

From: [Mullins](#)
To: [comments, EMP](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My Comment on the NJDEP Plan
Date: Thursday, August 08, 2019 6:35:45 PM

Dear Governor Murphy and the NJDEP,

Unfortunately, signing up to comment on Tuesday AM put me at #82 today in Newark. A friend at #32 was just finishing up at 3:30 today so I realized wouldn't have a chance to comment.

Therefore, I hope this message reaches you! After having watched just today's hearing, I'm sure you are aware of the intense feeling of NJ's citizens against any fossil fuels in your plan. A good deal of my delayed commentary, however, explored some different angles on "Why" this is such a big deal:

"Surrounded by water on three sides, we should be funding wind and solar projects exclusively here in NJ. Instead, there seem to be plans still to spend big money on more pipelines and nuclear power. According to Wikipedia: "The Salem nuclear power plant with 2 units shares an artificial island in the Delaware Bay with the Hope Nuclear Power Plant."

According to the book "Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know" by Joseph Romm, with a projected sea level rise between 3 to 7 feet by the end of the century, that is a dangerous plan even if we were stopping all fossil fuel emissions now. In every other incarnation of the Earth's topography, when there was a 3 degree rise, NJ eventually lost 70% of its land mass. We are slated for well more than 3 degrees now with the latest melting of the Arctic permafrost and the death of the ocean's phytoplankton.

It is extremely dangerous to have wetlands on a mass scale capable of disrupting underground pipes carrying climate destroying methane. As you know from at least today's testimony, Bloomfield's 60+ year old pipes even now have a second compressor in Roseland being built that will increase the probability of leakage and danger. As far as the 3 nuclear reactors on an artificial island are concerned - think Fukushima.

Due to government dollars spent on fossil fuels, our rain events in the East have 70% more precipitation falls in the heaviest rain events now than it did in 1958. In an unusually dark and wet recent trip to the Hackettstown farm country last month, I was shocked to see the lack of any corn or sunflower fields that have been ubiquitous in former years. One resident told me that the whole area, after hundreds of years, has changed from a 6B to 6A agricultural zone. That will mean a shortage of corn for NJ's Garden state in future years.

The food price shortages are already happening, Oxfam says, and predicts corn prices could rise by a remarkable 500% by 2030. We simply cannot afford to support the fossil fuel corporate habit of the past and must stop immediately if we are to live on this planet.

Climate change in NJ is here and now. The fate of NJ citizen's lives are in your hands. We hope that you will act responsibly for the sake of us all.

Thank You For Your Kind Attention On This Matter,
Susan Mullins
Grandmother