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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

September 16, 1999

William Beecher, Director  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Chairman Beecher:

It is our understanding that a request for the transfer of ownership interests in certain nuclear generating facilities from Duquesne Light Company to FirstEnergy is currently pending before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. We are writing to ask that this request be denied.

The transfer of ownership of these generating facilities is a part of the restructuring plan of Duquesne Light Company, approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. That plan was submitted pursuant to requirements established by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in legislation designed to de-regulate the electric utility industry in the Commonwealth.

Specifically, state law requires that the state Commission "must resolve certain transitional issues in a manner that is fair to customers, electric utilities, investors, the employees of electric utilities, local communities, non-utility generators of electricity and other affected parties." The statute recognizes that utilities could make changes that could "entail the closure of facilities or reduction in employee levels. If such actions are to be undertaken, the utility must fully inform the commission of the impact of such decisions on local communities and on social services and of any tax implications of the actions. The utility is expected to discuss the transition to competition with its employees or their certified representatives and may provide severance, retraining, early retirement and outplacement services."

We, the undersigned, intervened in the Duquesne Light Company restructuring case to ensure that the impact on the community and the workers was fully addressed by the Commission in authorizing the restructuring plan and the related transfer of generating assets. To its credit, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ordered both Duquesne Light and FirstEnergy to address these issues in the transfer of these assets. FirstEnergy agreed to adhere to the collective bargaining agreement in effect with the workers at the affected generating plants and agreed to certain standards and procedures in implementing reductions in force. Those standards and procedures were put in place to protect public health and safety, as well as the health and safety of plant workers.

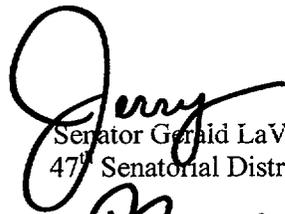
Now it appears that FirstEnergy has elected to ignore the terms of that agreement, and therefore the terms of the Public Utility Commission order. The company has implemented reductions in

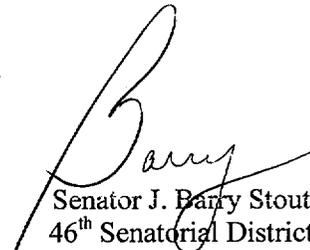
force that we believe clearly threaten the safety of the workers remaining at these facilities as well as the safety of general public.

For these reasons we urge you to deny the request currently before you, and to compel Duquesne Light Company and FirstEnergy to show evidence that they intend to adhere to all of the terms and conditions of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Order authorizing approval of Duquesne's Restructuring Plan.

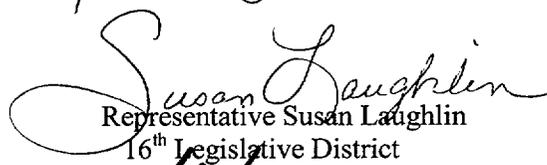
We thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Gerald LaValle  
47<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

  
Senator J. Barry Stout  
46<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

  
Representative Nick Colafella  
15<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

  
Representative Susan Laughlin  
16<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

  
Representative Victor Lescovitz  
Democratic Policy Chairman  
46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

  
Representative Mike Veon  
Democratic Whip  
14<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

  
Commissioner Bea Schulte  
Chairman, Beaver County

  
Commissioner Dan Donatella  
Beaver County

  
Commissioner Nancy Loxley  
Beaver County

cc. Diane Screnci, Regional Director  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

The Honorable James Seif, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

The Honorable John Quain, Chair  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission