the idea of putting a power plant in a forest right up at the state line. Are local citizens and emergency workers equipped to deal with an industrial calamity in this remote and highly wooded area? Absolutely not.

I believe the location just south of Wallum Lake ( on Route 101 at Algonquin Lane) poses a clear risk to the people in the vicinity, including police, firemen and emergency workers. In the event of a serious incident, it would be very hard to get adequate help from emergency teams from Rhode Island -- the kink on the main route in the middle of Pascoag is a likely place for a gridlock of firetrucks and emergency vehicles, as well as fleeing residents. Wallum Lake Road from the north and Buck Hill Road also have tight turns and steep hills, made even more dangerous when the roads are icy. If a real disaster happened, would CT and MA towns also be expected to respond, even though they have not been asked in advanced about their capabilities or willingness to do so?

Human nature is to run from danger-- firefighters, police, and EMS workers run towards it. Potential injuries could include burns, respiratory injuries, carbon monoxide poisoning, blunt force injuries from projectiles, and toxic chemical exposures. The proposed site is next to Douglas State Forest, Buck Hill Management area, and various highly wooded private properties which touch the borders of CT and MA. The potential for ignition/ spread of fires to these areas exists. I have seen no clear plan from Invenergy to manage a potentially toxic fire in the middle of a forest other than a general statement to work with local authorities. The local fire departments seem to be small and volunteer ones, and likely thoroughly unequipped for a large scale hazmat response. I could also find no plans for helping nearby residents cope with a disaster, including evacuation of the hundreds of patients at nearby Zambarano hospital and Overlook nursing home.

The plant will not have access to the local water source they initially envisioned-- water is to be trucked there from 20 miles away. Altogether, 2 million gallons of water are to be stored on site for fire, service, and cooling purposes. When running the plant on oil, that will be drawn off at a rate of 725,000 gallons daily for 3 days, and will take up to 60 days to be replenished by trucks bringing 8000 gallons per load. This suggests a potential for there being little water available from those tank(s) for emergencies for very long periods of time. I read that a large scale fire event takes 2000 gallons per minute to control. Even a full 2 million gallon tank would last only 17 hours at that rate. The original design mentioned only 800,000 gallons for fire/service use. What, if any, access they will have to the local water supply is unclear to me.

I have done my best as a lay person to comb through the various public filings as well as investigating industry reports online regarding the risks involved with similar plants. I do not think my concerns are overblown. Look 60 miles south to Middletown, CT. In 2010, a similar gas/oil plant exploded during

construction, killing 6 and injuring a dozen. Dozens of fire and EMS workers responded, municipal bus(es) were used to evacuate the uninjured. The event was followed by years of investigations, litigation, headaches for many, heartaches for others. 5 years later, one company paid only a fraction of the fines levied after the investigation. Scores of civil suits were filed against various entities. In July 2016-- the CT State Supreme Court ruled against injured workers -- the plant operators used state law to immunize themselves from civil suits for the injuries caused by the explosion. Imagine such a scenario at the juncture of 3 states --and the complexities of cross-state emergency coordination, disparate liability laws, etc.

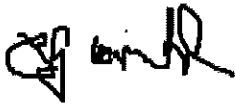
<http://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-kleen-energy-fine-20150206-story.html>

Online one can google what a 1 or 2 million gallon tank full of diesel looks like on fire-- there are unfortunately many examples available. I ask you to look at the picture of a 1200 gallon diesel tanker explosion/fire in Featherstone England in 2011--and keep in mind that that is a small event.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1372322/Fire-raining-sky-Flames-tower-suburban-street-diesel-tank-explosion.html>

Please consider- is it wise to put 2 million gallons of flammable material on the edge of hundreds of acres of forest? Do you store your gas cans in the middle of your woodpile?

Thank you for your consideration,



Paula Carmichael, MD ( e-signed) (I am not writing as an employee of Reliant Medical Group)

Lincoln, RI, 02865

Addendum : please also Google videos of the Didcot B gas-fired power plant fire from 2014 which shows what such a fire looks like when a similar sized plant was shut down quickly "to stop the incident from turning into an inferno".

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2014/oct/20/didcot-b-power-station-blaze-oxfordshire>

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Belated Valentine

Roses are red.  
Methane's invisible.  
But it crashes our climate  
And makes Earth unliveable.

...  
Martha Ferger, age 91  
(She has a PhD in biochemistry, so she knows.)

Please close the docket on Invenergy!

Sister Mary

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Kogut, Thomas (DPUC) <Thomas.Kogut@dpuc.ri.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:38 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reject the Application for the Burrillville Power Plant

**From:** Jim Frain [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 6:22 AM  
**To:** Kogut, Thomas (DPUC) <Thomas.Kogut@dpuc.ri.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Reject the Application for the Burrillville Power Plant

February 15, 2017

I am a Providence Constituent living in Ward 1, Fox Point. I request that the Energy Facility Siting Board dismisses Invenergy's application for the Clean River Energy Center, a massive new \$700 million fracked-gas power plant in Burrillville, RI. I have been following this situation for the past year and the details are quite disturbing when brought to light. There are volumes of letters in opposition to the plant as well as troubling information from our planning, environmental and health experts from all over the state available at this website: [http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/efsb/2015\\_SB\\_6.html](http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/efsb/2015_SB_6.html). To date, 26 out of 39 municipality councils in RI have opposed the construction of this power plant through resolutions in these municipalities. The city of Pawtucket, who a few weeks ago sought to become a backup water provider to Invenergy, is now opposed to the construction of this plant based on the deceitful nature of Invenergy's tactics in securing water and approval for its power plant.

During the Woonsocket Town Council meeting to decide whether or not to sell water to Invenergy, there were very few Woonsocket residents who spoke in support of the sale of water. Most who supported the sale were union workers looking forward to the 225 temporary union jobs that would construct the facility. Once construction of the facility is complete, only 25 nonunion jobs would be available. A paltry three nonunion jobs would emerge from the transit of water from Johnston to Burrillville. Surprisingly, a few people who opposed the sale of water actually supported the construction of the power plant in theory but after witnessing the constantly changing presentation of Invenergy plans, had a deep distrust for this company and the potentially catastrophic deal that Woonsocket would be entering into with the sale of water to the power plant and so they opposed the sale of water in this case. When asked why the Woonsocket Town Council members rejected the sale of water to Invenergy, nearly all cited distrust for Invenergy, and the manipulative manner in which they approached the city of Woonsocket, pitting Mayor against Councilmembers.

Invenergy has failed to provide enough information for the agencies and subdivisions to issue a fully informed opinion, which violates the Energy Facility Siting Act. It is clear that this deal is rushed, that there has not been time allowed to review the details of impact, even financial impacts, of the deal. As evidenced by the


recent ISO NE energy auction, in which Invenergy was not able to sell its second half of power output to the energy grid, RI is in an energy surplus. So, if we are in a position here in RI to shop around for energy, who stands to benefit from this rushed deal with Invenergy? If the majority of the RI citizen supporters of the power plant are union workers who would like a construction opportunity here in the state, this only tells us that we need more construction jobs, not necessarily more energy. Invenergy clearly is using the leverage of union workers to push its agenda on RI, as seen in the tragic and ugly way that Johnston "leaders" cleared a path to not only use this situation for its own economic benefit but also to disenfranchise legitimate residents of Johnston who wished to voice a dissenting opinion.

In addition to fossil fuel power plants, Invenergy also has expertise in solar and wind energy facilities. When asked why they are not building these clean energy facilities here in RI, their reply was that sometimes the wind does not blow and the sky gets cloudy. Even if we stopped using fossil fuels today, we are on track to endure the hottest and driest weather in history with each passing year. This sets the stage for massive droughts, even worse than what we experienced this year. We simply cannot afford to "see what happens" when Johnston sells potentially hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per day to Invenergy, never mind the impacts of particulate matter polluting a 30 mile radius around this plant. We have no precedent for this kind of water usage in the Scituate Reservoir, but this agreement sets a precedent that other unregulated wholesale and retail customers of Providence Water can sell our water at a profit. Clearly, the effects could be catastrophic on many levels with no recourse once the deal is made. We unfortunately do have a precedent for air pollution in RI, one that makes our citizens victims of asthma and other respiratory diseases and diminishes the small areas of intact ecosystems that act as carbon sinks and help the our climate regulate the disturbance of atmospheric degradation and global warming caused by this exact action of humanity- burning fossil fuels for energy. Let's work together to build clean energy power plants. Solar and wind energy are the future. Give our noble unions something worth building, not something that will reduce our quality and longevity of life.

Please oppose the Invenergy Power Plant and the sale of water to Invenergy through Johnston's contract with Providence Water Supply Board.

Sincerely,

Jim Frain

  
Providence, RI 02906

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Jessica Stensrud <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 4:43 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Governor (GOV)  
**Subject:** Stop doing "business" with INVENERGY and other gas giants

Dear all,

None of us in the United States wants all of our land drilled on, fracked on, built on with fracked gas or other gas power plants, no storage of dangerous fossil fuels, no multiple trucks per day full of flammable fossil fuels or other chemicals much less the number of diesel spewing trucks carrying endless loads of water.

All this is pure insanity as we watch our beautiful natural areas wiped out and poisoned, our air, our water.

How could ANY OF YOU, if you really thought about consequences, WANT THIS?

No Gas is a "bridge fuel" and, besides, that bridge to nowhere is ever going to be built and all this should have been stopped THIRTY YEARS OR MORE AGO because the fuels we are burning now are not going to stop producing their damage to the climate even if they were stopped NOW.

Stop killing and not believing science which tells the truth of all this. Stop listening to ONLY MONEY!!! You can't breathe, eat, drink, bathe in money.

Please stop and reverse this insanity NOW.

**PLEASE.**

Jessica Stensrud  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

*[Handwritten signature]*

Email: [REDACTED]

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 12:46 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Invenergy Power Plant

Dear Mr Bianco,

I am a Providence Constituent living in Ward 1, Fox Point. I request that the Energy Facility Siting Board dismisses Invenergy's application for the Clean River Energy Center, a massive new \$700 million fracked-gas power plant in Burrillville, RI. I have been following this situation for the past year and the details are quite disturbing when brought to light. There are volumes of letters in opposition to the plant as well as troubling information from our planning, environmental and health experts from all over the state available at this website:

[http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/efsb/2015\\_SB\\_6.html](http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/efsb/2015_SB_6.html). To date, 31 out of 39 municipality councils in RI have opposed the construction of this power plant through resolutions in these municipalities. The city of Pawtucket, who a few weeks ago sought to become a backup water provider to Invenergy, is now opposed to the construction of this plant based on the deceitful nature of Invenergy's tactics in securing water and approval for its power plant.

During the Woonsocket Town Council meeting to decide whether or not to sell water to Invenergy, there were very few Woonsocket residents who spoke in support of the sale of water. Most who supported the sale were union workers looking forward to the 225 temporary union jobs that would construct the facility. Once construction of the facility is complete, only 25 nonunion jobs would be available. A paltry three nonunion jobs would emerge from the transit of water from Johnston to Burrillville. Surprisingly, a few people who opposed the sale of water actually supported the construction of the power plant in theory but after witnessing the constantly changing presentation of Invenergy plans, had a deep distrust for this company and the potentially catastrophic deal that Woonsocket would be entering into with the sale of water to the power plant and so they opposed the sale of water in this case. When asked why the Woonsocket Town Council members rejected the sale of water to Invenergy, nearly all cited distrust for Invenergy, and the manipulative manner in which they approached the city of Woonsocket, pitting Mayor against Councilmembers.

Invenergy has failed to provide enough information for the agencies and subdivisions to issue a fully informed opinion, which violates the Energy Facility Siting Act. It is clear that this deal is rushed, that there has not been time allowed to review the details of impact, even financial impacts, of the deal. As evidenced by the recent ISO NE energy auction, in which Invenergy was not able to sell its second half of power output to the energy grid, RI is in an energy surplus. So, if we are in a position here in RI to shop around for energy, who stands to benefit from this rushed deal with Invenergy? If the majority of the RI citizen supporters of the power plant are union workers who would like a construction opportunity here in the state, this only tells us that we need more construction jobs, not necessarily more energy. Invenergy clearly is using the leverage of union workers to push its agenda on RI, as seen in the tragic and ugly way that Johnston "leaders" cleared a path to not only use this situation for its own economic benefit but also to disenfranchise legitimate residents of Johnston who wished to voice a dissenting opinion.

In addition to fossil fuel power plants, Invenergy also has expertise in solar and wind energy facilities. When asked why they are not building these clean energy facilities here in RI, their reply was that sometimes the wind does not blow and the sky gets cloudy. Even if we stopped using fossil fuels today, we are on track to endure the hottest and driest weather in history with each passing year. This sets the stage for massive droughts, even worse than what we experienced this year. We simply cannot afford to "see what happens" when Johnston sells potentially hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per day to Invenergy, never mind the impacts of particulate matter polluting a 30 mile radius around this plant. We have no precedent for this kind of water usage in the Scituate Reservoir, but this agreement sets a precedent that other unregulated wholesale and retail customers of Providence Water can sell our water at a profit. Clearly, the effects could be catastrophic on many levels with no recourse once the deal is made. We unfortunately do have a precedent for air pollution in RI, one that makes our citizens victims of asthma and other respiratory diseases and diminishes the small areas of intact ecosystems that act as carbon sinks and help the our

climate regulate the disturbance of atmospheric degradation and global warming caused by this exact action of humanity- burning fossil fuels for energy. Let's work together to build clean energy power plants. Solar and wind energy are the future. Give our noble unions something worth building, not something that will reduce our quality and longevity of life. Massive areas of the eastern US now have contaminated drinking water due to the fracking of the very gas Invenergy seeks to employ. Will we decide, as a state to profit from this environmental injustice? And further, who exactly will profit from this injustice, because there has been absolutely no evidence that the construction of this site will lead to lower energy costs for rate payers.

Please oppose the Invenergy Power Plant and the sale of water to Invenergy through Johnston's contract with Providence Water Supply Board.

Sincerely,

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Kogut, Thomas (DPUC)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 9:15 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** FW: Burrillville Power Plant

-----Original Message-----

From: Daisy Bassen [mailto:████████████████████]  
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 8:17 PM  
To: Kogut, Thomas (DPUC) <Thomas.Kogut@dpuc.ri.gov>  
Subject: Burrillville Power Plant

Dear Mr. Kogut,

I am writing as a concerned RI citizen asking you to reject the Burrillville Fracked-Gas Power Plant. The applications status is incomplete and the project poses significant environmental and health risks as well as derailing the move to renewable energy sources like wind and solar power. Please dismiss this project and ensure the health, safety and productivity of all Rhode Islanders.

Thank you,

Daisy Bassen MD

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:12 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA)  
**Cc:** Michael@mcelroylawoffice.com; Jelmer@clf.org; Jeremy@jeremysoldmyhouse.com  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT: CREC EFSB Meeting Feb. 16, 2017

Dear EFSB,

I doubt that you will dismiss the CREC docket. But I have several things to say:

Invenergy's original application (submitted Oct. 2015) does NOT represent the PRESENT proposed power plant. Too many things have changed over the past year and 4 months. What has changed?

- 1) Water needs (plus there is NO MAXIMUM PER YEAR/"CAP" --This should concern you!)
- 2) The new water plan has changed various items:
  - a) The proposed power plant's efficiency
  - b) The proposed power plant's air emissions (They should re-do the Major Source Application as well as another air emission impact study.)
  - c) Noise
    - 1- Total noise (dBA) and also the low frequency noise
    - 2- Background Ambient noise (the Spectra/Algonquin compressor station has up-graded and the noise is much louder!) – another noise study should be completed at the property line and/or at the nearest 4 or 5 residents' properties as was included in the original application
  - d) Volume of ammonia on site
  - e) Number of days using ULSD
  - f) Water will be trucked in (new traffic study should be done)
  - g) Wastewater will be trucked out (new traffic study should be done)
  - h) More ammonia is necessary –more tankers (new traffic study should be done)
  - i) More hydrogen gas is necessary – nothing about this in any data responses
  - j) Wastewater will be too contaminated to be treated by the Burrillville POTW (no concentrations have been divulged by Invenergy)
  - k) More acres of land will be used for the proposed power plant - +20 acres
  - l) Wetlands study should be redone.... (e.g., Smithfield, RI has a proposed apartment complex going in off of Rt. 44 and they have requested a new wetlands study from the company as the wetland area has expanded—only 1 year has passed for Smithfield)
  - m) Volume of cooling water on site
- 3) Invenergy was not able to get any increase in the MW's from the recent FCA... what does that mean for the whole project?
- 4) What will the change in the whole technology do as far as the "supposed":
  - a) Decreasing the electricity rates in RI (LOL!)?
  - b) The temporary union construction jobs?
  - c) The permanent jobs?
  - d) The length of time of construction?

What has NOT changed? The height of the proposed stacks, the proposed location, proposed driveway, and the proposed route of tankers. WHAT else?

[SIDE NOTE: I also believe that Invenergy should have been asked/forced to do background ambient air emission testing at the site instead of allowing them to use the DEM's recommended listed values. Invenergy, of course, was happy to use the recommended concentrations because of the compressor station emissions as well as the close proximity of other power plants. But as you like to say, this is a "moot point".]

In my humble opinion, the EFSB should instruct Invenergy to rewrite its application to include ALL the changes and include ALL the new "estimated" data (emissions, noise, water usage, wastewater volumes, etc.).

Also, I watched the last EFSB live streamed meeting. I saw that the OER stated that Invenergy answered all of their data requests sufficiently. What about the DEM's request for the ULSD tanks and piping? Those were not answered sufficiently. What about the RI DOT? They had no information as Invenergy had NOT even submitted ANY application to them at the time that their advisory opinion was due.

I watched you deny Burrillville their requested 45 day extension. But in the previous meeting you jumped at the chance to approve Invenergy's 90 day suspension. (If I remember correctly, Director Coit wanted the suspension to be 60 days, but you, Chairperson Curran, wanted them to have their requested full 90 days.) Seriously? And, basically what you did by not voting at the Feb. 6, 2017 meeting concerning the dismissal of the docket was TO GIVE INVENERGY TIME TO ANSWER THE 22<sup>ND</sup> DATA REQUEST QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE!!!!!! But this did not give Burrillville's experts time to read and analyze the answers! AND, BY THE WAY, initially, I gave you the benefit of the doubt when you decided to vote on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> in that I thought you were, in essence, giving Burrillville 10 full days in order to go over the water plan in more detail to come up with more data request questions. BOY, WAS I WRONG!

GOD, I hope that you are not "in bed" with Invenergy. I hope that you are not "in bed" with Governor Gina Raimondo. I hope that you will make ALL your decisions using the EFSB regulations and your conscience. The Governor told us on July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (when she came to talk to the Burrillville residents about the proposed power plant) to "trust the process" and that if there were ANY environmental or health concerns she was sure that the EFSB would do the "right" thing. She told us that even if she were to change her mind about the proposed power plant, she would never influence your decisions.

What IS the "right" thing????? How can anyone "trust the process" when EVERY DECISION YOU MAKE SEEMS TO BE SLANTED TOWARDS INVENERGY????? Is it not true?

Do not EVER forget that Invenergy did not answer sufficiently (and sometimes not at all) the Burrillville data requests. Do not EVER forget that the Burrillville Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Building Inspector asked (in a public setting where I and hundreds of people attended) time and time again for more information and plot plans/diagrams. Invenergy (via Attorney Elizabeth Noonan) said "yes, we will" and they never did. They had plenty of time and did not get the requested information to the boards and building inspector. And what were the consequences? There were none. Shouldn't there have been consequences? Shouldn't there be rules that come into play when this happens?

I repeat: I believe that it is the EFSB's responsibility to insist that Invenergy do more testing and then re-write its application.

You have a responsibility! Although I am a retired Environmental Engineer, it does not take one to see the logic of what I have written above.

Do I think you will dismiss the docket? No.

DO I THINK YOU SHOULD INSIST THAT INVENERGY RE-DO ITS APPLICATION (INCLUDING THE MAJOR SOURCE)?  
YES!!!

Do I think that you have the guts to do it? NO.

Do I hope that you have enough integrity to do so? YES

REMEMBER THIS: It is not only Burrillville watching you. Thirty + (30+) towns and cities in Rhode Island have resolutions opposing the siting of the CREC. Forty-four (44) RI non-profit organizations are officially opposed to the siting of the CREC. (This is not a threat of any kind...it is fact.) AND these numbers are growing weekly.

Remember this as well: Woonsocket City Council voted NOT to supply Invenergy water. They did this for two reasons: 1) they were concerned about the health of their residents and 2) Invenergy pulled out the maximum yearly water volume ("cap") and they were suspicious of Invenergy changing their minds about their new "water plan" and going back (once and if the EFSB approved the project) to the very high water volume needs. BY THE WAY, WHAT, IF ANYTHING, COULD THE EFSB DO IF INVENERGY DID JUST THAT?

Please NOTE: I am not telling you what to do. This is only MY opinion as I see it.

Thank you for reading this lengthy email. I hope that everyone that I sent this email to reads it before 2 PM!

Oh, one more thing.... If I am "out of line" by sending you this email, so be it. This proposed power plant, if approved by YOU, will be less than 3 miles from my residence. I have every right to voice my opinion to you.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Sloman  
Burrillville, RI

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Lisa Petrie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 2:45 PM  
**To:** Coit, Janet (DEM); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** teonlisa@juno.com  
**Subject:** power plant

Dear Ms. Coit, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Agrawal,

As a concerned citizen, hiker, and nature lover, I was deeply concerned to read the following piece by Rick Enser in EcoRI News:

<http://www.ecori.org/green-opinions/2017/2/15/dem-passes-on-its-obligation-to-fully-vet-environmental-impact-of-burrillville-power-plant#.WKTQwr-hDQw.email>

It is clear from this article that neither DEM nor the State Planning Program fulfilled its obligation to fully assess the environmental impacts of the proposed power plant. The State Planning Program said in its advisory opinion that it would leave it to DEM to assess the power plant's compliance with seven distinct elements of the State Guide Plan that have to do with the environment and recreational opportunities.

For its part, DEM suggests that it cannot assess the power plant's impact on biodiversity and other natural resources because it doesn't have access to the proposed site and/or hasn't yet been given the relevant information by Invenergy. If this is true, then the EFSB must demand that Invenergy immediately give DEM access to the site and any other information that may be needed to conduct a comprehensive assessment. It is the responsibility of the EFSB to ensure that Invenergy provides all agencies with sufficient information to render a comprehensive assessment of the power plant's impacts in their area of expertise--and if Invenergy fails to do so, the EFSB must reject Invenergy's application.

By rights, the EFSB should close the docket now and stop wasting taxpayer dollars assessing this ill-advised and poorly planned project. Short of that, please make sure that all these gaps are remedied and that all the relevant agencies issue updated, comprehensive, and accurate advisory opinions in light of Invenergy's newly-announced "dry" cooling system and its anticipated impacts.

Sincerely Yours,  
Lisa Petrie

[REDACTED]  
Carolina, RI 02812

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 23, 2017 7:17 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Too Dirty, Too Dangerous: Why Health Professionals Reject Methane

<http://www.psr.org/assets/pdfs/too-dirty-too-dangerous.pdf>

Methane also accelerates climate change. In fact, it is far more potent a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide over its first hundred years in the atmosphere. That's a danger that isn't often recognized, including among some environmentalists.

Please don't add to our children's very unlivable future.

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Manya K. Rubinstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2017 8:20 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** oppose the Clear River Energy Center Power Plant plant

Dear Mr. Bianco,

I would like to write to ask you to oppose the Clear River Energy Center Power Plant, including selling water or serving as a back-up water source. I am concerned that the cost to Providence and Rhode Islanders in terms of potential environmental harm is way greater than the benefits, and that much of this energy will not even be used in state.

Many thanks,

Manya

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Gillian Kiley.<[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2017 2:51 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Clear River Energy Center Power Plant

Dear Mr. Bianco,

I'm writing as a concerned citizen and taxpayer to reaffirm my opposition to the Clear River Energy Center Power Plant, and to urge the Energy Facility Siting Board members to reject Invenergy's proposal for the plant.

I make this request on several bases:

The proposed plant, which has been opposed by the majority of the towns in RI and all of the environmental groups in the state, would yoke RI to a **dirty energy future** for the next **40 years**, emit 52 kinds of pollutants, 3 tons of hazardous pollutants annually, and 3.6 million tons of CO2 per year, making it impossible to meet Rhode Island's stated goals for emissions reduction.

The plant may **not deliver any rate reduction** at all to energy consumers.

In 2016, an Invenergy rep estimated that the savings would be 1%-4%, which is not guaranteed, and good only for first three years.

**In 2017, Invenergy revised this estimate to 0% - 0.5%** in rate savings.

Even the best-case scenario, which is now entirely unlikely, would yield very little savings, and be a short-term savings at that, while the environmental, public health, and quality of life costs would be enormous. In addition to destroying contiguous forests, the plant's need to truck in water, oil and ammonia would create a huge amount of truck traffic on local highways and the two-lane roads of Burrillville.

The water demand of the plant is also of great concern. While the town of Johnston has opted for a short-sighted plan of selling water to the plant, the peak need for **740,000 gallons of water** daily for the cooling towers is a gross waste of a precious resource at a time when New England has been facing drought. 90% of that water would be lost to evaporative consumption, while 10% would be contaminated wastewater.

And because Invenergy would be mandated to continue to produce energy even if Johnston chose to keep its water for its own use during more intense droughts, Invenergy would likely target other towns and put the water supply from the Scituate Reservoir at risk.

The plant would not create a great enough number of jobs to offset the costs -- such as the wear and tear on roads used by the trucks, which could be as many as **531 trucks driving to and from the site every 30 days**. Renewable energy jobs, however, have seen a lot of growth in recent years, and come without the burdens of pollution, demand for treated, potable water, destruction of forests, and wildly increased traffic on local roads.

I ask you to please stand with the broad public that opposes Invenergy's plans and reject the company's proposal.

Rhode Island, with its long history of corruption and historical proclivity for short-term solutions, is in a position now to advocate for continued local control of our resources and to be a leader in rejecting the wasteful, polluting practices of the past and opting for a jobs-creating, clean energy future.



Sincerely,  
Gillian Kiley

2025.01.14

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** beth Nixon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2017 9:26 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** No to Clear River Energy

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Mr. Bianco

I oppose the Clear River Energy Center power plant. Please do not support it in any way, including by allowing the selling water. I oppose privatizing Providence Water for any reason.

The costs are not worth anything we might gain from this. Water is life. Thank you,  
Beth Nixon

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Judith Yarme <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 01, 2017 9:57 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Burrillville Power Plant

Dear Mr. Bianco,

I am very hopeful that your organization will decide not to proceed with approving this proposed power plant.

There is no need to tie the state to an outdated fossil fuel facility when renewable energy in the form of solar, wind, tidal and wave energy is the face of the future and scalable now.

More jobs are tied to clean energy right now and into the future.

Renewable energy will provide clean and green power while the old fashioned gas/oil plants provide continuous pollution which will effect the entire region.

It is unconscionable that public, rural, preserve land would be taken for an industrial facility.

It is absurd to consider developing a facility that would need vast amounts of water every day. That this public water supply could be sold to a corporation by one town in Rhode Island is an assault on all of us, particularly in a time of drought.

Be the voice of reason and reject this proposal. Encourage the decision makers to embark on next generation clean energy for the state and the region.

Judith Yarme, Barrington, RI

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Sarah Jacobs <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 01, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Clear River Energy Center Power Plant

Dear Mr. Bianco,

I am writing because I am opposed to the Clear River Energy Center Power Plant. I think building a new fossil fuel powered facility that will continue to pollute our environment for another 40 years is a mistake. I am very concerned about the environmental impact the plant will have on Rhode Island. Given that the most recent estimates for energy savings for consumers are at 0 to 0.5%, it is certainly not worth the damage to our environment. It is also my understanding that half the energy from the plant will not even go to RI residents, but will likely be sold to Massachusetts, if a buyer is found at all.

Thank you,

Sarah Jacobs

## **Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Judith Yarme, [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 01, 2017 4:01 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** Howard Yarme  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed Burrillville Power Plant

I wish to go on record as opposing the proposed Burrillville Power Plant, and the general process of having Rhode Island communities typically being placed in a position to respond to what corporations and industries want to do here, forcing us to be reactive vs. our being more pro-active and describing what we may want or need.

On so many levels, Rhode Island does not need another round of fossil fuel burning plants, extracting valuable non-renewal materials from our landscape and abusing them in an unsustainable way. There appears to be more than enough technical / economic / public health / security and environmental information available to cast serious doubts about this proposed second Power Plant.

We want to support Rhode Island as an example of how next-generation sustainable responses to energy generation, use and conservation can lead to healthier, more economical and more sustainable living for all in the region.

We in Barrington oppose the added risks our community faces from the industrial use of our common drinking water supply, and the security risks that go along with this. We also opposed the holistic environmental risks from having another 30-50 years of infrastructure built in this beautiful, rural community at a time when alternative ways of dealing with our energy issues are available. The safety, security, health and environmental risks from fossil fuel extraction, transportation, burning, toxic waste management and de-commission after useful life are not only burdens for Rhode Island communities, but for the whole chain-of-activities needed to support fossil fuel burning plants. Also, any jobs created from the building and operation of this proposed plant dwarf as compare to the mounting evidence of the growth in jobs from alternative energy and conservation opportunities.

