

TOWN OF CLINTON

Resolution No. 23 of 2020

RESOLUTION REGARDING DANSKAMMER POWER PLANT PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, Danskammer Energy, LLC (" Danskammer"), seeks a permit through the State's Article 10 power plant siting process to build and operate a new gas- fired power plant with a potential generating capacity of 525 - 575 megawatts on the shores of the Hudson River in the Town of Newburgh, referred to as the Facility Repowering Project, and

WHEREAS, Danskammer has filed an application with the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (the Siting Board), which includes a description of the proposed facility, potential environmental and health impacts, proposed studies to evaluate those impacts, proposed mitigation measures and reasonable alternatives to the project; and

WHEREAS, several communities in the Hudson Valley have already expressed support or opposition to the proposed plant, while other communities may have deferred taking a position, or have taken no position to date; and

WHEREAS, gas- powered plants emit pollutants that harm local air quality and public health; the Hudson Valley has ongoing air quality issues, as evidenced, e. g., by Dutchess County's "D" ozone rating by the American Lung Association; and

WHEREAS, the existing power plant located at the site is an older facility, currently operating as a "peaker" facility that is used only during periods of peak electric demand less than 3% of the year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new power plant would produce electricity at a lower environmental impact per kilowatt hour but is expected to operate year- round as a baseload facility and if built would have a decades-long lifespan; as a base load facility, the proposed power plant would emit significantly more pollutants than the current plant does as a peaker facility; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Reliability Needs Assessment of the New York Independent System Operator (dated November 2018) found no statewide gap in power generation or transmission capacity in the next decade without a new Danskammer facility, notwithstanding the impending closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plants; and

WHEREAS, given the very large increase in proposed renewable energy projects, including offshore wind and utility-scale solar, recently proposed as a result of the adoption of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), future electric generation needs as older fossil fuel plants retire are expected to be met by renewable resources supported by energy storage; and

WHEREAS, two new power plants in the Hudson Valley have recently been built, partly in response to federal incentives to provide capacity for the New York metropolitan region, as opposed to providing capacity to serve only the Hudson Valley; and

WHEREAS, New York State recently passed the CLCPA, which sets targets of 70% renewable electricity by 2030, 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040, and net zero carbon emissions economy-wide by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the proposed power plant if constructed could increase the levels of greenhouse gases emitted by over 4000%, and increase levels of other pollutants that threaten public health by 300% to 2500%, according to data from Danskammer's Article 10 application;

WHEREAS permanent jobs at the proposed plant will remain approximately the same as the existing plant; and

WHEREAS, the property taxes and other financial payments from the proposed plant will not benefit the Town of Clinton.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clinton opposes the construction of a new Danskammer power plant on the Hudson River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clinton urges Governor Cuomo and the Siting Board convened under Article 10 of the State Public Service Law to consider the concerns and position stated herein when considering Danskammer' proposal to build and operate a new facility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clinton urges Governor Cuomo and New York State to focus additional economic development resources into the Hudson Valley to provide prevailing wage jobs for the construction and operation of clean power generation, brownfield clean-up, or other appropriate economic development projects in the Hudson Valley; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clinton is directed to submit this statement to the Siting Board and to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo.

June 9, 2020



Carol-Jean Mackin, Town Clerk

