

March 31, 2016

Rec'd 3/31/16
T-OAD

To: Energy Facilities Siting Board

RE: Invenergy's CREC Project

My husband and I have been Burrillville residents for 26 years. We moved here in order to raise ours two sons in a safe, clean environment where they could learn to love and respect nature. We are opposed to the proposed energy center for all the reasons you will hear about tonight from Burrillville residents. We believe that the benefits such as tax relief and jobs that Invenergy promises are minimal and do not justify the destruction of wooded lands, loss of wildlife, groundwater depletion, contaminated watersheds, health threats and other negative effects that this power plant will have on the quality of life in Burrillville.

Our primary objection to the proposed plant is this: Climate Change. Natural Gas is referred to as clean energy because it releases less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than oil and coal. It is anything but that. Natural gas is methane, and methane is a greenhouse gas that is 100 times more potent than carbon dioxide after 20 years. All of these fuels contribute to climate change, but the recent increase in the fracked gas industry is actually accelerating climate change. The transfer from oil and coal to gas is going in the wrong direction, since reducing methane is more effective in the fight against climate change. Unless we reduce the amount of methane released into the atmosphere we may see an increase in temperature of 2 degrees Celsius as early as 2045. Scientists claim there will be a 4 to 9 meter rise in the oceans if that occurs...that's less than 30 years from now.

Methane leaks into the atmosphere at every step of the process from drilling to transporting it through pipelines. New York has banned fracked gas. Pennsylvania, where the gas for the CREC is coming from, is experiencing a very strong movement towards a moratorium on fracked gas until it can be proven safe. The research is out there. Climate change is a reality and we need to find out how to slow it down until we can replace fossil fuels completely. If we let greed and/or apathy get in the way of combatting climate change it may be too late sooner than we think. Please refer to the work of Dr. Anthony Ingraffea at Cornell University for more information on the dangers of natural gas.

We brought our sons to Burrillville and taught them to love and respect nature. We are hoping to someday see our grandchildren playing and learning to love nature here in Burrillville also.

With sincere hopes,

Paul and Carol Sullivan

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