It would seem to us that a more holistic approach to addressing energy for Rhode Island would revolve around a comprehensive assessment of current and future needs, along with serious consideration of limited land, water and clean air among other issues, and asking those interested in helping us reach our goals to make proposals, including all of the associate costs and risks. An RFP for sustainable energy generation, conservation and use for Rhode Island.

We are a small enough state to do something like this successfully, and large enough to create a prototype of national significance. Whether you can embrace a new approach embodying the concept of having industry fight for the right to do anything in our state, or not, we strongly ask that you oppose any action that would allow further consideration of any new fossil burning power plant in Burrillville, or for that matter, anyplace in Rhode Island.

Thank you,  
Howard Yarme  
Barrington, RI

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:10 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Compressor Stations  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Here's an example of what Burrillville residents already endure

<http://www.prleap.com/pr/253531/compressors-on-natural-gas-pipelines-measured>

Nobody wants this new power plant.  
Sister Mary

## **Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:16 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Hope you saw this: Every Environmental Group in RI Opposes the Power Plant!

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

<http://www.rifuture.org/enviro-groups-oppose-inenergy/>

Seriously, even the Nature Conservancy, notoriously non political!

Sister Mary

## **Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Davis, Denise [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 12:04 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** No New Burrillville Power Plant

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To the RI Energy Facilities Siting Board:

I am writing to state my strong opposition to the construction of a new power plant in Burrillville being proposed by Invenergy. The vast majority of townships in Rhode Island are on record as stating their opposition, Providence residents by and large oppose the sale of water to Johnston for resale to Invenergy, and yet, Governor Raimondo seems to be waiting for an appointed Board of just three people to make this important decision.

From all that I can glean from environmental advocacy and alternative energy groups, we don't need the new power plant. Moreover, common sense tells us that if RI wants to be forward thinking about green energy, we wouldn't be doubling down on fossil fuels. I, following the lead of many researchers and policy makers, imagine that investments in renewables and sustainable sources would be a much wiser use of public and private resources in 2017, when we know that fossil fuels are damaging to the environment in so many ways. My bet would be that the new power plant will be all but obsolete before ten years are out, but we won't be able to reclaim or restore the injured land, nor will we be able to take back all the carbon emitted both in the transportation of the fracked gas, diesel oil, and water to the plant and in the burning of that gas and oil in its conversion to electricity. I challenge any member of the board to go and buy real estate in Burrillville if the power plant is approved. Property values will plummet and so will the quality of life for those residents.

Rhode Island should be focusing on what Governor Raimondo has given so much lip service to: making our state a leader in green technologies and energy production. The Clear River Energy Center, in spite of its euphemistic name, will be a blight on the landscape and a health hazard to the planet. I urge you to oppose it in favor of cleaner, more future-oriented projects.

The people of Rhode Island by and large don't want the new power plant. Please listen to the people.

Sincerely,  
Denise Davis, PhD



## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 1:04 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Truck spinning out of control yesterday

This could happen in Burrillville...once and Wilson's Pond is ruined forever.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/bostonherald/videos/>

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:39 AM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Burlington VT runs on renewable energy

Here's a great idea! Sister Mary

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/vermont-city-come-rely-100-percent-renewable-energy/>

## **Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Gas Power Plants Emit up to 120 Times More Methane Than Previously Estimated

<https://www.desmogblog.com/2017/03/20/natural-gas-power-plants-fracking-methane>

Researchers at Purdue University and the Environmental Defense Fund have concluded in a recent study that natural gas power plants release 21–120 times more methane than earlier estimates.

Published in the journal *Environmental Science and Technology*, the study also found that for oil refineries, emission rates were 11–90 times more than initial estimates. Natural gas, long touted as a cleaner and more climate-friendly alternative to burning coal, is obtained in the U.S. mostly via the controversial horizontal drilling method known as hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”).

The scientists measured air emissions at three natural gas-fired power plants and three refineries in Utah, Indiana, and Illinois using Purdue's flying chemistry lab, the Airborne Laboratory for Atmospheric Research (ALAR). They compared their results to data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program.

“Power plants currently use more than one third of natural gas consumed in the U.S. and the volume used is expected to increase as market forces drive the replacement of coal with cheaper natural gas,” the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) said in a press release. The nonprofit commissioned and funded the study with a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

“But if natural gas is going to deliver on its promise, methane emissions due to leaks, venting, and flaring need to be kept to a minimum.”

### **Methane Leaks Major Source of Emissions**

Methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide but hangs around the atmosphere for a shorter time, with a global warming effect 84–87 times that of CO<sub>2</sub> over a 20-year period, according to the EPA.

“[Methane is] a better fuel all around as long as you don't spill it,” Paul Shepson, an atmospheric chemistry professor at Purdue, said in a press release. “But it doesn't take much methane leakage to ruin your whole day if you care about climate change.”

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 3:43 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA);  
Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Song for the start of every meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhaGUNhTCtg&feature=youtu.be>

Beautiful Trees Song - Sid the Science Kid - The Jim Henson Company. Think about it!

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Lincoln Chafee <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** Roselli Paul; Jason Olkowski; unap5019@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Register Opposition

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>>>> Mr, Bianco

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>>>> I am opposed to the siting of Clear River Energy Center power plant in Burrillville, Rhode Island. I am concerned about the issues of climate change, emissions reductions, and the protection of our important natural resources including; clean water, forests, and wetlands, among others. While I believe the proposed location to be unsuitable, the proposed plant is also a statewide issue. In our beautiful state with 400 miles of coastline, we all need to be concerned about the impact of climate change and we must act now to protect ourselves and future generations. I hereby formally note my opposition to the proposed plant and notify the Energy Facility Siting Board of my opposition and concern.

>>>>

>>>> Sincerely,

>>>>

>>>> Lincoln D. Chafee

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>>>> 74th Governor of Rhode Island

>>>> Former United States Senator

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>>>> Thanks again!

>>>>

>>>> Jason

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**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2017 9:06 AM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Methane Affects Groundwater Study

Thought you should know. <https://thetyee.ca/News/2017/04/11/Methane-Leaks-from-Energy-Wells-Affects-Groundwater/>

Really, we should be mobilizing as never before for renewable energy. We could be leading the country in protecting our water, our forests, the web of life. But you all know that.

Sincerely,

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** emily nalbandian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 23, 2017 12:57 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Clear River Energy Center

Hello,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed "Clear River Energy Center" in Burrillville. The Clear River Energy Center website details four reasons for creating the power plant.

1. "Energy for RI."

We are responsibility for the future of our state, and renewable resources are the only answer. The "Energy Center" would affect 200 acres of forest and consuming over 222,000 gallons of water per day. Using up natural sources is not a viable solution.

2. "Creating jobs/helping economy."

Solar and wind are booming industries and are sustainable.

<http://www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-accounts-1-50-new-u-s-jobs-2016/>  
[https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep\\_table\\_103.htm](https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_103.htm)

3. "Reducing emissions."

A power plant that produces energy with fracked gas is not clean energy. We need to stop creating emissions at all, whenever possible.

4. "Innovative Energy Solutions."

Innovative energy implies advanced; i.e. sustainable, and should not contribute CO2 emissions.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Emily Nalbandian

<http://keeprhodeislandbeautiful.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/KRIB-Clear-River-Energy-Center-Opposition-List-2.pdf>

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Donna L. Woods [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 09, 2017 4:44 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** For EFSB please

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/about-us/blog/new-england-electricity-demand-how-low-can-you-go>

Best,  
Donna L. Woods  
Sent from my iPhone



## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** susan-marie beauchemin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 6:55 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** NO INVENERGY

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Mr. Bianco:

PLEASE no Invenergy! PLEASE keep out beautiful land safe & pristine. There are other ways.

Please do not be ignorant, greedy or foolish.

Thank you,

Susan-Marie Beauchemin  
Providence RI

"If I remained silent, I would be guilty of complicity."  
- Albert Einstein

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Cynthia Ernest [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2017 10:23 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** OPPOSED

I AM A VOTER AND I AM OPPOSED TO THE POWER PLANT Preserve RI's pristine and valuable lands for generations to come.

Cynthia Ernest  
Pawtucket RI

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Please Approve the proposed Burrillville natural gas fueled combine cycle power plant.

William F Horan RI GA Testimony heard on R.I. bills targeting fossil fuels & power plant approval process.

RI GA Testimony heard on R.I. bills targeting fossil fuels & power plant approval process.  
<http://providencejournal.com/.../testimony-heard-on-ri...>

These proposed RI GA anti energy Bills both together, if approved, are the equivalent of economic suicide for a still finical fragile Rhode Island.

These Bills are a) subscribing to discredited environmental theories based on a politically motivated pseudo science and b) an attempted blatant interference with the lawfully established Energy siting board & RI-PUC?

We Cannot allowed such a smug and self righteous but destructive agenda to be codified. The collective fringe groups promoting these monkey wrench Bills might even have systematically failed to work in good faith realizing solutions to various concerns? Rather it is starting to look like electrical power facility projects might have been rejected from the onset? Perhaps even with possible bad faith active construction of numerous canards / hypothetical barriers fabricated to workable solutions for that projects key critical elements?

If true, Such monkey business does not serve the common interest or best interest of Rhode Island.

Last, we respectively must caution those in error & equating low energy density & inefficient costly wind and solar as scale able or operating profile as practical alternative option to the Burrillville RI project under consideration. Today natural gas fueled combined cycle power generation is the designated prime bridge fuel especially for New England with at least three additional disruptive technologies being considered in the out years.

Again, Rhode Island cant' continue to gamble with its economic future. That future in part based on a responsible plan for securing and maintaining, available, affordable, predictable and reliable electricity.

LikeShow more reactions

· Reply ·

1

· May 23 at 11:10am



William F Horan Burrillville power plant Land is not part of a forest preserve & already owned by power company as well another power plant near by & regional natural Gas transmission line and regional power transmission line.

Like

· Reply ·

1

· May 23 at 11:13am

05/25/17

To; [Todd.Bianco@puc.ri.gov](mailto:Todd.Bianco@puc.ri.gov),

Please Approve the proposed Burrillville natural gas fueled combine cycle power plant.

After very carefully examining the depth and breath of the proposal and the associated confluence of event I concur with the implementation of the power plant with out further delay.

Pleas record my communications as pro new Burillville power plant in the body of testimony.

William F Horan  
[REDACTED]

Middletown, RI 02842-4536

[REDACTED]

em [REDACTED]

Retired engineering fellow & Sr Mgr.

Life member IEEE

Member IEEE Providence Section executive committee.

[REDACTED]

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 12:50 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Beane, Eric (OHHS); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Invernergy double talk

This is a quote from Invernergy's proposed project in IL (Nelson Expansion, LLC)

"Gaseous fuel is not a feasible backup fuel for the turbines. A large quantity of propane or LPG would need to be stored at the plant to be available as a backup fuel. The storage of this quantity of a compressed, flammable gas at the plant would pose an unacceptable safety risk. In contrast, ultra-low-sulfur diesel may be readily stored at the plant with minimal safety risk."

In Burrillville they want to store/use up to 15,000 cubic feet of HIGHLY flammable compressed hydrogen gas ....  
ARE YOU KIDDING ME????

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Peter Gallotello <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2017 7:04 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] : Re: SB 2015-06 Invenergy Thermal Development Application/ Burrillville Power Plant

Coordinator, Energy Facility Siting Board,  
89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 0288

September 26, 2017

Dear Todd, Chairman and Energy Siting Board Members:

As a 30 year Resident of the Town of Burrillville; I'm greatly concerned about the proposed Power Plant.

The bottom line is that this plant is in my opinion a threat to our environment, property values and the public safety of Burrillville and all of Western RI and there even appears to be not enough electrical demand to support the sale of electrical futures. There are several points of concern:

1. The present Invenergy plan calls for trucking in tens of thousands of cooling water, ammonia and hydrogen gas: Estimates are 1400 truck trips a month. The road structure RT 102 and RT 100 in the proposed site location can barely handle cars and school buses never mind round the clock deliveries of water in bad weather conditions.
2. Burrillville has only a volunteer fire dept that is not capable of handling a major oil, gas or ammonia leak or explosion that could result from this plant.
3. Where is the Environmental impact study of this plant?
4. Who is going to compensate property owners from reduced property values?
5. Are one million pounds of pollution really worth the benefit of only 25 full time jobs and destroying pristine land?
6. The plant will be a white elephant project as Invenergy has only been able to sell less than half the capacity (Ref. Feb 9th Providence Journal) <http://www.providencejournal.com/news/20170209/invenergy-plant-in-burrillville-fails-to-sell-power-to-regional-grid-at-auction>

At least 98% of the people of Burrillville and 33 other cities in town in this state oppose this plant does their voices not matter? Our town adopted a limited 30 year development plan that would maintain the rural character of this town this plant does not fit that plan. As far as contribution to Rhode Island's energy needs Burrillville has already contributed by having a much smaller power plant in our town.

I urge the Energy Siting Board to give this matter a serious final hearing and dismiss the application entirely.

Sincerely,  
Peter Gallotello

[REDACTED]  
Harrisville RI, 02830

P.O. Box 864  
Chepachet, RI 02814

August 27, 2016



State of Rhode Island  
Public Utilities Commission  
Energy Facilities Siting Board  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

Honorable Siting Board:

Northwest Supporters of Open Space (NRISOS), a 501(c)3 which partners with land trusts and other conservation organizations in northwest Rhode Island to preserve and maintain open space, joins State Senator Paul Fogarty, State Representative Cale Keable, The Burrillville Conservation Commission, the Conservation Law Foundation, and numerous other environmental organizations from around the region as well as thousands of Rhode Island citizens in opposing the construction of the proposed Clear River gas-fired power plant in Burrillville, RI.

Based on the preponderance of data, we have concluded that the project is not merely unnecessary but harmful. It poses significant risk to the health and well being of Rhode Islanders, both in the near and long term. And, it will inflict significant damage on the distinctive natural habitat that characterizes the northwestern corner of our state.

Our complete list of concerns is too lengthy to detail here, but the following rank among the most important:

- 1. Fracked gas degrades the environment where it is produced, introduces risk along its transport route, and rather than being a clean, "bridge fuel" as touted, actually accelerates climate change.** The proposed 1,000-megawatt Clear River project would be the largest gas-fired energy facility in New England. As such, its negative environmental impact would be correspondingly large in scale.

The contamination of local aquifers as a result of the “fracking” extraction process is extensively documented. By generating power with fuel produced in this manner, Invenergy would involve Rhode Islanders in the environmental destruction of communities in the region(s) where the gas is produced. It would also subject communities along the path of the supply pipeline to significant environmental risk in the event of an explosion or rupture. That this threat is genuine is evident from an incident that occurred in the greater Los Angeles area this past winter in which a pipeline leaked 97,100 metric tons of gas over a span of four months (see “The Invisible Catastrophe” in the March 31, 2016 issue of *The New York Times Magazine*).

