



City of Beacon, New York
Office of the Mayor
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MAYOR KYRIAOCU AGAIN TESTIFIES AGAINST PROPOSED GAS-FIRED POWER PLANT

BEACON, NY: Mayor Kyriacou testified yesterday evening against the proposed Danskammer Energy, LLC power plant project during a public hearing held by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Danskammer Energy, LLC is proposing to construct a new natural gas fired power generation facility in the Town of Newburgh. Mayor Kyriacou's comments can be found below.

Good evening and thank you for holding this public hearing.

My name is Lee Kyriacou and I am the Mayor of the City of Beacon; previously I served 18 years as Beacon City Councilmember, dating back to 1994. My city elected positions are part-time ones, and I have made a career in banking and consulting, including head of planning for two of the largest U.S. banks and experience assessing large investment proposals. I am trained as a lawyer and an economist. I previously testified in opposition to the proposed Danskammer power plant at the March 31 public hearing of the New York State Siting Board.

In 2019 our City Council unanimously adopted a resolution that I drafted, declaring our opposition to the proposed gas-fired power plant. Rather than testify on the myriad of reasons that a plant at this site will harm the quality of life for residents in Beacon and the Hudson Valley, I will focus on **the lack of need for this power and the proposal's inconsistency with the State's own energy goals.**

In the City's resolution, it was pointed out:

- That the NY Independent System Operator's Reliability Needs Assessment found no statewide gap in power generation or transmission capacity;
- That two new power plants were recently built in the Hudson Valley, subsidized by large Federal incentives to provide capacity for the New York metropolitan region;
- That New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act sets targets of 70% renewable electricity by 2030, 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040, and net zero carbon emissions economy-wide by 2050; and
- That the City of Beacon supports local organized labor and prevailing wage construction, but wants other projects to generate these jobs.

Since our 2019 resolution, additional information makes the City's opposition only clearer.

- The NYS Power Generation Advisory Panel recommended a moratorium on new and repowered fossil fuel plants.
- The State DEC found that this proposed plant's application had not justified project need or shown compliance with NYS's Climate law.

To restate, this project review should fail due to lack of need and inconsistency with the State's climate goals, without even beginning to consider environmental and health impacts. Thank you.

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