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January 14, 2009

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

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Dear Mr. Canova:

I am writing in support of the proposed Bell Bend nuclear plant in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. As the Democratic chairman of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, I am well aware of the importance of nuclear power to our state's environment and economy. A nuclear facility has been in Luzerne County for the past 25 years, and I have always been supportive of it as it has been a good neighbor.

A new nuclear unit will provide much needed electricity in Pennsylvania without adding greenhouse gas emissions. In addition the proposed Bell Bend nuclear unit would create thousands of construction jobs and hundreds of new permanent jobs, which would benefit the economic health of this area and the surrounding region.

I have found that PPL and its employees support the community in many ways. A new nuclear unit would create a significant ripple effect throughout the local economy that will help the housing market, retail businesses and service providers such as restaurants and hotels. We need new sources of electric generation for northeastern Pennsylvania to grow and prosper.

Thank you for your consideration, I would ask that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission look favorably on the proposed Bell Bend nuclear plant.

Sincerely,

Raphael J. Musto
State Senator

SUNSI Review Complete
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add = S. Imboden
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