



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPRESENTATIVE CALE P. KEABLE, *District 47*
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary

June 30, 2016

Ms. Luly Massaro, Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Pursuant to Rhode Island General Law Chapter 42-98-9.1, the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission is conducting a hearing on June 30, 2016 to review Invenergy Thermal Development LLC's ("Invenergy") application to construct and operate a power plant. The proposed location is in the village of Pascoag.

As the State Representative for District 47, I write to oppose to the application. First and foremost, this process has been flawed from the start in that the application only ever included one proposed site. Over 80 locations throughout the region were considered when Ocean State Power, which is also located in Burrillville, went through the siting process. As a result, any analysis of the project's many economic and environmental impacts is flawed because it constrained to one location and does not include a proper environmental impact study.

Even under such limited economic analysis, I oppose this project because there is no economic justification for it. The proposal calls for two turbines capable of producing 500 megawatts each. At the most recent ISO auction, Invenergy was only able to auction 500 megawatts. Regional energy demand is not present to justify this proposal. Surely, purchasers at ISO auctions possess the clearest understanding of the region's need for energy. If the market cannot justify the building of this facility how can the Public Utilities Commission?

In addition to purely economic concerns, there are numerous socio-economic concerns associated with the power plant that have not been redressed. The proposal is a colossus. The Clear River Energy Center is an \$800 million development expanding over 100 acres. The proposed site sits between two state-managed conservation area and amidst over 7,000 acres of state-preserved land as well as numerous bodies of surface water. The site and use are wholly inconsistent with local and statewide planning, zoning, and conservation plans.

Sincerely,

Cale P. Keable
RI State Representative
District 47
Burrillville & Glocester
401-222-2258

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