

When you think Northeast, think...



October 30, 2008

Michael A. Canova
Project Manager
EPR Project Branch - Mailstop T-7E18
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Re: Proposed construction of Bell Nuclear Plant

Dear Mr. Canova:

This letter of support for the proposed construction of the Bell Bend nuclear plant by PPL Electric is sent on behalf of the board of officers and directors and of Penn's Northeast, Inc. (PNE). PNE is a 501(C)(3) organization dedicated to regional economic development marketing for Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe and Wayne Counties. PNE represents eight industrial development corporations and nearly one million residents.

Having new sources of energy generation will be extremely important for our region's ability to continue to grow and prosper. When companies are going through a site selection process they use various tools to determine the best locations for capital investment and consider numerous factors in determining the optimal locations. These factors vary from industry to industry, but energy availability and costs are always a key component.

We support nuclear energy based on our experience. The proposed advanced-design Bell Bend nuclear plant will be sited near the company's existing two-unit Susquehanna nuclear power plant that has operated safely and reliably for the past twenty plus years.

We anticipate the Bell Bend nuclear unit would create thousands of construction jobs and hundreds of new permanent jobs, which would benefit the economic well being of both the immediate area and the surrounding region. In addition the economic impact annually would be significant.

PPL is a tremendous corporate citizen and always works to make our communities and region a better place to live, work and play. PPL has been and continues to be a strong supporter of economic development and was instrumental in the formation and development of our regional initiative. In addition, the corporation and their employees support our communities both in giving of their financial resources and volunteer time to non-profit organizations, business education partnerships, hospitals and universities and much, much more. By doing so they indirectly enhance our regions ability to retain, grow and attract new industries.

We strongly urge the Commission to approve this project and thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Penny S. Cannella".

Penny S. Cannella
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Leonard".

Charles Leonard
Chairman of the Board

cc: Richard Beasley