



NEW JERSEY SENATE

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Dear Friends:

As New Jersey's energy demands continue to climb, the state will desperately need to find power from sources that can meet consumer demand without adding to the buildup of greenhouse gases. Not only is this need spelled out in the state's Energy Master Plan, but it is recognized by the many residents who already have turned to alternative energy for their own homes.

But New Jersey needs to ensure a steady, constant flow of clean energy to consumers. That is why I support PSEG's application to construct a new nuclear generating facility at its Salem County site.

PSEG Nuclear has been a long-standing good neighbor to Salem and Cumberland counties. The company's current Salem 1, Salem 2 and Hope Creek stations employ 1,500 residents from Salem and Cumberland counties – it ranks as the largest employer in Salem County. The company has always acted in a clear and transparent fashion and has proven itself to be a good corporate citizen.

Moreover, PSEG Nuclear has been an important economic partner to Salem City and an active member of the South Jersey Chamber of Commerce. The company has also supported local schools and communities through the annual payment of more than \$1.8 million in property taxes. PSEG Nuclear has also worked closely with Salem County College and the Salem County Vocational Technical School to create specialized training programs to ensure students have the skills necessary to get good jobs.

Construction of the proposed reactor would not only provide tangible economic benefits to the entire South Jersey region, but to Salem and Cumberland counties in particular. With unemployment rates well above 10 percent in both counties, the region would be immediately and positively impacted by the creation of at least 1,400 – and as many as 2,400 – construction jobs. Once completed, the generation station would create between 400 and 700 permanent jobs – jobs whose pay would exceed the county average.

PSEG Nuclear's Salem facilities have always been operated in a safe and reliable manner. There is absolutely no reason to think this track record would change through the construction of a new generation facility.

For the reasons stated above, I support PSEG's early site permit application.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Sweeney
Senate President
Third Legislative District

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