Most importantly, the use of fracked gas would exacerbate, *for decades*, climate damage caused by methane leaked into the atmosphere. In the April 11-18, 2016 issue of *The Nation*, renowned author and environmental scholar, Bill McKibben, examined the ramifications of a major new study by a team of Harvard scientists that exposed a massive rise in methane leaked into the atmosphere. This study, published last February in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*, used satellite images from across the country to show that methane emissions in America increased by 30% between 2002 and 2014. Since the heating value of methane is roughly 80-100 times greater than that of CO<sub>2</sub>, the substitution of gas for coal as a power source in the United States is actually *accelerating climate change*. This alone is sufficient cause to block development of the Clear River project.

2. **The high cost and large scale of the plant ensures that Rhode Islanders will be yoked to a harmful fossil fuel power source for decades at a time when other nations are rapidly accelerating development of renewable energy generation.**
3. **Development of the plant will prevent the state from meeting the carbon emission reduction targets established in the Resilient Rhode Island Act that Governor Lincoln Chafee signed into law in August of 2014.** This act (RI Gen Laws § 42.6.2) calls for reductions of 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by the following amounts and dates: 10% by 2025; 45% by 2035; and 80% by 2050. The impact of methane leaks addressed in point #1 will be sufficient to prevent compliance with this law.
4. **Lack of established need.** On June 14, 2016, the Conservation Law Foundation filed with the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) of the RI Public Utilities Commission an opinion regarding the need to construct the Clear River project. In that opinion, Robert Fagan, a specialist in production cost modeling of electric power systems with 25 years of industry experience, stated, “The proposed power plant is not needed for near-term or medium term New England or Rhode Island power sector reliability.” Indeed, according to the results of an ISO New England Forward Capacity Auction released in February of 2016, Invenergy, the company that wishes to build the proposed Clear River Project, received a capacity supply



obligation for just 485 megawatts of the plant's projected output of 900-1,000 megawatts.

5. **Proposal fragmentation.** From the beginning, Invenenergy has introduced the various projects related to construction of the Clear River plant in piecemeal fashion and at different stages of development. As a result, formulating a complete assessment of the plant's impact on local wildlife habitat, noise pollution, air quality, etc. is nearly impossible. A July 13, 2016 letter from the Rhode Island DEM to Todd Anthony Bianco, Coordinator of the Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board (Docket No. SB 2015-06) reviews in detail several problems related to this fragmentation, including large inconsistencies in the number of acres that Invenenergy claims will be impacted by construction and operation of the plant (see section of the 3-12 of the 7/13/16 DEM letter).
6. **Insufficient detail in the Clear River Energy Center proposal provided by Invenenergy Thermal Development, LLC.** The proposal omits information concerning management plans and potential impact assessments for a long list of important topics, including: on-site storage of hazardous chemicals; local groundwater aquifers; the means for acquiring an alternate water source if the capacity of the contaminated Pascoag well 3A proves insufficient for plant operation; expansion of the electricity grid corridor to add a third set of high tension power wires over a span of 6 miles; disposal of the MTBE by-product that contaminated well 3A; and storm water impacts on two brooks that run from the proposed construction site into the Clear River. At the EFSB meeting on March 31, 2016, the Burrillville Conservation Commission submitted an excellent, concise summary of these concerns, and we have enclosed this document with our letter. The previously referenced DEM letter to Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board (concern #5 above) also itemizes, in far greater detail, the extensive information gaps in Invenenergy's various project proposals
7. **Unreasonable burden on local citizens.** Burrillville and its neighboring towns already bear the burden of hosting two local power facilities—the 500-megawatt Ocean State Power plant in Harrisville and the Spectra/Algonquin compressor station near Pascoag. These facilities negatively impact the area through noise pollution, light pollution, reduced property values, loss of open space, and exposure to hazardous chemicals. Consequently, it seems unfair to impose a third, even larger facility on the citizens of this small, semi-rural community.
8. **Negligible economic benefits for both local communities and Rhode Islanders at large.** It is estimated that the completed Clear River facility would create roughly a dozen permanent full-time jobs, which may or may not be filled by area residents. The value of projected tax benefits (available only to the citizens of Burrillville) and reduced energy rates would be marginal at best and would not begin to offset the losses incurred through reduced property values, diminished quality of life, loss of open space, and exposure to increased health risks.

9. **On-site storage of hazardous liquids.** The proposed plant will store 2 one-million gallon tanks of diesel fuel as well as a forty-thousand gallon ammonia tank. Incidence of tank leakage is historically over 85%; leakage on this site would create yet another brownfield in Burrillville.
10. **Aquifer depletion and risk associated with re-opening MTBE contaminated wells.** Invenergy estimates the proposed Clear River plant will require approximately 104,000 gallons of water per day to operate under normal full-load conditions; in the summer the plant will require roughly 225,000 gallons per day. When the plant is firing oil, as is expected for periods of time during the winter, water demand will increase to 925,000 gallons per day<sup>1</sup>. We are concerned that such heavy draw on PUD well #3A could negatively impact local aquifers. The lack of a clearly developed back up plan in the event of a well failure is an even larger problem.

Well 3A is contaminated with MTBE, a possible human carcinogen. Three major issues with the use of the contaminated water remain unresolved in the Invenergy plan: impact on groundwater and the Burrillville sewage system; airborne release of VOCs; and disposal of the treatment by-product.

11. **Loss of approximately 200 acres (depending on which proposal you consult) of green space—forest and wetlands--in the immediate vicinity of several state management properties and some of Rhode Island’s most pristine bodies of water.** Connected to the “Last Green Valley” natural corridor that runs through eastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts, the towns of Burrillville and Glocester hold many of the state’s largest tracts of undeveloped land. A power facility on the scale of the proposed Clear River project is completely out of character in this setting and would do much to despoil both the local environment and the aesthetic enjoyment of the region.

It seems clear to us that the risks associated with this project far outweigh the benefits. We believe that prioritizing short-term job creation and minimally reduced energy costs over the long-term environmental and physical health of our community would be a mistake that would have ripple effects over multiple decades. We urge you to reject the construction Clear River gas-fired power plant in Burrillville, RI.

Respectfully,

Northwest Rhode Island Supporters of Open Space Board of Directors

Elaine Fontaine  
President

Lili Feinstein  
Treasurer

Allen Clawson  
Secretary

Tom Bazalak  
Director

1. CDR Maguire and Sovereign Consulting, Inc. review of issues related to use of Pascoag Utility District Water and disposal of waste process water at the Burrillville Sewer Treatment Facility. Submitted to Burrillville Town Manager Michael Wood June 16, 2016

cc:

Governor Gina Raimondo  
U. S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse  
RI State Senator Paul Fogarty  
RI State Representative Mike Chippendale  
RI State Representative Cale P. Keable  
Burrillville Town Council



THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND

COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCES

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

East Hall, 2 Lippitt Road, Kingston, RI 02881 USA    p: 401.874.2633    f: 401.874.2380    phys.uri.edu

February 2, 2017

Open letter and public comment  
Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board  
89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02888  
Re SB-2015-06

Dear Energy Facility Siting Board Commissioners:

This writing is in reference to docket SB-2015-06, Invenergy's proposal to construct a power plant in Burrillville. My purpose in writing is to ask that you deny Invenergy's application and close this docket, as the Town of Burrillville and the Conservation Law Foundation have moved.

Invenergy's recent cooling water deal with Johnston raises serious legal questions. It appears to be in violation of the Water Resources Rule adopted on May 16, 2011. rule.<sup>1</sup> Obviously, this is not my area of expertise, nor is it my reason for writing.

Elementary thermodynamics implies that, compared to its original plan, the dramatic reduction of water usage proposed by Invenergy is highly likely to come at a price:

- Both the noise level and the required area of the facility will go up.
- If the output power is kept constant, fuel consumption and pollution will increase.

Literature on the subject indicates an increase of the latter possibly by as much as 10%; see Table 1 of the reference in the footnote.<sup>2</sup>

These very same basic physics issues are mentioned in the order of the Energy Facility Siting Board granting a license for what was originally called the RI Hope Energy power plant in Johnston, docket number SB-98-1. I quote from that May 1999 decision:

Substantial testimony was taken on the choice to use a "wet" cooling system rather than a "dry" cooling system. Testimony established that the advantages of a "wet" cooling system are that it requires less land area, may be less noisy, allows the plant

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.wrb.ri.gov/policy\\_rules\\_wuea/WUE\\_Rule\\_Major\\_Public\\_Water\\_Suppliers.pdf](http://www.wrb.ri.gov/policy_rules_wuea/WUE_Rule_Major_Public_Water_Suppliers.pdf)

<sup>2</sup><http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378014000089>

to produce electricity more efficiently, is less costly, and allows the facility to produce more power at peak periods, compared to a “dry” systems.

It became a “wet” system. As the Energy Facility Siting Board’s decision states, this evaporates water “to the atmosphere (without consuming it), while conserving natural gas due to its more efficient operation.” (Of course, evaporating water and not returning it to the watershed is consumption, but that is not really the point here.)

The expected increase in noise and atmospheric pollution implies that the various advisory opinions about the proposed Invenergy-Raimondo power plant, issued for example by the RI Department of Health and Environmental Management, should now be considered obsolete.

The noise problem of the proposed power plant is getting worse by the day. The advisory opinion of the Department of Health submitted to this docket already contains a long list of negative health impacts associated with noise. The site of the proposed power plant is the Spectra Energy compressor station in Burrillville. The recent expansion of that facility all by itself pushed it over the limit of the federally allowed noise level.

Indeed, the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the AIM Project<sup>3</sup> came with the requirement to address that problem. With all of its noise, cooling and pollution problems, it is clear that the Invenergy-Raimondo power plant is in for “interesting” times. While Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena insists that surprise water deal with Invenergy is perfectly legal, the Johnston deal and the water source for the power plant are being contested as of this writing.

I have followed this power plant process from its inception. It is clear to me that the process is scientifically meaningless and in particular ignores the impacts of climate of climate change. In this context I suggest that you read this paper by the well-known and highly respected climate scientist Dr. James Hansen and his collaborators, *Young People’s Burden: Requirement of Negative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions*.<sup>4</sup>

Just in case you do not have time to read Hansen’s paper, I would like to offer this quote from Wendell Berry’s review of *The Dying of the Trees*, by Charles E. Little.<sup>5</sup>

Whether we and our politicians know it or not, Nature is party to all our deals and decisions, and she has more votes, a longer memory, and a sterner sense of justice than we do.

Please ask yourselves how you will justify the construction of this dinosaur to future generations and to the communities on today’s front lines of climate change.

Clearly, your board has but one scientifically sound and ethical choice: reject Invenergy’s appli-

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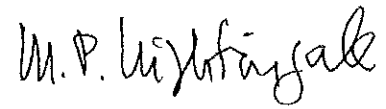
<sup>3</sup><https://www.ferc.gov/industries/gas/enviro/eis/2015/01-23-15-eis.asp>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.earth-syst-dynam-discuss.net/esd-2016-42/esd-2016-42.pdf>

<sup>5</sup><http://www.ecobooks.com/books/dying.htm>

cation and close the docket.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. P. Nightingale". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Nightingale  
Professor of Physics  
email: [nightingale@uri.edu](mailto:nightingale@uri.edu)  
tel. 401.871.1289

cc: Media





## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Lisa Petrie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2017 9:37 PM  
**To:** Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** nigh@pobox.com; C Gorman  
**Subject:** Please close Docket No. SB-2015-06

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Ms. Coit, Ms. Curran, and Mr. Agrawal:

I am writing to urge you to close the docket on Invenergy's power plant application and reject the proposal. Invenergy has changed its plans for the power plant too many times to list, several of the advisory opinions submitted have been biased and incomplete, and the people have lost faith in the integrity of this process. In addition, it certainly doesn't help that the governor has been talking out of both sides of her mouth. First, before the process had even started, she made it clear that this was a done deal—saying to Invenergy's CEO in July of 2016, "I'm pleased you've chosen Rhode Island and you should know we are going to make sure that you are successful here," —and then later she urged residents to "trust the process," assuring them that "if there are issues, then the plant won't go forward."

Well, there are issues, and the governor knows that. The power plant poses a significant threat to the health and safety of the residents of Burrillville and, to some degree, most of northern RI, including Providence and the other major population centers of the state. It would also destroy many people's quality of life, damage property values, decrease revenues from tourism, and threaten wildlife. It would also violate the Resilient Rhode Island Act and shackle us to the aptly named "fossil" fuels while other states and especially other countries are forging ahead with the transition to clean, renewable energy.

As of this writing, the Town of Burrillville and 23 other municipalities around the state, including the City of Providence, have passed resolutions opposing the power plant, and no municipality has voted down such a resolution. Within a few weeks, we will likely have every municipality in the state, or all but a handful, on our side. I believe it's time for you, our decision-makers, to listen to the people of Rhode Island and reject this plan.

In addition, I am outraged and alarmed that Johnston is prepared to sell Providence's water to the power plant over the explicit objections of the City of Providence. Whatever the contract says or fails to say, it's clear that it was not intended to allow the latter to sell water at a profit to an out-of-state company for electricity that will mostly be consumed out-of-state. If that principle is not upheld, what's to stop Johnston from selling unlimited quantities of Providence water to Nestle if they decided to build a bottling plant here in Rhode Island?

I hope you will put an end to this nightmare for the people of Burrillville and for all of us who care about preserving the things that make our state unique, not to mention a safe climate for our children, and reject this application tomorrow.

Short of that, the least you could do would be to order Invenergy to re-start the application process, with a detailed description of their current plan for the power plant and all of its anticipated impacts, since the design has changed fundamentally since they switched from a "wet" to a "dry" cooling system to reduce the amount of water required. This type of system generally requires more fuel, generates more pollution and noise, and has a larger footprint, meaning more forest would be destroyed. All of these impacts, and others such as the safety risks posed by any additional hazardous chemicals on-site and in transit, the impact on local roads of the additional truck traffic, etc., would need to be reassessed. Needless to say, all the advisory opinions should be revised in light of the new information, and the

public should be given ample time to assimilate this information and multiple opportunities to publicly voice their concerns.

Please prove to the people of Rhode Island that this process does have some integrity by defying the governor and rejecting the power plant, or at the very least, demanding a new plan from Invenenergy and a thorough and unhurried review process based on that plan.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Petrie

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Jason Olkowski <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2017 12:26 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Invenergy - Docket 2015-06: Missing State Guide Plan Elements  
**Attachments:** KRIB Statewide Opinion Review .pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

February 2, 2017

To: Energy Facility Siting Board

Attached please find a report from Keep Rhode Island Beautiful based on detailed analysis of the Advisory Opinion submitted by the RI Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program to the Energy Facility Siting Board on September 12, 2016.

