A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBOKEN, N.J.

AT A MEETING HELD ON: MARCH 23, 2022

SPONSORED BY: SECONDED BY:

Phil Cohen James Doyle

CITY CLERK

CITY OF HOBOKEN RESOLUTION NO.: 22-308

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOBOKEN EXPRESSING THE CITY'S OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTION OF CPV KEASBEY POWER PLANT IN WOODBRIDGE, NJ

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 fossilfuel power plants, which are among the largest sources of such pollution in New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, CPV Keasbey's application states that its proposal is for the facility to potentially emit 2,374,633 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 policies; and,

WHEREAS, if approved and built, the power plant would combine with the neighboring CPV plant to form a massive facility that will be one of the state's worst climate polluters, and CPV is seeking permits to potentially emit approximately 4.6 million tons of GHG from the site; and,

WHEREAS, CPV Keasbey's application also proposes for the facility to potentially emit nearly 50 tons of volatile organic compounds, nearly 40 tons of sulfur dioxide, more than 123 tons of particulate matter, more than 25 tons of sulfuric acid, more than 110 tons of carbon monoxide, more than 125 tons of 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 are out of compliance with EPA limits on ozone, but this proposed plant will be allowed to increase the concentration of ozone precursors (volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides) resulting in increased ground-level ozone in this region through the purchase of "ozone credits;" and,

WHEREAS, the American Lung Association State of the Air 2021 report shows Central New Jersey already has significant populations with pediatric and adult asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and other conditions such as cardiovascular disease,

- diabetes, cancer, nervous disorders, and mental disorders 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 rapidly declining cost of solar energy and storage have already caused the cancellation of projects using gas to generate electricity and is forecasted to become significantly cheaper than gas in the coming years; and,
- **WHEREAS**, trade union workers in our state deserve economic expansion and infrastructure projects that don't negatively impact our public health and environment, and which are forward-looking and will develop needed skills and expertise in renewable energy technologies; and,
- **WHEREAS,** all New Jersey municipalities will be forced to deal with the consequences of the climate crisis, especially our coastal communities that are at increased risk of flooding; 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,** some of these communities, including Edison and Highland Park, have formally called on Governor Phil Murphy and the Department of Environmental Protection to oppose all fossil fuel projects in overburdened environmental justice communities; and,
- **WHEREAS,** the Council of the City of Hoboken has a principal responsibility to protect the health and safety of its residents and businesses as well as to ensure the prudent spending of tax dollars paid by its citizens.
- **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Council of the City of Hoboken, in the interest of protecting its residents and businesses opposes construction of this gas-burning power plant proposed by CPV; and,
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City 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; and,
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk shall forward this Resolution to Governor Phil Murphy, Congressman Albio Sires, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Shawn LaTourette, State Senator Brian P. Stack, Assemblywoman Annette Chaparro, Assemblyman Raj Mukherji, and the Hudson County Board of Commissioners.

Meeting Date: March 23, 2022

APPROVED:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alyssa Wells, Asst. Corp Counsel

2/24	12022
	/2022

✓ Vote Record - CC - Reso	olution 22-308					
			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain/Alternate	Absent
✓ Adopted ☐ Denied ☐ Carried ☐ Carried ☐ James Doyle ☐ Tiffanie Fisi ☐ Jennifer Gia ☐ Emily Jabbe ☐ Joe Quintere ☐ Ruben Rame	Phil Cohen	Mover				
	Mike DeFusco	Voter				
	James Doyle	Seconder				
	Tiffanie Fisher	Voter				
	Jennifer Giattino	Voter				
	Emily Jabbour	Voter				
	Joe Quintero	Voter				
	Ruben Ramos	Voter				
	Michael Russo	Voter				