

**Subject:** January 24th meeting at Portsmouth High School

**From:** Lawrence Silvia <watchesetc@cox.net>

**Date:** 12/23/2023, 6:23 AM

**To:** Kristen Masse <Kristen.L.Masse@puc.ri.gov>

**BCC:** Katherine Hatzberger <khatzberger@gmail.com>, Stephen & Lorie MacDonald <macdonalds6@cox.net>, "Lawrence Silvia Sr." <watchesetc@cox.net>

Dear Kristen,

I suppose they picked you so we have to start from scratch explaining why they should not have a major Liquified Natural Gas Vaporization facility on Old Mill Lane.

First, the gas company doesn't have the well being of the community at heart. They are doing this to make the most money. They have an emergency evacuation plan for the area all the way up to my house. I don't suppose that is because it's a safe facility. The tanker trucks are not made for country roads. They have all they can do to turn down Old Mill Lane from Wapping road. They travel in winter mostly when there may be snow and ice and of course school busses. This facility should be in a different area of the island so they would have a redundant system in case of line failure on Old Mill Lane. This was born out of pure greed.

The only reason they got this far is because the PUC has given them every thing they have asked for. Portsmouth and Middletown said no. I don't know why you are wasting our time at the Portsmouth high school. You already have made up you mind to give them everything they want.

Let me give you my back ground. I'm 82 and lived on Old Mill Lane my whole life. I was here when they paid my Uncle Louie Gomes for the right of way to put the gas line across his lower field. They built a small white gas house. Many years later during winters you could hear a hiss from the exposed pipes. We had Newport Electric at the time. They had purchased the land from across from my driveway to east of the facility. I remember them having something let go and saw the flames over a hundred feet high and having all the fire trucks show up. I could feel the heat from my house. Fortunately there wasn't a catastrophic event.

The first meeting I went to was about 6 or 7 years ago at the Portsmouth town council. They wanted to inject propane in the line during the winter to save money from Algonquin gas supplier. Evidently they were charged year round the maximum they used during the coldest months. If they supplemented with propane this amount during January and February they would save money all year. They discussed the problem of propane because it burns hotter than natural gas, but they said the percentage they would put in could be tolerated and would be ok. This was National Grid at the time. The town wasn't for it, but they did it just the same. Next came the Vaporization idea with the big trucks. The towns said no, but they got the ok from you. They have exceeded the noise and light ordinances continuously. The towns said no and you oked it. The noise was so loud at one time people couldn't talk outside there house and would be woken up at all hours of the night with the loud hiss. We had meetings to address this to no avail.

When they lost gas and had to reset all of Newport pilot lights, that played right into there hands. Now they could justify having the facility for back up in cast the had another failure. Now, what was a temporary fix, they want to make it perminant. This is a money decision, because having all your eggs in one basket on Old Mill Lane is not the best way to serve the Island. If something goes wrong with supply lines the island will lose all gas again. They need another supply from somewhere else on the island in order to have a dependable gas supply for the island.

I'm afraid this meeting is just protocall. What ever we say won't mean anything. You will give them everything they want like you have in the past.

Yes you can quote me, and yes you can call me.

Obviously I'm fed up with the whole process. It lacks common sense.

Sincerely,  
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