



Mario Cilento
President

Terrence L. Melvin
Secretary-Treasurer

January 4, 2021

Mr. John B. Rhodes, Chair
New York State Public Service Commission
Agency Building 3
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

VIA E-MAIL

Re: Danskammer Energy Center Article 10 Application

Dear Chair Rhodes:

On behalf of the 2.5 million members, retirees and families of the New York State AFL-CIO, I write to urge the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment to deem the repowering application of Danskammer Energy Center complete and compliant with Article 10 regulations.

The New York State AFL-CIO believes that the repowering of Danskammer is critical to the future reliability of our energy infrastructure, and in turn essential to our members' short- and long-term ability to build, serve, and fuel the state's economy.

In addition, Danskammer Energy Center has entered into a project labor agreement on the construction of the repowered facility and has agreed to union neutrality for the operations of the plant. The project is estimated to generate 450 construction jobs and additional permanent jobs for the operations of the facility. These agreements will help ensure that those jobs will provide area-standard, family-sustaining wages and benefits and will be performed by a highly skilled, well-trained workforce.

This project will also help alleviate the desperate need for revenue for our schools and local governments. Danskammer is estimated to provide \$50 million in tax revenue to ensure vital services including education, health care and public safety for residents of Orange County.

Finally, the new Danskammer is being developed as a hydrogen-ready plant. Aside from the benefits of a zero-emission facility, this means that as technology to transport and store hydrogen advances, there will be additional opportunities for job creation in the green energy sector at Danskammer.

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We believe that the people of New York would not be well-served by any further delay in the siting process. Once again, I urge you to determine the Danskammer application is complete and commence public hearings as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mario Cilento". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

Mario Cilento
President

MC:lc
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cc: Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Commissioner Basil Seggos, New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation
Commissioner Howard A. Zucker, New York State Department of Health
Commissioner Eric Gertler, New York State Department of Economic Development
Chair Richard L. Kaufmann, New York State Energy Research and
Development Authority