



Town of South Kingstown, Rhode Island

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

May 27, 2016

Energy Facility Siting Board
Attn: Margaret C. Curran, Chairperson
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

RE: Proposed Burrillville fracked gas-fired power plant

Dear Chairperson Curran:

On behalf of the South Kingstown Conservation Commission, I write to express our unequivocal opposition to Invenergy's application to construct a 1000-megawatt, fracked gas power plant known as the Clean River Energy Center (CREC) in the heart of Burrillville's village of Pascoag. If the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) grants permission to build the power plant, emissions from the plant along with the accumulative emissions during the plant's pre-, post-construction and future use will make it impossible for Rhode Island to meet the carbon-emission reduction targets of the Resilient Rhode Island Act of 2014, R.I.G.L. §42-6-2 et seq. As you know, that Act calls for reductions of greenhouse gas emissions by 25% below 1990 levels by 2025, 50% below 1990 levels by 2035, and 85% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Given the long life of generating plants and the 700 million cost for the CREC, Rhode Island will be locked into a fossil fuel future for nearly 40 years just as the world is rapidly shifting away from fossil fuels. Moreover, the present proposal runs afoul of the mandated policy of the EFSB that, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-98-2, any proposal must assure that the:

"...construction, operation and decommissioning of the facility shall produce the fewest possible adverse effects of the quality of the state's environment; most particularly, its land and its wildlife and resources, the health and safety of its citizens, the purity of its air and water, its aquatic and marine life, and its esthetic and recreational value to the public."

We question whether this proposal addresses this policy requirement. While the proposed site may be the most economically advantageous location for the developer, the placement of this mega facility ensures an immeasurable adverse impact on the quality of the State's environment. There are certainly alternative sites in heavy industrial zones where the environmental destruction/impact would be minimized. It goes without saying that the proposed site is completely out of character for a power plant of this nature. The George Washington Management Area, Casimir Pulaski Memorial State Park, the Buck Hill Management Area the Black Hut Management Area, and several pristine bodies of water are all in the immediate vicinity. To put these natural resources at risk by siting a power plant in this location would be destructive and irresponsible.

For these reasons, as well as numerous other others, we request that you deny Invenergy's application.

Thank you.

Dorian Boardman

Dorian Boardman

Town of South Kingstown

Conservative Commission, Chair

Cc: The Honorable Gina Raimondo
The Honorable South Kingstown Town Council
Paul Roselli, Burrillville Land Trust

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