

Bianco, Todd (PUC)

From: gkmaurer <gkmaurer@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 12:31 PM
To: Bianco, Todd (PUC)
Cc: sen-fogarty@rilegislature.gov; Rep. Keable, Cale P.
Subject: SB-2015-06 INVENERGY CLEAR RIVER ENERGY CENTER PUBLIC COMMENT

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If you have driven around Burrillville lately, I'm sure you've noticed the abundance of yard signs pushing for NO NEW POWER PLANT. What's conspicuously absent, however, is a second sign below it stating, "ALTERNATIVELY, WE PROPOSE _____" (you fill in the blanks). The naysayers always say NO, but never advance a reasonable or well thought out alternative.

Sure, occasionally someone pushes blindly for feel-good "green energy" without doing any research. Here's typically what happens when we try to go down that road: Cape Wind couldn't develop off of Cape Cod, a perfect site for a wind farm.. Deepwater Wind barely got their project permitted when faced with the beachfront homeowners on Block Island that objected to obstructions to their water views (and the cost to produce 30MW at Deepwater is going to be astronomical). Maybe a solar panel field in the Mojave Desert – who would object except for a few rattlesnakes? Oh, but wait! We have to build 500 miles of transmission line to get the power into the grid, and you can't do that in my backyard!!!! Drive through Smithfield now and all you see is "NO TURBINE" signs.

The simple matter is, thousands of megawatts is going to be coming off line in the foreseeable future, and if we are to grow our economy and prosper as a state and as a

country, this power loss needs to be replaced. In the Northeast it's not going to happen with nuclear, coal-fire, or hydropower, so let's work with what we've got.

My Senator, Paul Fogarty, was silly enough to suggest that Burrillville already does its "fair share" with the existing Invenenergy plant. I asked him (and didn't get an answer): So why doesn't Johnston tell the rest of the state to keep their garbage, and by the way, where would he like to site the Burrillville Landfill? Or if Somerset decided that the Brayton Point Power Station's output should only go to Somerset, and everyone else can build their own power facility? Hopefully you can see the folly in this selfishly lame argument.

In summary, thank you for taking a second and reading this. I want a future in Burrillville (I've lived here for 16 years and have no plans on moving), and I want heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer. If there are minor inconveniences that go along with this, so be it.

Greg Maurer

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