

I want to thank you for being here. I'll get right to the point. My husband, my children, no MY FAMILY and I are strongly opposed to the construction of this new fossil-fueled power plant in Burrillville, Rhode Island. We purchased our home back in October of 2002. We are not Burrillville natives but we love it just the same. Back in 2002, we were so proud that our daughter was going to grow up in a home that we had worked so hard for. This was a first for both my husband and me. We had grown up in apartments and we were about to move in to a brand new house. When we first moved into our home, I had wondered what had we just done. We were out in the middle of nowhere, so I thought. It was so quiet; there were so much wildlife and trees. In the first few months, I'd seen a home that had a pig, a horse and one outing took me to a cow blocked street. I had seen deer walk down my street. I had even seen a fisher cat. I had to google that one! We saw many different birds too, including blue heron and owls. I could not believe how this place felt so much like a time that has long since passed in this area.

It did not take us long to love our new home and town. Burrillville, you see is not just a town, it's a family, a way of life. This community provides a safe and close knit environment for our children. We strive to put our family first, both our children and ourselves are immersed in the community through school, volunteering, dance and sports. You might wonder why I am telling you all this. I feel the need to explain that my family is not the only one in Burrillville. There are many, many, families who are also truly scared by the prospect of having this 900 mega-watt power plant so close.

This seven hundred million dollar plant will indeed have a major impact on so many. The health risks, air and water pollution, high risk potentially hazardous accidents, increased traffic, limited jobs are not even remotely adequate for Invenergy to assume a project like Clear River Energy Center and the promise of a savings on taxes or electricity would be acceptable to anyone in our town. It's ludicrous to think that we would want any payout to house this enormous power plant in our pristine woods.

I've read that there is a plan in place that will use oil for 60 days out of a year. That would mean huge oil tanks on site for storage, which would then entail a number of oil trucks coming in and out of our small town. Another risk! Please let's not forget that our town already has one power plant, we certainly do not need to house two.

Many years ago there was a an MBTE leak that contaminated one of the wells in town. We had a horrible time dealing with that but we have. Now this! Enough Is enough!! Please, I beg of you to help us stand up for our small town and the rest of Northern Rhode Island. We desperately want to be heard.

This proposal is sentencing our beautiful town, our families our wildlife to languish. Home values will surely plummet. We all work hard for our homes and to support our families. We do not begrudge the laborers jobs. We just want to make certain this job that they are fighting for is relocated elsewhere.

Please, help us stand up and stop this monstrosity from happening. We need help standing up for our little state, standing up for our people. We need help showing support for a safer Rhode Island. We need people who care what is being said and we do not need people that look visible detached. I know our words are just that, words and you, the sighting board, are supposed to just listen, but we need to hopefully get through to each and every one of you.

It's been stated that a decision has yet to be made. However, it seems the more research, the more I hear, the more I see that it is pretty clear to me that the decision has been made. I find it pretty ironic that we are striving to be a renewable energy state. I'm confused...I thought we were striving toward a cleaner Rhode Island. A Rhode Island that inhabitants and tourists will flock to, if this 700 million dollar, 900 megawatt natural gas plant is built it will be impossible for Rhode Island to ever meet its carbon-emission-reduction goals. We will be moving backward not forward. Anytime there's a plan in place that pushes you back it should immediately be thrown out.

A project like the Clear River Power plant should be abolished. We should be striving to renewable energy. Please, I believe that you have the power to take on this big corporation, Invenenergy. We need help point them elsewhere. We need you to be a leader that can show us how to battle against these people. We need you to put a stop to this proposed power plant. Please help us save our town, say no to this power plant in Burrillville Rhode Island or our town will diminish. I thank you for your time and consideration!!!

Sincerely,



Karie Hebert

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