

Millwright and Machinery Erectors Local Union No. 740

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MEETS 1st THURSDAY NIGHTS

FRANK IPPOLITI
RECORDING SECRETARY

0-10-04

BOB SEEGER
BUSINESS MANAGER

May 8, 2009

Mr. Paul DeCotis
Deputy Secretary for Energy
Chairman, Energy Planning Board
Executive Chamber, 2nd Fl.
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Mr. DeCotis:

I serve as Business Manager for Millwright and Machinery Erectors Local 740. My members have a strong interest in your deliberations towards a new statewide energy policy, and I appreciate the opportunity to offer our recommendations on the construction of this new plan. As such, I would kindly ask these recommendations be included as part of your efforts.

First and foremost, any statewide energy plan must address the critical issue of energy supply – and namely base load power supply. To address this, the state energy plan should support the passage a fuel-neutral power plant citing law in the spirit of the previous Article X statute. A comprehensive bill such as this would expedite the process for citing new sources of base load power, thus stabilizing energy costs for working families and countering our states growing demand for power. This will also lead to new jobs and facilitate new investments to our communities. In today's economic climate, this fact cannot be overstated.

Millwrights know the value that nuclear power brings the state. With nuclear power facilities such as Indian Point Energy Center responsible for hundreds of union jobs, millions in economic impact for their surrounding communities and the production of clean, reliable and affordable based load power, they must continue to play a major role in our state's future energy portfolio. We strongly recommend that the state energy plan support the continued operations of the Indian Point Energy Center and the continued operation of upstate nuclear facilities.

Finally, we strongly encourage the next energy plan to be attuned towards lowering costs for working families and small businesses. Scaling back utility fees, encouraging sensible property tax relief for utilities and independent power producers and continuing to support competition in the state's electricity markets are all strong steps that can be taken to stabilize and lower energy costs for New Yorkers.

We appreciate the opportunity to share these views with you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Seeger
Business Manager