

**GEORGE H. BUNTING, JR.**  
STATE SENATOR  
Twentieth District



SENATE  
STATE OF DELAWARE  
LEGISLATIVE HALL  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903

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July 30, 2008

The Hon. Arnetta McRae, Chairman, PSC  
The Hon. Joann Conaway, Commissioner, PSC  
The Hon. Jaymes B. Lester, Commissioner, PSC  
The Hon. J. Dallas Winslow, Commissioner, PSC  
The Hon. Jeffrey J. Clark, Commissioner, PSC  
The Hon. Jennifer W. Davis, Director, OMB  
The Hon. Russell T. Larson, Controller General  
The Hon. John A. Hughes, Secretary, DNREC

Dear Friends:

I realize that you are meeting on July 31 in part to determine whether the decision as to the proposed natural gas power plant should be made by your four state agencies, or whether it should instead be subject to the Public Service Commission's regular Integrated Resource Planning Process. Regardless of what you decide, there are several considerations of importance to my constituents and me that I hope will be weighed carefully.

In recent years there has been a loud and increasing public outcry from residents in the area of the Indian River Power Plant and the surrounding region, most of which is in my senatorial district, about the need for cleaning up harmful emissions of the present, coal-fired power plant. It is clear that these emissions have a negative effect on public health in the surrounding region.

Another problem of major concern with the existing plant is the fact that millions of fish are killed annually through the in-take and out-take pipes as river water is brought into the plant for cooling and then expelled. A natural gas facility with cooling towers could go a long way in helping to control this problem. Also, the present on-site disposal of fly ash from the coal-fired generating process and its impact on the headwaters of the Indian River and Indian River Bay, another constant source of worry, could be greatly reduced.

It is my feeling that if a natural gas facility could be built at or near the Indian River site, and if the older plant could be converted to natural gas, the present environmental problems could be greatly reduced or eliminated entirely. It is, of course, true that a natural gas plant could help provide the needed generation to meet the growing demand for power in this rapidly-growing area of the Peninsula.

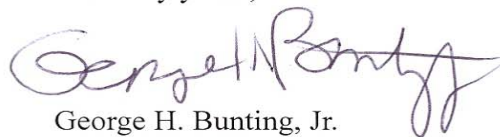
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Regardless of what approach you decide on for moving forward with the study of the natural gas proposal, I would greatly appreciate your favorable consideration for a natural gas facility to be built at the existing Indian River site together with the conversion of the older plant to natural gas and cooling towers. With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George H. Bunting, Jr.", written in dark ink.

George H. Bunting, Jr.  
State Senator, 20<sup>th</sup> District