

652 Blue Hill Road
River Vale, NJ 07675

September 15, 2019

Board of Public Utilities
44 S. Clinton Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: **2019 Draft Energy Master Plan**

Dear BPU:

I must begin this letter by referencing a memory of a 10am weekday meeting of the BPU in Newark about 15 years ago when I lived fulltime in Fort Lee and my former Mayor, Jack Alter of Fort Lee, was a BPU Commissioner.

We loved Mayor Alter dearly, nonetheless, I have to admit I was flabbergasted when the initial 20 minutes of this public meeting began with Mr. Alter seemingly in “charge of chatter” about good restaurants for dining in a particular New Jersey area venue.

FAST FORWARD to September 3, 2019, Hackensack

Thank you for STAYING ON TOPIC in this Public Meeting and recording the comments of the approximately 40 people who spoke about the BPU EMP.

Since I was not sure I could get to the MEETING on time after work, I will address my comments in this correspondence. Thank you, again, for this opportunity.

Firstly, I decided late last year to begin a letter writing campaign to Governor Phil Murphy to please put the kibosh on the proposed North Bergen Liberty Generating Project. My letters addressed the subject matter re: **SAY NO, NO to the North Bergen Liberty Generating Project.**

My letter campaign dried up after six weekly letters (oh, inclusive of one postcard addressing hydroelectric with a swell photo of our Great Falls) mailed on the following dates: 9/30/18, 10/7/18, 10/15/18, 10/21/18 10/29/18 and 11/6/18.

With no responding correspondence from the Governor, I guess I lost heart to continue to write. HOWEVER, “SAY NO TO LIBERTY (gimmicky name, no? –after all, WHO or WHAT is being “Liberated”) remains the central point of this correspondence.

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Today, 9/15/19, I will repeat in this correspondence: **NO “new” North Bergen Generating Plant. This is dirty energy .. and only for consumption in New York.** WHO owns the land and who would benefit from this 20 acre sale? Who would work the 200 or so jobs for 6 months (or less) in construction only to be laid off? WHO CAN STAND THE IDEA of increasing our air pollution to over 415ppm in New Jersey and our surrounding urban area???

GET REAL / this is a no brainer ... NO Liberty Project. This proposed North Bergen plant stands in DIRECT opposition to Strategy 4 and 5 of the BPU's Energy Master Plan.

SUMMATION – 3 items:

NO – SAY NO to the North Bergen Liberty Generating Plant.

With respect to the OTHER 12 fossil fuel projects in New Jersey, I am a VERY CLOSE neighbor to the River Vale South to Market project which was completed on 9/1/19. We use natural gas in our River Vale homes, yet as PSE&G along with Williams Company continues to grow, we ASK these corporations to build upon their gas and electrical grids with integration of solar and wind power. NIX the fracked gas.... We can and will pay more ... We paid more for natural gas in 2010 that we did in the past five years with cheap “imported” fracked gas.

Lastly, clean energy equals clean water and clean air. To help save precious water resources and electrical overconsumption, GO BOLD, BPU.

DESIGNATE a 5 cent tax on each and every plastic bag in New Jersey. Instead of some of our 565 municipalities (i.e., Teaneck) passing laws to OUTLAW stores from using plastic bags but holding those new laws in abeyance until the respective County passes the same law ... AGAIN,

GO BOLD BPU !!!

Charge “cents” (you can determine amount) per Plastic Bag!

Monies collected, obviously, to be utilized for enhanced recycling efforts.

Sincerely,

Julie Otto
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