

TOWN OF SCRIBA

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
42 CREAMERY ROAD
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126



OFFICES:
(315) AREA CODE

FAX
343-9087

SUPERVISOR
343-3019

TOWN CLERK
343-3375

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343-3894

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
342-6894

BUILDING INSPECTOR
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342-6342

October 17, 2016

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Docket ID NRC-2016-0195
James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant; Consideration of Approval of
Transfer of License and Conforming Amendment; Application for Direct
Transfer of License

ATTN: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff:

The Town of Scriba is uniquely positioned to provide comments on the sale of the James A. FitzPatrick (JAF) Nuclear Power Plant to Exelon Corp. Scriba is the host community for all three nuclear facilities located in Oswego County, New York. The presence of the nuclear power plants is seen as a positive development for the region for nearly 50 years. The benefits of continuing operation by a responsible owner and operator makes sense for the region, the State of New York, and the nation.

ENERGY

With approximately 3,345 MW of electricity generated amongst Upstate New York's four nuclear facilities (including Ginna), the State of New York can ill-afford to have even one of its nuclear plants go off line. The negative impact from such an untimely retirement would result in increased electricity costs to the entire state. Exelon is a proven owner and operator of nuclear power plants and its ownership of JAF will provide the continuity needed to meet the state's demand for constant, reliable electricity for the grid.

ECONOMY

Consider the economics of continued operation of JAF under new ownership: the preservation of over 600 well-paying jobs; regular employment for 1,000 skilled tradesmen and women during refueling outages; \$500 million in regional economic activity; \$74 million payroll; over \$17 million in real property taxes to local municipalities and a school district that derives a full 25% of its budget from

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taxes paid from JAF alone. The economics alone, for a region of the nation that regularly ranks at the bottom of economic indicators and forecasts – with the nuclear power plants operating – simply cannot afford the premature retirement of JAF if it is to survive and prosper at this time.

ENVIRONMENT

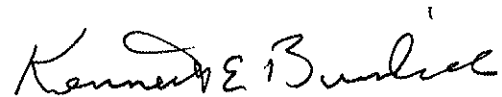
JAF produces enough carbon-free electricity to power 800,000 homes and avoid over 3 million tons of CO2 emissions *annually*. As a cornerstone of the State of New York's Clean Energy Standard, and its nation-leading goal of reducing carbon emissions by 40% by the year 2030, the nation's carbon reduction goals will not be met without JAF operating through its current license period.

CONCLUSION

As the host community closest to this facility, we are abundantly aware of the environmental risks others point to as justification for closing all nuclear facilities and negating the sale of JAF. Such concern is misplaced when considered under the record of responsible operation that JAF has received, and will continue to receive, throughout its license. The local community welcomes the continued operation of JAF; we do not fear its continued operation, especially under new ownership.

The Town of Scriba urges the NRC to approve the transfer of the FitzPatrick operating license from Entergy to Exelon. We urge the NRC to approve the purchase of FitzPatrick from Entergy to Exelon for \$110 million. We urge the NRC to take affirmative action in an expeditious manner whereby the NRC approvals will be completed on or before March 1, 2017 in order to allow for a closure on the facility by April 1, 2017.

Sincerely,



Kenneth E. Burdick
Town Supervisor