Based on the detailed analysis, the report finds that seven critical elements of the State Guide Plan are missing and therefore up until this point not included in any review. Based on these findings Keep Rhode Island Beautiful respectively requests that the Energy Facility Siting Board return the Advisory Opinion to the RI Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program and instruct them to update their opinion to include a full review of the seven missing elements outlined in the attached report.

Those seven elements of the State Guide Plan are as follows:

- Rivers Policy and Classification Plan
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Plan
- Blackstone Region Water Resources Plan
- Forest Resources Management Plan
- Urban and Community Forest Plan
- Ocean State Outdoors: Rhode Island's Comprehensive Recreation Plan
- A Greener Path: Greenspace and Greenways Plan for Rhode Island's Future

While the Advisory Opinion RI Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program seems to indicate that they may have been deferring to RI DEM regarding these seven elements, the report from Keep Rhode Island Beautiful outlines that RI DEM has neither included a review of those elements, nor is it their responsibility. Therefore the citizens have no assurance that a review has been conducted of these seven critical elements, and hence there has been no assessment of consistency of the CREC with any state policies concerning forest resources, outdoor recreation, biodiversity, rivers, greenways, or Narragansett Bay.

Again, Keep Rhode Island Beautiful respectively requests that the Energy Facility Siting Board return the Advisory Opinion to the RI Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program and instruct them to update their opinion to include a full review of the seven missing elements above and outlined in the attached report.

Please note that this report has also been made available to the public today.

Sincerely,

Jason Olkowski on behalf of Keep Rhode Island Beautiful

A faint, illegible signature or stamp, possibly a digital signature or a very light ink mark, located below the name.

# **Review of the Statewide Planning Advisory Opinion Concerning the Clear River Energy Center, Burrillville, Rhode Island, and the Facility's Consistency and Compliance with the State of Rhode Island Guide Plan**

Prepared by: Keep Rhode Island Beautiful

On March 10, 2016 the Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) requested an advisory opinion from the RI Department of Administration, Statewide Planning Program, concerning three basic issues concerning the development of the proposed Clear River Energy Center (CREC) in Burrillville. One of these issues concerned, "the Facility's consistency and compliance with the State Guide Plan".

On September 12, 2016 the Statewide Planning Program (SPP) submitted its advisory opinion which included the following conclusion regarding the State Guide Plan:

*"The Program finds that the proposed Clear River Energy Center is consistent with the State Guide Plan including the state's energy plan, Energy 2035; that the Project is consistent with the Plan's goals and performance measure targets, and the Project is consistent with the Plan's policy themes and strategies." (page 46)*

However, previously on page 24 of the advisory opinion is the following admission:

*"Given the breadth of the State Guide Plan, it is inevitable that certain goals and policies will come into conflict with other goals and policies. As such, a finding of 'State Guide Plan consistency' cannot realistically be based on a project being completely consistent with each and every individual goal, objective, and policy found in the SGP." (underline added)*

It is this inconsistency in the opinion – that the project is "consistent" with the SGP, when indeed it is literally impossible for it to be "completely consistent" – that raises serious concerns about the validity of the SPP advisory opinion.

Keep Rhode Island Beautiful (KRIB) has conducted a review of the SPP advisory opinion and offers the following critique that examines the inconsistencies rampant in the opinion. It should be clearly noted, that this analysis was conducted by a group of citizens deeply concerned about the "process" being undertaken to review the CREC. We have conducted no scientific analysis of the conclusions drawn in the opinion, we are simply using the document's own words to illustrate the incompleteness, lack of professionalism, and bias that characterizes the SPP opinion.

Incompleteness. The Program admits, on page 25 of their opinion, that seven (7) elements of the Guide Plan were not reviewed because “*these SGP elements primarily involve environmental and recreational considerations which are to be evaluated by the Department of Environmental Management and others*”. This statement clearly illustrates the lack of understanding by the SPP of their responsibility in providing an advisory opinion on the entire State Guide Plan, not just selected portions. What is most disturbing is that the seven elements not reviewed include those that would be the least favorable to the construction of a power plant in a rural area that contains numerous high natural resource values. The seven un-reviewed elements include:

- Rivers Policy and Classification Plan
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Plan
- Blackstone Region Water Resources Plan
- Forest Resources Management Plan
- Urban and Community Forest Plan
- Ocean State Outdoors: Rhode Island’s Comprehensive Recreation Plan
- A Greener Path: Greenspace and Greenways Plan for Rhode Island’s Future

In addition, the SPP determined that SGP Element 715 (Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for Narragansett Bay) was found “*not to be applicable to the Project because it did not contain any content relevant to the project.*” However, we would submit the observation that most of the town of Burrillville lies in the watershed of Narragansett Bay (as clearly illustrated on page 2.2 of Element 715 – page 2.2 and that the conclusion by the SPP that Element 715 is not applicable in this case should be reevaluated.

In regard to the seven un-reviewed SGP elements, deferring review of the goals, objectives and policies contained in these elements to other state agencies clearly violates the intent of the EFSB request, and also illustrates a lack of understanding within the SPP as to their responsibilities. The SPP was charged with reviewing the entire State Guide Plan, not just those elements selected by the SPP. It is not, for example, the responsibility of the Department of Environmental Management to provide an advisory opinion on any policies approved by the State Planning Council. DEM may provide assistance to the SPP in interpreting a particular policy, but ultimately it is the responsibility of the SPP to provide opinions on which policies in the SGP are consistent with a power plant in Burrillville, and which policies are inconsistent. In this manner, the EFSB is provided with two lists – policies that are consistent, and those that are not – which they can use when they review other state agency opinions.

Unfortunately, this lack of understanding within SPP means that NO review has been conducted of these seven critical elements, and hence there has been no assessment of consistency of the CREC with any state policies concerning forest resources, outdoor recreation, biodiversity, rivers, greenways, or Narragansett Bay.

**Unprofessionalism and Bias.** The issue of the “missing elements” can simply be excused by a lack of unprofessionalism that seems to characterize some state agencies recently. But lack of motivation can not excuse bias, or what we see as a deliberate crafting of an advisory opinion that is clearly supportive of the project.

This problem is best illustrated in the SPP’s review of one of the elements they did decide to review, State Guide Plan Element 121, *Landuse 2025: Rhode Island State Land Use Policies and Plans*. The purpose of this plan is to “*guide future land use and development and to present State Guide Plan policies under which State and local land development activities will be reviewed for consistency*”.

In *Landuse 2025* are detailed the goals, objectives and policies, approved by the State Planning Council, to guide activities toward fulfillment of the primary, over-riding objectives of the plan. The first cited primary objective of the plan is to: *Sustain Rhode Island’s unique character through use of the Urban Services Boundary, rural centers, and holistic approaches to planning*. In support of this vision statement is Objective LUO 1A, which states: *Focus growth within the urban services boundary and in centers of different sizes and types; support traditional centers instead of new development*.

The SPP selected this objective to review, and offered the following opinion:

*“With respect to Objective LUO 1A to “Focus growth within the urban services boundary,” the Project is located approximately 1.3 miles from the northwest segment of a village-centered Urban Services Boundary in Burrillville. However, the Program concludes that the chosen site, by providing immediate access to an existing gas pipeline, thereby reducing the need to extend infrastructure elsewhere, and, the fact that the USB is not intended to be (an) absolute determinant for any specific project, means the Project is not inconsistent with Land Use 2025’s objective of focusing growth within Urban Service Boundaries.”*

The SPP may consider this interpretation of *Landuse 2025* to be valid, but we emphatically do not. The actual wording in *Landuse 2025* is as follows:

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## **Major Concepts**

### *Sustaining the Urban-Rural Distinction*

*The distinction between Rhode Island’s historic urban centers and neighborhoods and their rural natural surrounding areas is still strong. It remains the most important feature of the State’s land use pattern. Land Use 2025 identifies an Urban Services Boundary, based upon a detailed land capability and suitability analysis that demonstrates the capacity of this area to accommodate future growth. The Plan directs the State and communities to concentrate growth inside (underline added) the Urban Services Boundary and within locally designated centers in rural areas, and to pursue significantly different land use and development approaches for urban and rural areas.*

Achieving a sound policy for appropriate growth in urban areas will allow us to preserve more of our rural landscape (underline added). Growth and preservation thus become a single issue.

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The proposed CREC is clearly outside the Urban Services Boundary, 1.5 miles to be more exact. Therefore, the CREC is clearly inconsistent with Objective LUO 1A, which once again states, *Focus growth within the urban services boundary*. Once again, the CREC is clearly inconsistent with this objective – it will be 1.5 miles outside of the USB.

Despite this clear inconsistency, the SPP persists in its advisory opinion to offer more evidence for consistency of the CREC with the objectives in *Landuse 2025*. Objective LUO 3C states: *“Maintain and protect the rural character of various parts of Rhode Island.”* In regards to this objective, we believe that any reasonable person, be they planner, carpenter, or school child, would recognize that a power plant is not consistent with maintaining rural character; however, the SPP seems to make a special effort to prove otherwise.

Beginning on page 39 of the opinion:

*“The construction of the CREC will impact the project site itself but in the context of the “rural character” of Burrillville, its impact will be minimal. The construction of the CREC would not impede the larger vision of a Rhode Island that is beautiful, diverse, connected, and compact with a distinct quality of place in our rural and urban centers”*

The rationale continues: *“As reported by Edward Pimentel of Pimentel Consulting, Inc., ‘Although CREC will own in excess of 67 acres, less than one-half or approximately 29.44 acres will be dedicated to the operation proper. The operation will be aligned along the rear (westerly portion) of the property, thereby maintaining in excess of 37.6 acres in a naturally-vegetated state. The site will have a naturally vegetated frontage which will provide screening from the residences situated along Wallum Lake Road.”*

In regards to the above, we offer the following observations:

1. Mr. Pimentel has appeared before the Burrillville Zoning Board as the “applicant’s (underline added) expert witness in land use planning”. Our question is, why was this particular private consultant, employed by the applicant, used to qualify the advisory opinion of a state agency?
2. Mr. Pimentel’s opinion is that the simple screening of the power plant by natural vegetation will suffice to retain the rural character of western Burrillville. Unfortunately he fails to address other factors that will degrade rural character, including noise, air pollution, light pollution, and now the continual passage of tanker trucks along previously lightly-travelled, rural roads.



Once again, to be fair, we could accept these issues as simple incompetence. But in the final analysis, review of Landuse 2025 by the SPP appears was a highly selective process. Only a few of the objectives in the plan were reviewed to inform the SPP final opinion, that: "*The Program finds the Project to be consistent with Land Use 2025.*" Unfortunately, the SPP failed to consider over 40 additional policies outlined in Land Use 2025, including:

*LUP 2: Control sprawl and the urban exodus of business and industry.*

*LUP 4: Achieve a livable, coherent, and visually pleasing environment.*

*LUP 14: Design open space systems and corridors to protect complete ecologic units and provide structure and character to the built environment. Maintain the openness of our western borderlands and recognize the significance of this system within the Northeast Corridor.*

*LUP 17: Preserve and enhance wildlife, fish, and plant species diversity and stability through habitat protection, restoration, enhancement, and prevention or mitigation of adverse impacts due to human activities.*

*LUP 23: Preserve and enhance the distinctiveness of urban, suburban, village, and rural communities and landscapes.*

*LUP 29: Conserve and enhance desirable existing industrial areas, regional shopping areas, office complexes, and concentrations of service activities to maximize the investment and utilization of existing infrastructure.*

*LUP 31: Plan new or expanded public sewer and water services, highway improvements, and mass transit service, for industrial and commercial development where such development is appropriate in terms of natural constraints of the land, air, and water, and where the area is being developed at an intensity that is consistent with State land use policy and will not promote wasteful use of resources.*

And there are more. Not all of these policies would necessarily be inconsistent with the project, depending on how one wants to spin it. But, they remain un-reviewed none-the-less.

Our critique of the SPP advisory opinion is also incomplete. Our group does not include individuals who are knowledgeable enough to address other portions of the State Guide Plan (State Energy Plan, for example), or other parts of the original request from the EFSB to SPP, which included a) analysis of the socio-economic impact of the proposed facility, and b) consistency and compliance with the State Energy Plan. People more qualified than ourselves can review these portions of the SPP opinion. However, if a preliminary review by a group of grassroots citizens is able to find such glaring inconsistencies and examples of bias, what additional issues would be uncovered by a full professional review of the entire document?

For the time being however, it is enough to say that based on KRIB's review of only a portion of the document, that the SPP advisory opinion is tainted and should be returned to rectify deficiencies and provide an honest, thorough assessment of the State Guide Plan that the citizens of Rhode Island are entitled to.



Email: [divest@fossilfreeri.org](mailto:divest@fossilfreeri.org)

February 2, 2017

To: Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board

Dear Commissioners:

This is our formal request that you close the docket on SB-2015-06. The electricity is not needed for Rhode Island, and yet Rhode Island would be saddled with enormous risks, not to mention lost opportunities to invest in renewable energy. The proposed power plant is not designed for electricity consumed in Rhode Island. The electricity would go to the Blackstone transfer station where would be routed North and East. It is highly unlikely that any of it would ever be used in RI. Further, constructing an industrial plant in the middle of the one of the state's largest intact forests, that protects a pristine reservoir, to burn more fossil fuels for energy export is bad policy, and is inconsistent with the State Guide Plan.

Furthermore, to reduce the amount of water consumed, Invenergy is now proposing to use a "dry" cooling system rather than a "wet" system as originally planned. But "dry" systems consume more fuel, generate more pollution and noise, and require more land area than "wet" systems. This kind of fundamental change to the plant's design and anticipated health and environmental impacts should trigger a whole new review process, with new public input and new advisory opinions from the various state agencies, should you continue to entertain the proposal. (See attachment for more on this.)

Invenergy's proposal is inconsistent with Rhode Island law. Fossil Free Rhode Island supports the position of the Conservation Law Foundation: building this plant will not allow us to meet the requirements of the Resilient Rhode Island Act. This law was written in 2014 to ensure that Rhode Island does its part to prevent runaway, climate change.

During the time that the power plant proposal has been considered, all indications have been that the rate of destabilization of the climate has increased. It is imperative that we move away from burning fossil fuel as fast as humanly possible. We must not allow infrastructure to be built that will lock us into even greater dependence on fossil fuels for decades. The damage to the climate from fugitive methane is already significant, and could prove disastrous if we do not change course. In other words, even steep cuts in carbon dioxide emissions by themselves would not suffice.

Invenergy's proposal puts Rhode Islanders' health, safety, and well-being at risk. The threats to Burrillville residents, who overwhelmingly oppose the plant, are particularly acute, but the increased pollution and associated health risks will also affect Providence and the other major population centers in the state. Last September, the Town of Burrillville passed a resolution formally voicing its opposition to the plant; since then, 23 of the 38 other municipalities in the state (nearly two-thirds, a super-majority) have followed suit, with more resolutions pending.

