

Benjamin Boykin II

Chairman of the Board
Legislator, 5th District



TO: Hon. Catherine Parker
Chair, Planning, Economic Development & Energy

Hon. Ruth Walter
Chair, Environment & Health

FROM: Hon. Benjamin Boykin
Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin Boykin II".

DATE: February 4, 2021

RE: RESOLUTION - OPPOSING FRACKING-RELATED DEVELOPMENT AT THE
FORMER DANSKAMMER ENERGY SITE

As Chairman of the Board of Legislators, I am placing the below item directly into the Committees on Planning, Economic Development & Energy and Environment & Health.

Thank you.

(ID: 2021-149) A RESOLUTION opposing the proposed Danskammer project, based upon information received about the project, concerns that surrounding towns and areas will be harmed by the project, and the overall economic benefits to Westchester County and adjacent counties of pursuing battery storage and other alternatives for the proposed plant.

cc: Melanie Montalto
Anand Singh
Yolanda Valencia
Sunday Vanderberg

RESOLUTION NO. - 2021

**OPPOSING FRACKING-RELATED DEVELOPMENT AT THE FORMER
DANSKAMMER ENERGY SITE**

WHEREAS, Danskammer Energy, LLC, seeks a permit through the State of New York's Article 10 of the Public Service Law Power Plant Siting Process to build and operate a new power facility that is expected to generate roughly 550 megawatts of power via fracked gas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed construction site of the new Danskammer facility flooded badly during Superstorm Sandy, and new operations would require the storage of aqueous ammonia and diesel in a highly flood prone area, threatening toxic exposures of the Hudson River and its organic life, including plants, fish, and water birds and animals; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new facility will operate continuously, bringing at least a 10-fold increase in emissions of air pollutants such as nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds and a dramatic increase in local air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson Valley contains some of the most polluted air in all of New York State if not the country, with Orange County receiving a C grade; Putnam, Dutchess, and Rockland Counties receiving D grades; and Westchester, an F grade, due to high ozone days summarized in the 2017 American Lung Association report; and

WHEREAS, air pollution in the Hudson Valley region contributes to increased instances of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), lung cancer, and asthma in children and adults and worsens the health of many additional individuals already suffering due to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and poverty; and

WHEREAS, higher consumption of methane for producing power further binds New York State and our country to a climate degrading source of energy production for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York recently passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (hereafter known as "CLCPA") which, in summary, established programs, obligations and targets to meet zero emissions by 2050, 70% renewable by 2030 and the electrical sector to be carbon free by 2040; and

WHEREAS, the CLCPA codifies Governor Andrew Cuomo's commitments to install 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind by 2035; 6,000 megawatts of distributed solar by 2025; and 3,000 megawatts of energy storage by 2030, providing greater climate and financial benefit, as well as the prospect of more and better green jobs in the renewable energy sector; and

WHEREAS, Westchester County supports the initiatives proposed in the CLCPA and will take

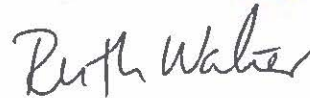
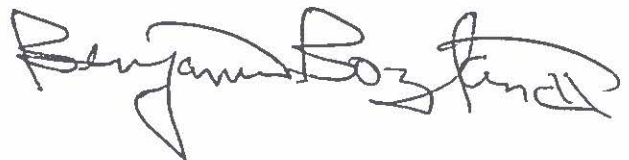
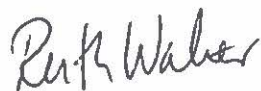
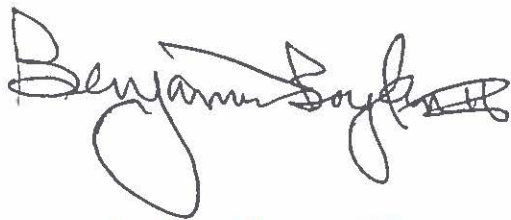
an active role in supporting renewable energy projects in Westchester County; and

WHEREAS, on July 10th and October 7th, 2020 all 17 Westchester County Legislators signed onto letters in opposition to the Danskammer Fracked Gas Plant, addressed to Governor Andrew Cuomo and the Public Service Commission, respectively; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that We, the Westchester County Board of Legislators, hereby oppose the proposed Danskammer project, based upon information received about the project, concerns that surrounding towns and areas will be harmed by the project, and the overall economic benefits to Westchester County and adjacent counties of pursuing battery storage and other alternatives for the proposed plant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be distributed to Governor Cuomo, Senators Gillibrand and Schumer, and our New York delegation of elected officials.

Dated: 2021



COMMITTEES ON
PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY/ ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Dated: February 8, 2021
White Plains, New York

The following members attended the meeting remotely, as per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 and approved this item out of Committee with an affirmative vote. Their electronic signature was authorized and is below.

Committee(s) on:

Planning, Economic Development, & Energy

Catherine F. Parker

Nancy E. Dan

Margaret A. Cunzio

Environment & Health

John J. Scill

Catherine F. Parker

Mary Jane Skimsky

Nancy E. Dan