STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
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Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

March 4, 2011

Senator Anthony J. Musto
22nd Senate District
State of Connecticut General Assembly
State Capitol
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: **PETITION NO. 377A** - Bridgeport Energy, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the approval modification in Petition No. 377 for the existing Bridgeport Harbor Station 520 MW combined cycle gas turbine generating facility, in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Dear Senator Musto:

Thank you very much for your letter dated February 23, 2011 with regard to the above-referenced petition now before the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) and scheduled to be heard at a public hearing on Tuesday, March 8th.

By way of background, the Council approved construction of this electric generating facility on August 6, 1997. A public hearing was held in the City of Bridgeport on July 17, 1997 and as you know, the facility was built and is now operational.

The petition now before us was filed with the Council on November 17, 2010 and seeks to modify the August 6, 1997 final decision for this facility. The petitioner has requested the Council reopen the matter on the basis of changed conditions. Specifically, the petitioner is requesting a modification of the Council's August 6, 1997 final decision for this generating plant to eliminate the requirement to maintain the ability to operate on No. 2 fuel oil and to allow the plant to operate exclusively on natural gas.

The company believes that this requirement is not only redundant and the storage poses its own environmental concerns, but the cost of maintaining the more expensive alternative is unduly burdensome to consumers. Furthermore, in response to your concern about air emission requirement set asides, the DEP air emissions permit would not change as a result of the elimination of the backup fuel system; the permit would remain as it is today because the facility now operates and will continue to operate exclusively on natural gas.

The Council granted the petitioner's request to reopen the final decision for this petition at a Council meeting held on December 2, 2010. At this time, the Council also announced that it had scheduled a public hearing on the matter for March 8, 2011 at the Council office in New Britain. A copy of the Council's decision to reopen the petition and hold a hearing was sent to Mayor Bill Finch and City Attorney Edmund Schmidt on December 15, 2010.

Once a petitioner brings their request to us, we are bound by certain time constraints. Moreover, we may not comment on matters pending before us.

By way of example, the same request was made and granted for Milford Power and that community felt confident that we would consider their needs just as well in our offices as we could in their town. We received no oral or written comments on the matter.

You and your constituents are welcome to attend the public hearing scheduled on March 8, 2011 at 2 PM at our office in New Britain to voice your concerns. There will be an opportunity for the public to make statements into the record at the beginning of the public hearing. Furthermore, you and your constituents may also submit written comments to the Council up to 30 days after the public hearing.
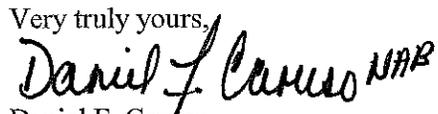
All of the filings in this matter can be viewed on our website:

http://www.ct.gov/csc/cwp/view.asp?a=2397&q=470058

If, however, you truly believe a public hearing on this issue held in the city of Bridgeport would be productive, we will be happy to schedule one at which you and your constituents might speak and be heard.

I look forward to seeing you at the hearing and to such other communications as you may wish us to know.

Very truly yours,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman