

**RESOLUTION R.535-102021**

**EXPLANATION: A Resolution of the Municipal Council requesting that the State of New Jersey permits for the proposed gas-fired power plant to be located in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge, New Jersey.**

**WHEREAS**, Competitive Power Ventures has proposed to build a gas-fired power plant (“**CPV Keasbey**”) in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge, New Jersey, in a densely populated region within the most densely populated state; and

**WHEREAS**, Central New Jersey already suffers high levels of air pollution from fossil-fuel power plants which are among the largest sources of such pollution in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, CPV Keasbey would emit millions of tons of GHG (greenhouse gases) annually and these emissions would be in direct opposition to the goals of the NJ Clean Energy Act, EO 28, EO 100, the 2019 Energy Master Plan and New Jersey’s Environmental Justice statute; and

**WHEREAS**, CPV Keasbey’s application also proposes for the facility to potentially emit VOC’s (volatile organic compounds), sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, sulfuric acid, carbon monoxide, ammonia, and large quantities of other harmful pollutants into the air; and

**WHEREAS**, according to *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, gas infrastructure facilities can annually emit hundreds of tons of pollutants including particulate matter, toxic chemicals such as sulfur dioxide, mercury, and known carcinogens such as benzene and formaldehyde, and are known to increase the severity of asthma and other respiratory diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Lung Association “State of the Air 2021” report gives Middlesex County the grade of “F” for ground-level ozone air pollution and shows the County already has significant populations with pediatric and adult asthma, COPD, and other conditions which will be exacerbated by additional volumes of air pollution, and studies have shown ground-level ozone causes premature death; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term negative impact of polluted air and the poor health conditions it creates or aggravates contributed to the high death toll from COVID-19 in New Jersey and will continue to put these populations at higher-than-average risk, especially in our minority communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the communities that would be most negatively impacted by the construction of the proposed power plant in the Keasbey section of Woodbridge are all considered “overburdened” under New Jersey’s landmark environmental justice legislation adopted into law in 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Council has a principal responsibility to protect the health and safety of its residents and businesses; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

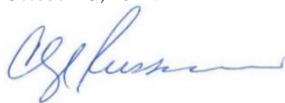
Section 2. The Municipal Council, in the interest of protecting its residents and businesses, opposes construction of the gas-burning power plant proposed by CPV Keasbey.

Section 3. The Municipal Council calls on Governor Phil Murphy and the Department of Environmental Protection to oppose all fossil fuel projects in overburdened environmental justice communities, and impose a moratorium on same until rules are established pursuant to the state’s environmental justice law.

Section 4. The Clerk shall forward this Resolution to Governor Phil Murphy, Congressman Frank Pallone, Acting Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Sean LaTourette, State Senator Patrick Diegnan, Assemblyman Robert Karabinchak, Assemblyman Sterley Stanley, and the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that this is a true and compared copy of an Resolution adopted by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison at their Combined Meeting of October 13, 2021.



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Cheryl Russomanno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk