

*Robert W. Buchner, Jr.*  
*District Attorney of Montour County*  
*100 Charlene Drive*  
*Danville, PA 17821*

December 18, 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: PPL, Inc. – New nuclear plant at Bell Bend**

Dear Mr. Canova:

Please consider this as a letter in support of a new nuclear power plant at Bell Bend, Luzerne County, PA by PPL, Inc.

I am quite familiar with PPL as a good corporate citizen in Montour County, PA where I have served as the elected District Attorney for the past 17 years. The company has operated a coal fired generating plant in our county for nearly 40 years. Frankly, I would prefer that our county have a new nuclear power plant here.

I do not think that there is a question that we need additional sources of electrical power in the northeast portion of the United States. We need to have industry compete in a global market place. International competitors have access, in some instances, to cheaper sources of electricity to power their industries. This puts the United States at a competitive disadvantage. Those countries do not have to worry about environment.

If one accepts the premise that there is a need for new nuclear power plants, then there are only two essential questions to be resolved: who should build them and where should they be built.

The answers are clear from my vantage point: PPL, Inc. should be included and Bell Bend in Luzerne County, PA should be one location.

I am personally acquainted with many of the local top management. First, they are highly proficient in the operation of a nuclear power plant. Second, they put the safety of the community as paramount in their thinking. Third, they communicate to all concerned on matters of public import regarding the operation of their plant. Fourth, PPL and its employees are active in their communities in virtually every aspect – they make a positive impact with their numerous contributions of time, leadership and concern. Yet, they do not try to control or dominate local governments.

Overall, PPL as a company has a powerful corporate culture that puts safety first, safety second and not surprisingly – safety third! Everything else, like profits, comes after that. It is hard to establish such a corporate culture, even harder to maintain it. The track record of PPL on safety issues is known to your agency as its regulator. To all of us local government officials, it is something we take for granted .... this has been going on now for nearly 30 years.

With regard to siting a new nuclear plant, this area offers something regulators should seriously consider – stability .... especially in the Montour, Columbia and lower Luzerne County areas.

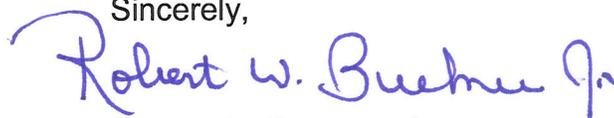
The work force will find stable communities with strong school systems, recreational opportunities and low crime rates, places that workers would want to establish and raise their families. I believe that a stable work force is a safe and healthy work force. Our lives in central PA are not filled with hectic and frustrating commutes. We have the beauty and serenity of the mountains. We have the joy of families looking forward to high school athletic events, band concerts, musical and drama plays and matters which resolve around school and church.

People here can and do enjoy a very fit and healthy lifestyle which is conducive to healthy employees. Our crime rate is extremely low and people here do not live in fear of crime. We have a low stress lifestyle in central PA.

I think that an area where employees lead a healthy, non-stressful and stable lifestyle is critical when consideration is given to the location of a new nuclear power plant.

PPL is the company that should be granted a license to operate such a facility right here in central PA. This is a serious answer to a straight forward question. I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert W. Buehner, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert W. Buehner, Jr.  
District Attorney of Montour County

RWBj/tla

Cc: Joseph Scopelliti, PPL