Invenergy's approach to cooling the plant has been reckless from the start. The original plan to use a poisoned well for cooling the plant showed a flagrant disregard for the health and safety of the people of Burrillville. After being rejected by several municipalities, Invenergy changed the design and secretly arranged to purchase water from Johnston, which gets its water from Providence. The ACLU has helped in filing a suit that this was in violation of the Open Meetings Law.

We believe this plan will result in increased pollution, noise, habitat destruction, and traffic, and threatens the water supply for much of the state. Once again we refer to the attachment for further details.

The City Council of Providence, the capital city, passed a resolution in opposition to the power plant, after also Mayor Elorza voiced his objections. Further, City of Providence lawyers are looking into the loophole that Johnston exploited with the purpose to amend the pertinent, 100 year old law. Note that the Scituate Reservoir supplies drinking water for more than 60% of the residents and businesses in Rhode Island. As climate impacts escalate and droughts become more frequent and severe, there may well be times when the reservoir will fail to fulfill these needs and those of the power plant. The impacts on wildlife and ecosystems from the additional water withdrawal may also be significant.

In summary, the impact of this plan will be broadly felt, the legality of it is controversial. The plan has been rejected by the majority of municipalities; its adoption would set an irresponsible precedent. Approval of the plan would also be imprudent from the standpoint of energy, public health and safety, environmental and climate impacts, and would not conform to Rhode Island law and planning.

To reiterate, we request that the docket be closed.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signatures of Robert Malin and Marie Schopac. The signature of Robert Malin is written in a cursive style, and the signature of Marie Schopac is also in cursive, with a large '7' at the beginning.

Robert Malin  
Marie Schopac  
On behalf of the members of Fossil  
Free Rhode Island

encl: attachment

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND

COLLEGE OF  
ARTS AND SCIENCES

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

East Hall, 2 Lippitt Road, Kingston, RI 02881 USA    p: 401.874.2633    f: 401.874.2380    phys.uri.edu

February 2, 2017

Open letter and public comment  
Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board  
89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02888  
Re SB-2015-06

Dear Energy Facility Siting Board Commissioners:

This writing is in reference to docket SB-2015-06, Invenergy's proposal to construct a power plant in Burrillville. My purpose in writing is to ask that you deny Invenergy's application and close this docket, as the Town of Burrillville and the Conservation Law Foundation have moved.

Invenergy's recent cooling water deal with Johnston raises serious legal questions. It appears to be in violation of the Water Resources Rule adopted on May 16, 2011. rule.<sup>1</sup> Obviously, this is not my area of expertise, nor is it my reason for writing.

Elementary thermodynamics implies that, compared to its original plan, the dramatic reduction of water usage proposed by Invenergy is highly likely to come at a price:

- Both the noise level and the required area of the facility will go up.
- If the output power is kept constant, fuel consumption and pollution will increase.

Literature on the subject indicates an increase of the latter possibly by as much as 10%; see Table 1 of the reference in the footnote.<sup>2</sup>

These very same basic physics issues are mentioned in the order of the Energy Facility Siting Board granting a license for what was originally called the RI Hope Energy power plant in Johnston, docket number SB-98-1. I quote from that May 1999 decision:

Substantial testimony was taken on the choice to use a "wet" cooling system rather than a "dry" cooling system. Testimony established that the advantages of a "wet" cooling system are that it requires less land area, may be less noisy, allows the plant

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<sup>1</sup>[http://www.wrb.ri.gov/policy\\_rules\\_wuea/WUE.Rule.Major.Public.Water.Suppliers.pdf](http://www.wrb.ri.gov/policy_rules_wuea/WUE.Rule.Major.Public.Water.Suppliers.pdf)

<sup>2</sup><http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378014000089>

to produce electricity more efficiently, is less costly, and allows the facility to produce more power at peak periods, compared to a “dry” system.

It became a “wet” system. As the Energy Facility Siting Board’s decision states, this evaporates water “to the atmosphere (without consuming it), while conserving natural gas due to its more efficient operation.” (Of course, evaporating water and not returning it to the watershed is consumption, but that is not really the point here.)

The expected increase in noise and atmospheric pollution implies that the various advisory opinions about the proposed Invenergy-Raimondo power plant, issued for example by the RI Department of Health and Environmental Management, should now be considered obsolete.

The noise problem of the proposed power plant is getting worse by the day. The advisory opinion of the Department of Health submitted to this docket already contains a long list of negative health impacts associated with noise. The site of the proposed power plant is the Spectra Energy compressor station in Burrillville. The recent expansion of that facility all by itself pushed it over the limit of the federally allowed noise level.

Indeed, the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the AIM Project<sup>3</sup> came with the requirement to address that problem. With all of its noise, cooling and pollution problems, it is clear that the Invenergy-Raimondo power plant is in for “interesting” times. While Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisenia insists that surprise water deal with Invenergy is perfectly legal, the Johnston deal and the water source for the power plant are being contested as of this writing.

I have followed this power plant process from its inception. It is clear to me that the process is scientifically meaningless and in particular ignores the impacts of climate change. In this context I suggest that you read this paper by the well-known and highly respected climate scientist Dr. James Hansen and his collaborators, *Young People’s Burden: Requirement of Negative CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions*.<sup>4</sup>

Just in case you do not have time to read Hansen’s paper, I would like to offer this quote from Wendell Berry’s review of *The Dying of the Trees*, by Charles E. Little.<sup>5</sup>

Whether we and our politicians know it or not, Nature is party to all our deals and decisions, and she has more votes, a longer memory, and a sterner sense of justice than we do.

Please ask yourselves how you will justify the construction of this dinosaur to future generations and to the communities on today’s front lines of climate change.

Clearly, your board has but one scientifically sound and ethical choice: reject Invenergy’s appli-

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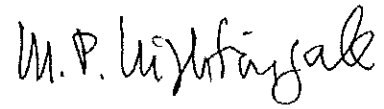
<sup>3</sup><https://www.ferc.gov/industries/gas/enviro/eis/2015/01-23-15-eis.asp>

<sup>4</sup><http://www.earth-syst-dynam-discuss.net/esd-2016-42/esd-2016-42.pdf>

<sup>5</sup><http://www.ecobooks.com/books/dying.htm>

cation and close the docket.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. P. Nightingale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "M".

Peter Nightingale  
Professor of Physics  
email: [nightingale@uri.edu](mailto:nightingale@uri.edu)  
tel. 401.871.1289

cc: Media





## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

---

**From:** Kelly Reiss [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2017 5:35 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Comments to the EFSP

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Todd Bianco, I have been informed that you are the person to send email comments on the Invenenergy proposal at the EFSB and that you can post these on the EFSB website.

Please share my comments:


Dear Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB):

I listen to an interview with Johnston Mayor Joseph Polisena that aired today on National Public Radio (NPR), and I was deeply disturbed by his tone and focus, being angry that individuals would dare call and express concern over this ill-advised deal to sell Johnston's water for more than \$18 million over 20 years. Sadly, Mayor Polisena does not understand that clean air and clean water are, in fact, everyone's business. Or, perhaps he does not care. Seeking short-term economic gain will not guarantee long-term prosperity in Rhode Island or elsewhere.

I reject any plan for Rhode Islanders to sell our water to Invenenergy in support of dirty fossil fuels. Yes, I do agree with Mayor Polisena that a natural gas facility is "cleaner" than other forms of fossil fuels, for example, coal, but let's be realistic here, we no longer have the luxury of polluting our environment with carbon emissions. The impacts of anthropogenic induced climate change are upon us. Further, selling out to a polluter may seem like a convenient solution to funding the town, but the costs in human and environmental health exceed the payoff, especially when you consider that Johnston receives its water from Providence. This is not a town level project, but a statewide concern.

Our future depends on renewable energy. Rhode Island and the EFSB need to move us forward, not backwards, in our energy production, and join states like Hawaii in their proposal to run entirely on renewable energy by the year 2045. I am asking that the EFSB take a stand against fossil fuel interests, because our health and prosperity are too important to allow the allure of money to make decisions that jeopardize the future for all Rhode Islanders (and our neighbors).

Kelly Reiss

  
Bristol, RI 02809



**PASCOAG**  
UTILITY DISTRICT

Pascoag Electric • Pascoag Water

253 Pascoag Main Street  
P.O. Box 107  
Pascoag, RI 02859  
Phone: 401-568-6222  
Fax: 401-568-0066  
[www.pud-ri.org](http://www.pud-ri.org)

RI Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

Honorable Members of the Energy Facilities Siting Board:

My name is Albert Palmisciano and I am the Chairman of the Pascoag Utility District's Board of Commissioners which is located in Pascoag, Rhode Island. I am writing to express the opposition of the Board of Utility Commissioners to Invenergy's proposed Clear River Energy Center in Burrillville, RI.

Recently, many businesses in town received a letter from Invenergy offering businesses a spot on Invenergy's 'preferred vendors list' in exchange for support of this proposed project. Invenergy promised a 'boom' to local businesses during the construction phase of this project. We do not, however, feel that this implied short term increase in revenue for these businesses is worth the long term devastation this project would cause the Town of Burrillville and neighboring communities. Clearly Invenergy wishes to garner community support of the Clear River Energy Center by enticing local businesses with the promise of additional business in order to propel their case for this project forward.

In a community and state where heavy emphasis is placed on tourism, the destruction of approximately 200 acres of forests that abut Pulaski Park and George Washington Campground would ultimately drive revenue out of our state in the long term.

Invenergy promises that the Clear River Energy Center will help drive down energy costs in Rhode Island, passing along a savings of over \$200 million dollars in the first four years alone. Testimony provided to the Rhode Island Public Utility Commissions revealed the savings to be between \$0 and \$36 million dollars for the first year, with rate payers' saving a measly 1-2%. The recent ISO-NE Annual Reconfiguration Auction proved that there was no threat to the amount of power in the grid for 2019 by allowing Invenergy to sell its' obligation of 485MW to another power supplier due to its lack of a permit at this time, again signaling that this plant is not needed in order to meet demand, even with the recent closure of Brayton Point.

We stand in opposition of this project along with many other communities and community based organizations in the State of Rhode Island. I speak not only as a representative of the Pascoag Utility District but as a proud *member* of this community. The facts do not lie: the Clear River Energy Center is not needed or wanted in the Town of Burrillville.

I do not wish to see this project move forward and I urge you to deny Invenergy's application for the Clear River Energy Center.

Sincerely,

Albert Palmisciano  
Chairman



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Jessica Stensrud <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 04, 2017 5:51 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Governor (GOV)  
**Subject:** Stop doing "business" with INVENERGY and other gas giants

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear all,

None of us in the United States wants all of our land drilled on, fracked on, built on with fracked gas or other gas power plants, no storage of dangerous fossil fuels, no multiple trucks per day full of flammable fossil fuels or other chemicals much less the number of diesel spewing trucks carrying endless loads of water.

All this is pure insanity as we watch our beautiful natural areas wiped out and poisoned, our air, our water.

How could ANY OF YOU, if you really thought about consequences, WANT THIS?

No Gas is a "bridge fuel" and, besides, that bridge to nowhere is ever going to be built and all this should have been stopped THIRTY YEARS OR MORE AGO because the fuels we are burning now are not going to stop producing their damage to the climate even if they were stopped NOW.

Stop killing and not believing science which tells the truth of all this. Stop listening to ONLY MONEY!!! You can't breathe, eat, drink, bathe in money.

Please stop and reverse this insanity NOW.

**PLEASE.**

Jessica Stensrud  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Email [REDACTED]

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Maggie Kain <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 5:30 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Reject Johnston Proposal

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Sir

I do not support Johnston selling water to Invenergy. There will be a water shortage and to sell the water with no definite daily usage is irresponsible and against a people first policy. Burrville has rejected the power plant so should the rest of the state.

Thank You

Maggie Kain

[REDACTED]  
Wakefield RI

Sent from my iPhone

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

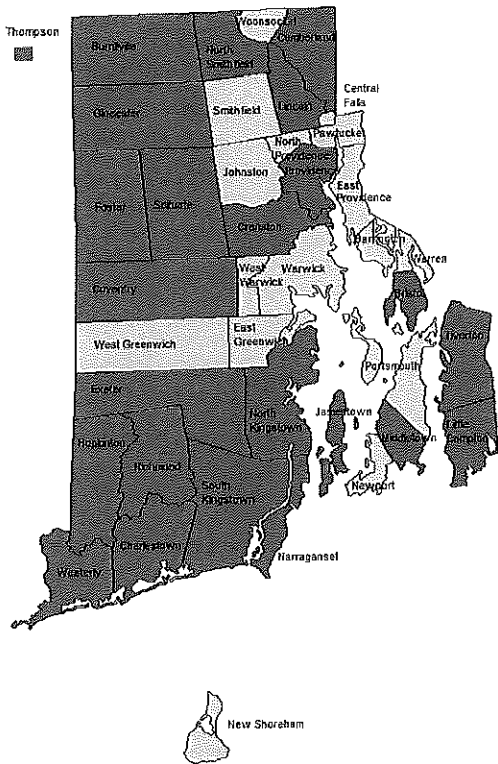
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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 9:20 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Beane, Eric (GOV); Governor (GOV); Coit, Janet (DEM); VuraWeis, Lisa; Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Marullo, Sam (GOV)  
**Subject:** SB-2015-06 Does This Matter to Anyone?

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<https://fossilfreeri.org/> It matters to me! The people in our state do not want this monstrous polluting power plant. Do you serve the will of the people or not? Pawtucket meets Monday night. Please dismiss this project! Sister Mary Pendergast,RSM

Towns in Green have passed a resolution against CREC



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

---

**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2017 9:24 AM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** ISO New England

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<http://marketintelligence.spglobal.com/our-thinking/news/iso-new-england-capacity-auction-likely-to-clear-below-700kwmonth>

"Our analysis shows that the Southeast New England (SENE) zone, which consists of NEMA-Boston and SEMARI, has excess local capacity, and thus we expect no premium over [the] rest of pool. Northern New England will be separately modeled as an export constrained zone in this auction -

We do not need this fracked gas power plant!

Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA);  
Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** Sally Mendzela  
**Subject:** Solar Jobs

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2017/01/25/u-s-solar-energy-employs-more-people-than-oil-coal-and-gas-combined-infographic/#6feb12357d27>

Please realize that the jobs that will support the future are not jobs related to fracked gas! We do not have the luxury of wasting time in dead end jobs that are actually killing the planet.

Sincerely,  
Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2017 12:33 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Docket SB-2015-06,

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear EFSB Members,

This "Process" has been filled with inadequate answers from Invenergy. Now buying Providence water against the will of the Water Board, against the will of the Providence City Council, certainly against the will of the 60% of Rhode Islanders who drink from the Scituate Reservoir; going through a criminally negligent affront to the Open Meetings Act in Johnston to a tyrant Mayor, who will, with Invenergy's money go to any court...

