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October 3, 2017

Melanie Bachman, Acting Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council Ten Franklin Square New Britain CT 06051

Subject: Docket 461A

To the members of the CT Siting Council:

As an Intervenor in Docket#461A, I remain vehemently opposed to the project in its entirety. I believe it is unneeded and unwarranted and also wish to emphasize my continuing concerns regarding the environmental and lasting peripheral harm to the neighborhoods where its installation would take place should the CT Siting Council approve the project. Witnesses testifying for the Town, citizens, Town Commissioners, the Town consultant who volunteered countless hours, have all agreed on the lack of need and have strongly expressed this opinion in order to forestall a detrimental and costly folly based on old technology and squandering Connecticut ratepayers' dollars. Greenwich has made successful inroads in the efforts to conserve energy and the electricity usage has dropped as a result. In addition, new construction is up to date and more energy efficient. Most relevant is the fact that the Town is losing population rather than growing.

I was greatly disillusioned by the Siting Council's perceived impression, conveyed in various verbal jibes and snipes, that the population of Greenwich consists primarily of extremely wealthy people living in thirty-room McMansions. This is patently false. There is a large middle class here and also an underclass of townspeople, many of whom are recent immigrants, some of them shopping with food stamps, whose children qualify for free and reduced lunches at school. Another sector of our

population is the elderly who are subsisting on small fixed incomes and require aid from various Social Services agencies. The distorted notion of the financial resources of our residents has apparently led some members of the Council to suggest that if Greenwich wants some part of the project designed in a certain way, we should be slammed with a sort of "gas guzzler tax" and neighbors who abut the project should be able to pay for redirecting it because they can "actually afford to do that." These are not appropriate or cogent comments for a body that is supposed to be deciding on the merits of a proposal based only on facts of need and environmental impact.

As to my personal experience with the Siting Council, most disappointing has been the lack of respect conveyed by the Council toward the witnesses, some of whom were mocked about their credentials, hurried through their testimony with complaints that the questions had been posed previously and criticized for not having attended certain Hearings. In a memorable and deplorable instance of disrespect at the last Hearing witnesses, including myself, were forced to sit at the table next to the attorney for Eversource, who did not have the good manners to relinquish his place as would be the protocol. This disregard of conventional propriety was verbally approved by the Council Chair on the basis of hurrying things along as the hour was getting late.

I implore you, as CT Siting Council members, who wield great authority, to put aside any misconceptions you may harbor about the Town of Greenwich and request that you make your decision regarding Docket #461A without prejudice or malice toward our good people and their way of life.

Respectfully Yours,

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