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March 31, 2016

The Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board

Deborah Lawton  
24 Staghead Drive  
Pascoag, R.I. 02859

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Deborah Lawton and I reside at 24 Staghead Drive, Pascoag R.I., which is within 6,000 feet of the proposed power plant.

I formally convey my opposition to the proposed Clear River Energy Center project in Burrillville RI.

I have lived here for more than 25 years, along with my husband and our 2 children in this beautiful country side we call home. My wife and I along with many town folks in our community have enjoyed the peace and tranquility of living in this beautiful forested and farm region, with numerous water tributaries flowing throughout the area supporting the abundant wild life.

My most important concern is our aquifer system that supports our residents and commerce in our villages throughout town. It is well known that Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) has contaminated our two wells in the village of Pascoag and have been capped to prevent further contamination. MTBA is a known carcinogen and is responsible for host of many other dreadful diseases.

The Clear River Energy Center (CREC) would be tapping into the two contaminated wells and CREC will try to remove 90% of the MTBA contamination at best, with the balance of 10% or more flowing into the proposed power plant. The volume of water drawn down from the wells will be from 260,000 to 1,000,000 gallons daily. Twenty five percent of the MTBA water that flows through the plant will eventually flow into our sewage treatment system spreading MTBE contamination down the Clear River, Branch River, Blackstone River basins and eventually into Narragansett Bay, each day with a total volume of between 60,000 to 250,000 gallons. The balance of 200,000 to 750,000 gallons will be vaporized in the form of Steam into the atmosphere contaminating the surrounding communities in which we live in. This will cause a host of health problems in our communities and surrounding towns and states with MTBA contamination. This will rival "The Love Canal" contamination site in upstate New York and destroy our way of life. The aquifer has its limits and presently supports two villages. Allowing the CREC plant to tap into our aquifer, will cause a critical shortage in our water supply and bring harm to all the surrounding private wells that rely on this aquifer, thus causing wells to go dry. This in itself will destroy our community and affect all surrounding communities for years to come.

There are a host of many other problems that will be created from the CREC project such as, exhaust pollution, elevated sound levels, vibrations, bright lights and heavy increase of truck traffic, residential property values drastically reduced and many more problems that will arise with this project.

Consideration has to be made to the residents of this community we Love so well and I strongly recommend the State Energy Board to reject the Clear Energy River Center application for this project.

With regards,

Deborah Lawton