You must be reading these things, if I am! This should be a soap opera! Dismiss the docket, please. Tyrants and money grabbers shouldn't win because a corporation can pay for it! That is exactly what this is all coming down to....will of the people be damned, public health be damned, environment be damned, other species be damned, water be damned, forest be damned: Invenergy has MONEY!

Sincerely,  
Sister Mary Pendergast,RSM  
Ecology Director  
Sisters of Mercy Northeast

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 12:32 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Earth  
**Attachments:** Pawtucket is GREEN.jpg  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

"When you realize the Earth is so much more than simply your environment, you'll be moved to protect her in the same way as you would yourself. This is the kind of awareness, the kind of awakening that we need, and the future of the planet depends on whether we're able to cultivate this insight or not." - Thich Nhat Hanh

Do you realize that not a single town council who has yet entertained a resolution about the power plant has come out in favor of it? Where will that leave you if you go forward? Mass demonstrations? Civil disobedience? As Greg Gerritt says, 'You ain't got enough jails for all of us!'

Asking you to please turn this disaster around ahead of time. Dismiss the docket.

Sincerely,  
Sister Mary Pendergast,RSM

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 8:45 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Had Enough Yet?  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/about-us/blog/access-northeast-pipe-dream>

This power plant has never been needed and will now cost us \$\$\$ (even more than the killing of the environment which hasn't seemed to bother anyone so far!)

So sick and tired!  
Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM

Dear Mr. Bianco – I am writing in connection with docket SB-2015-06, the proposed Invenergy plant in Burrillville. The residents of Burrillville have made their opposition clear, as have residents of many other municipalities in Rhode Island.

Invenergy failed to strike a deal on water for cooling the plant with either Burrillville or Woonsocket. As a result, it engineered a last minute agreement with the city of Johnston that allowed for almost no public consultation, and that uses water that Johnston obtains from the City of Providence. The legality of both of these strategies is dubious, but regardless they do not pass a common sense smell test and indicate a disregard for the public will.

The plant will be bad not just for the environment in northwest Rhode Island, but the entire region. Moreover, it will be impossible to meet the goals of the 2014 Resilient Rhode Island Act if this plant is built. Goals, targets and plans to reduce carbon emissions are a great first step in tackling global warming, but they are meaningless unless adhered to.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Tim Lehnert  
Cranston, Rhode Island

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Walker, Susan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2017 1:18 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** No New Power Plant

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello Mr. Bianco, It is my hope that you get this email before tomorrow's meeting. Please do not grant the permit to Invenenergy for the new power plant facility in Burrillville, This is a step backwards. We need to invest in renewable, green energy. Going forward on this project is just a hand out to the fracked gas infrastructure prospectors who do not want to lose money on their investment. It's not Rhode Island's fault that they made a bad investment in the fuel source of the past. Also, Invenenergy does not hire Rhode Islanders. Additionally, the union workers who are so in favor of this project have been extremely rude at public hearings on this topic. I'm happy they have secure jobs, but there is the health and future of our whole state to consider. Thank you for considering my appeal.

Sincerely,  
Susan Walker  
[REDACTED]  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Sally Mendzela <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 8:40 PM  
**To:** Curran, Margaret (PUC)  
**Cc:** Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** NE Shrinkin Need for Natural Gas

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<http://www.synapse-energy.com/about-us/blog/access-northeast-pipe-dream>

## The Access Northeast Pipe Dream? | Synapse Energy

[www.synapse-energy.com](http://www.synapse-energy.com)

On February 6, 2017 Synapse released a report on "New England's Shrinking Need for Natural Gas." This report examines the need for, and the cost of, the Access Northeast (ANE) natural gas pipeline.

Sent from [Outlook](#)

February 4, 2017

Energy Facilities Siting Board  
RI Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**Statement on SB 2015-06 (Invenergy Thermal Development LLC's Application to Construct the Clear River Energy Center Power Plant in Burrillville, RI):**

The Rhode Island Student Climate Coalition is a statewide alliance of students and youth working for a clean, safe, and just future for all. We envision a sustainable economy that supports clean air, land, and water. We are working diligently to promote social and environmental justice by transitioning away from dirty energy.

As students and young people, we are especially concerned about keeping Rhode Island livable for our generation and those to come. Accordingly, we oppose the construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure, including the proposed plant in Burrillville. Building this plant would lock us into decades of dangerous carbon emissions and make it impossible for us to meet the targets established by the Resilient RI Act.

Rhode Island has the opportunity to become a national leader in the clean energy revolution. To delay is to betray our obligations to our environment and our people.



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Lauren Nidel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 1:52 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** Mignanelli, Kathleen (PUC); Bill deware  
**Subject:** Docket SB-2015-06 - RIPDA OPPOSITION TO THE SITING OF THE CLEAR RIVER ENERGY CENTER  
**Attachments:** FORIMMEDIATE RELEASE-RHODE ISLAND PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA 11.pdf  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Corrected email with docket number

Dear Mr. Bianco;

On behalf of the RI Progressive Democrats I want to formally submit our statement in opposition to the siting of the Clear River Energy Center.

This power plant is the antithesis of the direction this state should be going and we adamantly oppose it and support Burrillville's opposition to it.

Please make sure this is available to all interested parties and is included as part of the public comments submissions.

Kind Regards;

Lauren Nidel  
Deputy State Coordinator - RIPDA  
401-710-7600

January 5, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - RHODE ISLAND PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS OF AMERICA

Providence, RI - The Rhode Island Progressive Democrats of America opposes the potential water sale from Woonsocket to Invenergy - the Chicago based company proposing to build a fracked gas power plant known as the Clear River Energy Center. RIPDA is also calling all **RI Progressive Democrats** to oppose the sale of water to Invenergy and to ask the Woonsocket City Council to oppose the pending sale as well.

The RIPDA Executive Board unanimously approved the opposition stating that the project is “not in the best interest of Woonsocket, northern Rhode Island, the state or the region. The potential sale of water to Invenergy will provide little to no benefit to the state or the region and may exacerbate existing drought conditions, produce higher potable water treatment costs, as well as increase health issues for those residents in the all along the Blackstone River watershed. Environmental injustice burdens small towns that don’t have the financial means to fight against well financed companies like Invenergy.” RIPDA also believes that the potential sale of water would reduce water flow and harm the existing and growing interest in the development of hydro systems which depend on a steady flow of water.

“In a time where alternative energy production sources are flourishing, to add a fracked gas power plant, destroy over 200 acres of second growth forest in an area hailed by environmentalists from all over New England is unconscionable. There is no substitute for clean drinking water or environmental diversity. This one power plant, according to Invenergy’s application submitted to the RI Energy Facility Siting Board on October 29, 2015, will use up to “one-million gallons of water” every day for the forty year life span of the power plant. Recent claims by Invenergy reduce the water consumption to as little as twenty-five thousand gallons per day. So we really don’t know how much water will be used by the power plant,” so says Lauren Niedel- Deputy State Coordinator for RIPDA.

It is estimated that nearly 2 tanker trucks would cross the 17 miles every 6 minutes during a 12 hour time period creating extra fiscal and environmental burdens on the region, a degradation of Woonsocket’s and North Smithfield’s roads, an increase of air and noise pollution and traffic congestion. The increase in particulate matter from both the fossil fuel power plant and the diesel fuel tanker trucks would worsen existing high asthma and other respiratory illnesses in the region. Woonsocket is one of four “core cities” defined by the Rhode Island Department of Health where hospitalizations for asthma occur higher than state averages.

In addition RIPDA is in full support of the resolution by the Burrillville Town Council opposing the siting of the power plant. The town already is home to a fossil fuel burning power plant - Ocean State Power - a gas compressor station owned by Enbridge Energy formally Spectra Energy and additional fossil fuel infrastructure. “This is a regional issue spilling over into Thompson, CT, Uxbridge, MA and elsewhere in those two states,” says Niedel.

RIPDA points to the Resilient Rhode Island Act and views the proposed fracked gas power plant as a direct contradiction to this 2014 Rhode Island law.

For more information, Contact:

Lauren Niedel - Deputy State Coordinator 401-710-7600 - lniedel@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Bianco,

Please post my objections to the power plant in Burrillville on the ESB website. The following reasons apply.

1. Rhode Island already has surplus of power without the Invenenergy project.
2. Rhode Island is the fourth most energy efficient state in the nation.
3. The Invenenergy project would make it impossible to achieve the goals set by the General Assembly in 2014, the Resilient Rhode Island Act, which sets out a timeline for reducing carbon emissions.
4. A 40-year commitment to a methane-emitting gas pipeline is not a bridge to clean energy. It is a bridge to nowhere, according to the Cornell University study published on Aug. 21, 2015.
5. Promising lower energy costs, as Invenenergy states, reflects the company's own version of the figures. They are incorrect at best and manipulative at worst.

The governor, the General Assembly and unions must stand strong for creating jobs that yield a sustainable future.....if we are to have one at all.

Maggie Bulmer

Middletown, RI

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Mary Pendergast [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2017 1:21 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Beane, Eric (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV); Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Invenergy is not needed at the ISO AGAIN!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

<http://www.clf.org/blog/iso-forward-capacity-auction-results-show-invenergy-plant-not-needed/>

"Importantly, the zone that includes Rhode Island cleared the auction this week with a surplus of 1,926 MW. If you deduct from that figure the full amount of Invenergy's existing obligation to the ISO (a mere 485 MW), there is still a huge surplus – fully 1,441 MW – in the zone that includes Rhode Island. **The fact that there is an enormous surplus of capacity – without any electricity whatsoever from Invenergy's proposed power plant – is the clearest and best indication yet that the plant is not needed.**

As I said last year: The ISO's figures do not lie; they tell a very simple story. Invenergy's fracked gas and diesel oil power plant is just not needed, which is why the state's Energy Facilities Siting Board should simply reject its application now and be done with the project for good."

Sister Mary

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Lorraine Savard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 7:20 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** SB-2015-06 Invenergy LLC/CREC

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow Up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

This application is a true farce. Things change every week. This week I'm concerned that this Co. will say anything to allow this project to go forward ie the recent change in water usage. There has to be a complete review of this outrageous idea. This LLC has been less than honest in their business practices. This change in water usage although good for the environment is not used to cool turbines but used, I am told, for other reasons.

Lorraine Savard  
A concerned citizen

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Pete Galvin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** comment on clear river pending decision by Energy Facility Siting Board

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Todd, I'm submitting this for the record. I hope you will disseminate this to the members before their next meeting.

I'd like to express my deep concern about the recent turn of events in the process established for reviewing the Clear River proposal. I do not think the Governor intended that this turn into a war between neighboring jurisdictions.

I recognize there are some projects of great interest to the state that cannot be ruled by strictly NIMBY concerns -- e.g., the wind farm for Block Island. But here the record is full of evidence that this addition to infrastructure will cause other harm, and will inhibit the efforts by the State to control greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Resilient Rhode Island Act and the recent report of the EC4 of the difficulties we already face in that regard.

I understand the need for jobs for those skilled workers who are underemployed. I appreciate the Governor's thoughts on this in her State of the State address. But doubling the number of green jobs by 2020 is not going to be of help right now. As the EC4 report indicated, there is work to do assessing and correcting any current methane leaks in the state, not to mention moving forward much more rapidly on proper disposal of food waste. Dealing with this is entirely within her control.

I also understand the concern of those (especially in the press) who believe rejection of any project sends a message that "Rhode Island is not open for business." This situation should not present that problem in light of the many jurisdictions who have joined in support of the Burrillville town position. Of course a detailed statement of the problems from the Energy Siting Board should help.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these remarks.



## Burrillville Land Trust

Protecting our open space and rural character  
PO Box 506, Harrisville, Rhode Island 02830

### Those who are opposed or question the value of the Invenergy project and the citing of a fracked gas power plant in northwestern Rhode Island as of February 1, 2017.

Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation	Rhode Island Progressive Democrats of America
BASE - Burrillville Against Spectra Expansion	Rhode Island Save the Bay
Blackstone River Coalition	Senator Jeanine Calkin
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council	Senator Paul Fogarty
Burrillville Conservation Commission	Sierra Club - Rhode Island Chapter
Burrillville Democratic Party	Sisters of Mercy Ecology
Burrillville Historical Society	South Kingston Conservation Commission
Burrillville Land Trust	The Audubon Society of Rhode Island
Burrillville Planning Board	The Blackstone River Watershed Council/ Friends of the Blackstone
Burrillville Republican Party	The Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor
Burrillville Town Council	The Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island
Burrillville Zoning Board	The FANG Collective
Burrillville Zoning Director	The Mashapaug Nahaganset Tribe
Channing Memorial Church - Green Congregation Committee	The Rhode Island Chapter of the Nature Conservancy
Citizens Climate Lobby	Town of Bristol
City of Cranston - Cranston Public Works	Town of Burrillville
City of Cranston - Town Council resolution	Town of Charlestown
Clean Water Action - Rhode Island	Town of Cumberland
Conservation Law Foundation - Rhode Island Chapter	Town of Exeter
Cumberland Conservation Commission	Town of Foster
English for Action	Town of Glocester
Environment Council of Rhode Island	Town of Hopkinton
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (1988 EIS report)	Town of Jamestown
Food and Water Watch	Town of Lincoln
Fossil Free Rhode Island	Town of Little Compton
Harrisville Fire District	Town of Middletown
Keep Rhode Island Beautiful	Town of Narragansett
Manville Rod & Gun Club	Town of North Kingstown
Northwest Rhode Island Supporters of Open Space	Town of North Smithfield
Pascoag Utility District	Town of Richmond
Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light	Town of Scituate
Representative Aaron Regunberg	Town of South Kingstown
Representative Cale Keable	Town of Thompson, CT Board of Selectman
Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions	Town of Thompson Conservation Commission
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (Data request 3 7/13/16 and final advisory opinion - 9/12/16)	Town of Tiverton
Rhode Island House of Representatives	Town of Westerly
	Toxics Action Center
	West Greenwich Conservation Commission

## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 2:32 PM  
**To:** Governor (GOV); Curran, Margaret (PUC); Coit, Janet (DEM); Agrawal, Parag (DOA); Bianco, Todd (PUC); Beane, Eric (GOV); VuraWeis, Lisa; Marullo, Sam (GOV)  
**Subject:** EFSB Meeting 2-6-17

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Friends,

I watched the live stream yesterday because I am recuperating from foot surgery at home. I was absolutely horrified at the highly irregular "hearing" that until Mr. McElroy spoke up the EFSB was certainly going to vote upon without listening to argument. It is all on tape. You came out the door ready to vote!

