

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 05/23/02 EDO CONTROL: G20020271
DOC DT: 05/02/02
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Arlen Specter

TO:

Chairman Meserve

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN **

CRC NO: 02-0324

Chairman Meserve

DESC:

ROUTING:

New Gas-Fired Power Plant Proposed by Florida
Power and Light Directly Adjacent to Existing
Exelon Nuclear Facility (Thomas DiBello)

Travers
Paperiello
Kane
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Miller, RI
Zimmerman, NSIR

DATE: 05/03/02

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:
NRR Collins

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

ARLEN SPECTER
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
APPROPRIATIONS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3802

Via Facsimile

May 2, 2002

The Honorable Richard A. Meserve
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chairman Meserve:

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors of Limerick Township, Pennsylvania, I request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review Florida Power and Light's (FP&L) proposal to build a gas-fired power plant adjacent to the existing Limerick nuclear Generating Station operated by Exelon Corporation.

The Limerick Township officials have a number of concerns which are addressed in the attached letter. I request that you review the issues raised by the Township and respond directly to Mr. Thomas DiBello, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Limerick Township. I further ask that a copy of your response be provided to my Washington office to the attention of Tom Dower on my staff.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

AS/trd

Attachment.

cc: Mr. Thomas DiBello



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April 30, 2002

By Fax (215-597-0406) and 1st Class Mail

The Honorable Arlen Specter
United States Senator
C/O Philadelphia Office
600 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

RE: Limerick Township

Dear Senator Specter:

I write to thank you for your valued and respected input, assistance and cooperation personally, and thru your offices, with specific reference to the concerns of both the Board of Supervisors and our, and your, constituents both locally and throughout the Southeastern Pennsylvania area regarding the new gas-fired Power Plant proposed by Florida Power and Light (FP&L) directly adjacent to our existing Exelon Nuclear facility.

In this regard, in my capacity as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Limerick Township, please accept this as a specific request that you urgently request The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to immediately commence a comprehensive review of the proposed site with specific reference and emphasis on site selection as related to the clear and obvious concerns of the citizens of Limerick Township, and surrounding communities with respect to Homeland Security and their Health, Safety and Welfare largely ignored by the FP&L proposal and authorizing entities to date.

To highlight these concerns we refer to our meeting and communication with your staff regarding issues including, but not limited to;

- The FP&L proposal clearly violating the existing Exelon exclusion zone of 2,500 feet from their nuclear reactor.
- FP&L's proposal is in direct violation of Township Zoning ordinances.
- The proposed FP&L facility would be within 75 feet of the communities' primary water source (Perkiomen Pipeline) already additionally utilized to cool the Exelon nuclear reactor.



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- Any mishap at the FP&L facility could thus easily sever the pipeline with devastating impact.
- The Montgomery County Planning Commission has vigorously recommended against this project, raising multiple concerns and issues remaining unresolved.
- The FP&L facility, as proposed would be directly adjacent to two major natural gas pipelines. Accordingly it's positioning and proximity to the two natural gas lines, the Perkiomen pipeline and the Exelon Nuclear Facility collectively contribute to making the site a potentially devastating terrorist target of a Chernobyl-like level of magnitude in Southeast Pennsylvania.
- Specifically required components of DEP's air quality permit process have not been conducted raising clear queries as to their recent approval.
- Exelon's Limerick Nuclear Facility, of five representative plants studied, has already been identified as 1 of 2 facilities at risk from potential external causes eg. vehicular sabotage. The NRC, based on its' existing licensing standards, should mandate a directive to relocate this project to an alternate site ameliorating the clear threats to the health, safety and welfare of residents of Southeast Pennsylvania and in consideration of the obvious potential threats to Homeland Security.
- The proposed FP&L site further is in direct conflict against innumerable qualifying criteria, ignored to date. FP&L is unable to adequately buffer noise levels penetrating surrounding townships; it violates the long standing Limerick Township growth management and comprehensive plan in multiple ways; it is proposed in an area with two geological faults and additionally endangers multiple Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Federal Endangered Species; misinformation to the DEP has it positioned in a "Greenfield" instead of a "Brownfield" location.
- The FP&L facility proposed is a non-secure facility in, or at, the exclusion zone. The possible, if not predictable ramifications



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and related potential for devastation and chaos are clear in contrast to the fact that, by any criteria, there is no justification for the associated risks and no record in North America of a major non-secure gas-fired Power Plant positioned in such close proximity to a nuclear facility and thus no data to predict either the level of threat to Homeland Security or the Health related impact on residents as the plumes from the Exelon Nuclear Facility mix in the atmosphere with the emissions of the FP&L facility. Thus the impact of acid rain, ammonia slip, formaldehyde, etc. and potentially related carcinomas, among other concerns, respiratory and other, are both real and alarming concerns to our constituents.

The above is a mere sampling of the types of concerns related to the site proposed for the FP&L facility. We stand in direct opposition to the current site selection and accordingly appreciate your assistance and cooperation in requesting the NRC initiate a full review, without delay, but in concert with the United States office of Homeland Security.

Thank you again for your shared concern and cooperation in this regard and the much appreciated professionalism and input from your staff with special reference to Executive Director, Anthony Cunningham.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas DiBello
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Limerick Township
Montgomery County, PA

Cc: J. Duncan Campbell III (Washington, D.C.)
Anthony B. Cunningham (Phila.)
Earl Freilino (Harrisburg)
Thomas P. Halfpenny, Esq; Gregory J. Dean, Esq. (Solicitors)
Supervisors - Limerick Township