

Sally J. Mendzela  
12 Gamma Court  
North Providence, RI 02911  
401.261.1968  
Salgalpal@hotmail.com

January 23, 2016

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS ENERGY FACILITY  
SITING BOARD

IN RE: INVENERGY THERMAL DEVELOPMENT LLC'S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT THE CLEAR  
RIVER ENERGY CENTER IN BURRILLVILLE, RHODE ISLAND—DOCKET NO.  
SB-2015-06

I. MOTION FOR INTERVENTION OF SALLY J. MENDZELA

On November 17, 2015, the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) opened Docket SB 2015-06, regarding the proposal of Invenergy to site a 900 MW gas-fired power plant in Burrillville, Rhode Island. The proposed power plant, fired by fossil fuels, would directly emit carbon-dioxide into the atmosphere. If one takes into account the full life cycle of the fossil fuels, one finds that the total carbon-dioxide equivalent of the emissions would produce greenhouse gases with a ruinous impact on Rhode Island and the global climate.

This motion adheres to form and content of EFSB Rule 1.10(c), and participation of aforementioned person, as defined in EFSB Rule 1.2.(r) in this proceeding, will be in the public interest within the meaning of EFSB Rule 1.10(b)(3).

II. COMMUNICATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

Service in this proceeding should be made upon, and communications should be directed to the following person:

Sally J. Mendzela  
12 Gamma Court  
North Providence, RI 02911  
401-261-1968  
Salgalpal@hotmail.com

III. INTERVENOR

Intervenor follows a Buddhist path calling for an unwavering, comprehensive, meta-awareness of the sacredness of Earth as the ultimate provider of sanctuary for all sentient beings and all other forms of living organisms. Without clean breathable air, and pristine, drinkable, potable water, Earth would be unable to sustain any LIFE. Intervenor is cognizant of what appears to be a form of willful disregard for the known and unknown life-threatening dangers associated with fracking, fracked gas, and all fracking processes related to in-ground drilling and extraction, pipeline transmission, storage, shipping and burning. If protest arises from the use of the word "willful", Intervenor offers alternatives to include: disingenuous, delusional, lazy, myopic, greed-driven, cognitively compromised, or possibly apathetic. Intervenor has accepted the self-issued challenge of serving as a steward of Earth, also known as a canary in a coalmine.

#### IV.GROUNDS FOR INTERVENTION

The lateness of this submission is explained by recent access to pertinent material and an increasingly heavy conscience. 1.10(d)3

Grounds for intervention comprise but are not limited to the following. Intervenor maintains that the current Director of the Department of Environmental Management has a leak in her personal "firewall" between that position and that as a member of the Energy Facility Siting Board. Intervenor suggests that Director Coit has publicly expressed a de facto support of Spectra operations, in general, in the form of comments made on a broadcast of WJAR's Newsmakers on May 22, 2015. When asked about her feelings, as an environmentalist, on the expansion of LNG and fracking operations in Burrillville she had this to say:

"We're not concerned about environmental impact. We've taken a look at that. It's not a big emitter of gases. That project is a good project. The environmental impacts aren't large."

"I'm a pragmatic person. We'd all love to see Rhode Islanders only use renewable energy. We're very proud of how we're doing with energy efficiency. Which is probably the smartest thing-consume less."

"Right now we do not have an alternative to natural gas. It's necessary right now and in the short term to have those supplies if we're going to have a vibrant economy."

"You have to play the hand your dealt."

Intervenor suggests these comments express a profound detachment from the potential ultimate costs and risks of continuing to rely on fossil fuels. The main justification seems to be to ensure and promote a vibrant economy which is a peculiar and troubling comment from an officer of the State charged with protecting the environment and life within the borders of the Rhode Island.

Intervenor also notes a quote from Governor Gina Raimondo in advance of a meeting with NE Governors in 2015 to discuss regional energy infrastructure challenges.