My jaw dropped open when Ms. Coit implied that the Advisory opinions do not have to be listened to or even read, I'm assuming, because...what difference if they are full of holes?? What difference if they are incomplete because Invenergy is still incomplete because we don't have to pay attention to them anyway?? Why the heck put all the time and energy, not to mention money into writing them, when they are, to use the operative word of the day, "MOOT!"

Both Ms. Curran and Ms. Coit asked Invenergy and Mr McElroy how to proceed and where we are in the process??? This is the Process we're supposed to trust...the one where you ask Invenergy how to proceed?

Mr. Conley, lawyer for the Town of Johnston, with whom I have a complaint with the Attorney General, got to sit on Invenergy's side. Sweet!

The OER has no complaint with Invenergy. Sweeter still!!

Governor, you have said if there are issues with this power plant it will not go through! There are so many issues it is hard to know where to begin. But you know that. I write to you very, very frequently. The larger issue is that the people of Rhode Island are not being heard.

Please shut down this plant and please shut down the EFSB whose sole purpose is to streamline gas and oil infrastructure in this state.

Sincerely,  
Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM



## Bianco, Todd (PUC)

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**From:** Mary Pendergast <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 28, 2017 10:58 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Docket SB-2015-06

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Members of the Energy Facility Siting Board,

I am writing to ask you to vote in favor of dismissal of the entire CREC Project submitted by Invenergy. You have been more than kind to the project, allowing them more time for an incomplete application, whereas most people (not corporations) actually fail when they submit incomplete applications!

I also object to the use of Providence drinking water for the project. People and planet before Corporations! The deceptions and the incomplete facts caused Woonsocket to think twice. I applaud Woonsocket City Councilors for their diligence. Johnston held a secret meeting with councilors, then kept the public out!

But most important of all, there have been so many twists and turns and changes in the actual application that it is impossible to even know what is true and if it can even happen the way it's written! A million gallons of water goes down to a couple of trucks (oh except in winter when we have to run diesel!) The changes in the application alone call for a complete resubmission with all new Advisory opinions because so many of them couldn't even be written in the absence of the facts!

This project has tremendous implications for the health of all Rhode Islanders. Please do not put the short term gain of a few permanent jobs ahead of the health and will of the people. Please remember that this environment is being gutted and shredded at every turn. It is essential that we keep the contiguous forest intact for all the creatures as well as ourselves.

Sincerely,

Mary Pendergast, RSM  
Sisters of Mercy Ecology  
Highlandview Road  
Cumberland, RI 02860

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Barbara Watts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 04, 2017 3:33 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Why the Invenergy Powe Plant is a bad investment for RI

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Mr. Todd Bianco and Energy Facility Siting Board,

Please reject the request for a permit to site the Invenergy power plant in Burrillville. It is a bad investment for RI because there is no need to add fossil fuel based electrical generation capacity, in the face of the rapid growth of wind and solar energy production.

The usefulness vs. actual uselessness of a power plant such as is proposed for Burrillville must be viewed over a 30-40+ year lifetime. That natural gas plant will be outdated before it is completed, or at the most within its first couple of years of operation. Its electricity will cost Rhode Islanders more than rates available from wind and solar.

I hope your Energy Facility Siting Board realizes how rapidly the capabilities of costs of wind and solar power have evolved and adopts this view to the future. You don't have to rely on my analysis - just look to the experts as quoted here Grantham Institute at Imperial College London and the Carbon Tracker Initiative <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/feb/02/electric-cars-cheap-solar-power-halt-fossil-fuel-growth-2020>

Sincerely,  
Barbara K. Sullivan-Watts

--  
Barbara K. Sullivan-Watts, PhD  
Senior Marine Res. Scientist, Emerita  
Graduate School of Oceanography  
University of Rhode Island

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

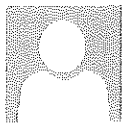
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**From:** [REDACTED]@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 06, 2017 11:27 AM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Burriville power Plant

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

"We the People" do not want this plant and the inevitable pollution that comes with it.  
Who benefits?...

Judith A. Byrnes  
[REDACTED]  
Newport, RI




Wed 2/1/2017 6:24 PM

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

Say NO in Burrillville

To Bianco, Todd (PUC)

Cc Greg Gerritt

 Follow up. Start by Friday, February 10, 2017. Due by Friday, February 10, 2017.

^

This is my submission for posting:

Ever since the first Earth Day, many of us Rhode Islanders have been working to improve our shared environment. Long before "climate change" was debated ad infinitum, it made perfect sense to choose CLEAN instead of DIRTY in the smallest state in the union.

KEEP RI BEAUTIFUL is as important now as it has ever been!! Just say NO to DIRTY and YES to CLEAN energy!! Fossilize the fossil fuel industry here in RI and reset our work on clean renewables.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Amanda Babson <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2017 4:38 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** Invenergy Power Plant - Please close docket

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Mr. Bianco and Energy Facility Siting Board Commissioners,  
I am writing to express my opinion that the proposed Invenergy Power Plant is not consistent with our need to address climate change, and with the Resilient Rhode Island Act, and therefore ask you respectfully to close the docket on SB-2015-06.

As a scientist studying climate adaptation, I am fully aware of the impacts if we do not cut back our fossil fuel use, including natural gas. The lifetime of this infrastructure is inconsistent with our needs to rapidly cut back greenhouse gas emissions if we are protect Rhode Island from the worst impacts of climate change. Ideally we would be dealing with this global issue through effective national and global policies and not having to fight each individual energy facility decision, but until we do, we need to stop moving ahead with the facilities that will not serve an essential energy need in the long term.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Babson

[REDACTED]  
Narragansett, RI 02882

Dear Commissioners and Staff of the Public Utilities Commission;

I am writing from retirement from a twenty-five-year career in sustainable energy. Some of you will remember me as a founder and then staff member of People's Power & Light and a former member of the energy efficiency collaborative.

Throughout my career, I have been following the arguments and the data regarding our essential and eventual conversion from fossil fuels to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation. Since the 1980s, the time came and went to act on a sufficiently large enough scale to avoid the environmental costs of climate change and the economic crisis of peak oil. Now we can only talk about avoiding catastrophic climate change.

In systems theory, we talk about overshoot: the tendency of systems to put into effect outcomes long after the inputs that cause them have stopped. This is much the case with climate change: the carbon released yesterday will increase global temperatures for decades to come. There is a delay in impacts much like the hottest days of summer are almost two months after the longest days as even the shortening days are adding more heat than the shorter days of fall, winter, and spring.

With climate change, we are well into overshoot. We should have stopped building new fossil fuel infrastructure entirely twenty years ago, other than in completely exceptional cases, such as those justified by overall system efficiency improvements.

Another perspective from my long career: the cry that "natural gas is the bridge fuel" has a very stale ring after 30 years. Yes, I first heard that justification 30 years ago. Since then we have reached peak oil, and the cheap gas and oil are gone. All that is left to extract is the more expensive and environmentally damaging sources. Hydrofracking is one example, the Macondo well rupture another, the tar sands of Canada another. No matter what the economists guess in the short term (and their record has been pitiful), the price of natural gas will go up as resources become more constrained--and geopolitics make the guess as to when nearly impossible.

There is good reason to honor the spirit and letter of the state climate change law, which we advocates worked for over a decade (losing precious time) to make into law. Please reject the application of Invenergy and any new fossil fuel infrastructure. (While I'm on that topic: doesn't anyone see the irony that the Hess LNG facility was promoted as a necessary way to import natural gas, while the new LNG proposal is to store gas mostly from the US?)

Please stop the Invenergy proposal. This nightmare has gone on long enough.

Sincerely,  
Karina Lutz

# **Glocester Democratic Town Committee Resolution**

In opposition to the Siting of the Clear River Energy Center in Burrillville.

February 5th, 2017

TO: Todd Bianco - Energy Facility Siting Board

The Glocester Democratic Town Committee fully supports The Town Of Burrillville's resolution opposing Invenergy and the Siting of the Clear River Energy Center in Burrillville. We also fully support Burrillville's motion to dismiss Docket SB-2015-06 in its entirety.

As a border town to Burrillville, Glocester also believes that the siting of the CREC will greatly impact the quality of life for the citizens of Glocester. There will be an increase of traffic. Countless trucks in and out of the town carrying toxic substances including ammonia, will have an absolute negative impact for the people and businesses who live on Putnam Pike from Harmony through Chepachet. The Historic District of Glocester will especially feel the brunt of the tractor trailers that will be going in and out of the town center, environmental hazards such as diesel fumes being released and stalled traffic could be a major concern for air quality and increased health issues including asthma.

This siting is environmentally unsound, unsustainable and it goes against the 2014 Resilient Rhode Island act and will make Rhode Island beholding to the fossil fuel industry for the next 40 years.

We also support the Glocester Town Council Resolution supporting Burrillville and in opposition to the Siting of the fracked gas and diesel burning power plant known as the CREC.

We request that this document be submitted as a permanent record against the Clear River Energy Center and Invenergy LLC.

On Behalf of the Glocester Democratic Town Committee;

Lauren Niedel-Gresh - 1st Vice Chair.  
401-710-7600  
8 Camp Street  
Glocester, RI 02814

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** D Randolph Watts <ra [REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 04, 2017 1:11 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** reject Invenergy power plant at Burrillville

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Mr. Todd Bianco and Energy Facility Siting Board,

Please reject the request for a permit to site the Invenergy power plant in Burrillville. There is no need to add fossil fuel based electrical generation capacity, in the face of the rapid growth of wind and solar energy production.

The usefulness vs. actual uselessness of a power plant such as is proposed for Burrillville must be viewed over a 30-40+ year lifetime. That natural gas plant will be outdated before it is completed, or at the most within its first couple of years of operation. Its electricity will cost Rhode Islanders more than rates available from wind and solar.

I hope your Energy Facility Siting Board realizes how rapidly the capabilities of costs of wind and solar power have evolved and adopts this view to the future.  
Please turn down the Invenergy Burrillville plant.

Sincerely,  
D. Randolph Watts  
Professor of Oceanography - [REDACTED]  
University of Rhode Island  
Narragansett, RI 02881 [REDACTED]



**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Greg Gerritt <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Cc:** Greg Gerritt  
**Subject:** invenergy

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Todd Bianco, I have been informed that you are the person to send email comments on the Invenergy proposal at the EFSB and that you can post these on the EFSB website.

This is my submission for posting. Greg gerritt [REDACTED] Providence RI 02906 [REDACTED]

Dear EFSB, Climate change is the existential crisis of our time, and the time to act is now. If Rhode Island acquiesces to the building of any new fossil fuel infrastructure, it becomes more and more certain that Rhode Island and the rest of the world will not reduce carbon pollution sufficiently to keep the planet from overheating. You know this as well. It is time to take a stand. If the world and Rhode Island can no longer afford to support the fossil fuel infrastructure, to pay for investments that are guaranteed to be stranded as the world comes to its senses, then it is obvious that building a powerplant like this in Burrillville is folly. We can do much better. And with President Toxic Dump spouting mindless garbage about climate and science it is even more important that the EFS stand up to the fossil fuel criminals and refuse to allow the building of another polluter that will make us broke.

In the war on the planet it is time to stand up. If Rhode Island will not stand up to the wreckers of the planet, who will? If the time for action is now, we can not wait. Say no to any more pollution, and to adding to Rhode Island's climate change disasters. Do not let the powerful destroy this place and let Providence and our beaches drown. Say no to the Invenergy proposal. It is a bad deal for Rhode Island, now and especially bad if we want prosperous future.

Greg Gerritt

**Bianco, Todd (PUC)**

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**From:** Deborah K. Mathews <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2017 7:45 PM  
**To:** Bianco, Todd (PUC)  
**Subject:** please reject Clear River Energy Center in Burrillville

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Mr. Bianco,

The Statewide Planning Program has submitted an advisory opinion that the Clear River Energy Center is consistent with state goals. However, one of the advisors to the board was Edward Pimentel, Invenenergy's expert witness. The board should research the impact of the power plant using advisors who are independent of the company who will make a profit. It is especially disturbing given that the SPP did not assess the risk to the environment, which is, of course, the biggest issue. The SPP admits, on page 25 of its opinion, that seven elements of the Guide Plan were not reviewed because "these SGP elements primarily involve environmental and recreational considerations which are to be evaluated by the Department of Environmental Management and others."

The power plant is in a rural area that contains numerous high natural resource values. What will be the impact on the rivers? On the forests?  
On recreation in the area?

With the huge issue of global warming, we should also be doing everything possible to avoid expanding power production dependent on fossil fuels.

Please share my comments with the Energy Facility Siting Board when they meet tomorrow morning.

Thank you,

Deborah K. Mathews

[REDACTED]

Warwick, RI 02888

Woonsocket City Council

December 28, 2016

Dear Woonsocket City Council,

The Blackstone River Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone (BRWC/FOB) *strongly urges* the Woonsocket City Council *to vote against* providing Invenergy with water for the proposed power plant in northwestern Rhode Island and *to oppose* discharges from that plant into any tributary to the Blackstone River.

If this sale goes through, Woonsocket may well risk creating an untenable situation for its residents and tax payers by taking on this new commitment, potentially pitting the needs of domestic users against those of Invenergy. It may also create problems for existing businesses and facilities, in the city and downstream – hydroelectric plants like Thundermist, for example – that count on a certain flow in the Blackstone to stay in business. The matter of releasing pollutants and over-heated water into the river is also critical for existing businesses and facilities and for recreational use of our state's waterways. The resulting degradation in water quality can by no measure be considered beneficial to the city.

A point to consider would be the fact that residential use and power plant demands *would be at their highest* in summer, precisely the time of year when water *shortages are also at their highest*.

Decision makers in Woonsocket may have read the welcome news this past week in the *Providence Journal* and the *Woonsocket Call* that a settlement has finally been reached in the case of the Peterson Puritan Superfund Site just downstream, on the banks of the Blackstone. In that case the cost will be 40.3 million dollars to pay for the wrong-headed decisions of the past. What will the cost of a wrong decision re Invenergy be for future generations in Woonsocket?

Public employees and dedicated volunteers alike have made a major investment in the cleanup of the Blackstone Valley in the past quarter century. For BRWC/FOB that effort is an ongoing one from March through November each year. For the EPA and RIDEM it has been an equally long struggle to hold the Superfund polluters accountable for their actions. Dedicated people throughout the state worked tirelessly for the Resilient RI Act to prepare the state for the impacts of climate change. Only to hear that a single out-of-state company, Invenergy, could move in and produce enough polluted air to negate their entire effort to reduce greenhouse emissions – with little or no actual benefit for the state. What will Woonsocket's legacy be, where will that city stand in all of this? Will it sacrifice all that effort for some small and quite possibly elusive gain? Those of us who have worked hard to achieve the goals of providing a healthier and more enjoyable life for our citizens, present and future, hope that you will join us *by voting no for selling water to the Invenergy plant*.

Sincerely yours,