

RESOLUTION #2022-243

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SAYREVILLE IN THE COUNTY
OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING THE
CONSTRUCTION OF CPV KEASBEY POWER PLANT
IN 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’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 would 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, Sayreville would be among the most adversely affected by this project; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Sayreville is, and each of Sayreville’s public schools are, located within five miles of the proposed gas power plant; 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 give 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;

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 works 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 Borough of Sayreville 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Sayreville, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, 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 we call 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 Clerk shall forward this Resolution to Governor Phil Murphy, Congressman Frank Pallone, Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Shawn LaTourette, State Senator Joseph Vitale, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez and the Middlesex County Commissioners.

/s/Eunice Dwumfour, Councilwoman
(Sponsor)

Reviewed by the Borough Attorney and is approved as to form and the Resolution satisfies all of the legal requirements for the Mayor's signature.

/s/Michael R. DuPont, Borough Attorney

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF SAYREVILLE

/s/Jessica Morelos, RMC
Municipal Clerk

/s/Victoria Kilpatrick
Mayor

	Conti	Dwumfour	Maher	Novak	Onuoha	Roberts
Ayes	X	X	X		X	
Nays				X		X
Abstain						
Absent						

I, Jessica Morelos, RMC, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Sayreville do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Borough Council held on the 12th day of September, 2022.


Municipal Clerk