"Rhode Island must create conditions that will jumpstart our struggling economy, provide more certainty on energy costs for businesses, and create jobs. To achieve this we must collaborate on a regional level to reduce energy costs and strengthen grid reliability, all while advancing important environmental goals. I am committed to moving ahead with cost-effective, regional energy infrastructure projects - including expansion of natural gas capacity - that will improve our business climate and create new opportunities for Ocean State workers. I look forward to discussing our region's pressing energy challenges with my fellow Governors, and implementing cooperative solutions that enhance New England's shared economic future."

Again, the emphasis here is placed on economics. The mention of the environment is just that, a mention. There is no elucidation of the "important environmental goals."

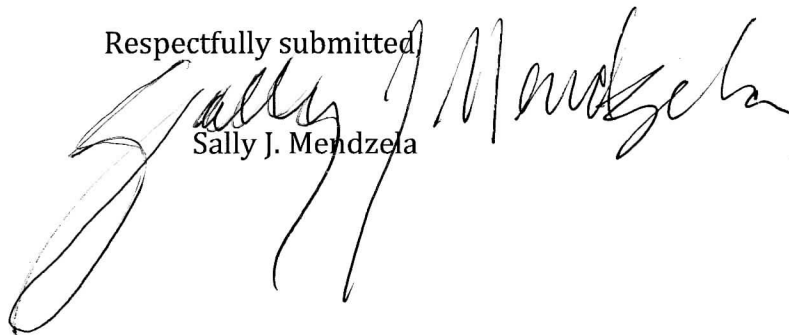
The relationship between Spectra Energy et al, and public officials in Rhode Island is based on a mutually beneficial financial agreement and any and all environmental considerations, including public health, for the people living here now as well as for future generations is peripheral and discounted. The Governor and the Director of the Department of Environmental Management have not and are not acting in good faith to protect the people and the natural resources of the State of Rhode Island.

## V.CONCLUSION

Intervenor opposes all construction of new fossil-fuel infrastructure in Rhode Island as well as Invenenergy's hydrofracked gas-fired power plant in Burrillville in particular. The construction of this facility and the energy policy of which it is a manifestation would adversely impact the transition to an energy sector based on renewable energy.<sup>1,2</sup>

Intervenor has considerable interest and is invested in protecting the environment and public health in Rhode Island. Pursuant to EFSB Rule 1.10(b)(3), intervenor's intervention is in the public interest. No other party in this proceeding is likely to adequately protect the full range of these interests. Accordingly, Intervenor has a direct and substantial interest in the outcome of this application process. Pursuant to EFSB Rule 1.4(a), aforementioned intervenor will exercise the right to appear in any proceeding in person or by an attorney.

Respectfully submitted



Sally J. Mendzela

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Howarth, *Methane emissions and climatic warming risk from hydraulic fracturing and shale gas development: implications for policy*, [http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/publications/f\\_EECT-61539-perspectives-on-airemissions-of-methane-and-climatic-warmin](http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/publications/f_EECT-61539-perspectives-on-airemissions-of-methane-and-climatic-warmin) 100815 27470.pdf

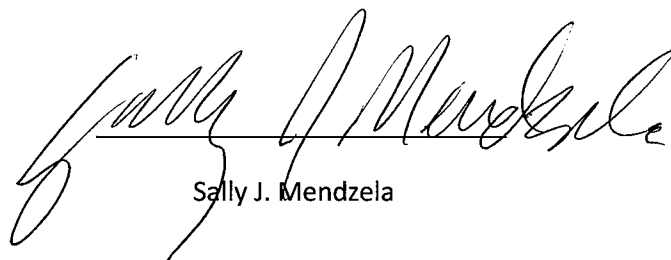
<sup>2</sup> Concerned Health Professionals of NY, *Compendium of scientific, medical, and media findings demonstrating risks and harms of fracking unconventional gas and oil extraction*, page 109, <http://concernedhealthny.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/11/PSR-CHPNY-Compendium-3.0.pdf>

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS ENERGY  
FACILITY SITING BOARD

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Re: Docket SM-2015-06

I certify that the original and ten copies of this Motion was filed with the Energy Facility Siting Board. In addition, a PDF version of this Motion was served electronically on the service list of this Docket, as that list was provided by the EFSB. I certify that all of the foregoing was done on January 25, 2016.



Sally J. Mendzela