



Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative

The Labor-Management Fund of Operating Engineers Local 825
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Subject: NJBPU Docket No. ER20080557, ER20080558, & ER20080559

The Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative is a labor-management trust that represents the combined interests of the nearly 8,000 members of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825, and the signatory union contractors who employ them. As a multi-state organization, ELEC focuses on promoting economic development and advocating for investments in infrastructure -- not only to provide work opportunities but to ensure that our members, contractors and their families, have the quality of life they deserve as residents of New Jersey.

IUOE and contractors invest millions annually, host and operate two state-of-the-art training campuses and are making significant advancements and investments in STEM higher education for our members to keep up with equipment technology, software and hardware, internal computers, GPS and other advanced features, which will be required to build the energy of the future. As we plan the energy mix of the future, it is critical to keep in mind that organizations like ours have already begun putting the pieces in place to ensure our membership is up-to-date and ready to work.

Nuclear is essential to our State's air quality, energy diversity and achieving New Jersey's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050. In addition, it is by far the largest source of zero-emission power in New Jersey and in the United States.

We know that the benefits PSE&G nuclear power brings to our communities will help New Jersey reach its clean energy goals. In order for New Jersey to remain economically competitive and a great place to live, we need to continue supporting responsible investments and diversity in our energy portfolio.

Nuclear energy already is responsible for more than 90% of the carbon-free electricity generated in New Jersey. This is a real and tangible factor that benefits New Jersey's environment and the long term vitality of the State. Nuclear is an irreplaceable foundation for Governor Murphy's goal for a 100% clean energy by 2050.

Conclusion

We need to preserve the value of nuclear power for its significant and material contribution to the State's environment, its energy diversity and in turn, the resiliency it provides to the electricity grid that residents of New Jersey rely upon every day at their homes, businesses, and in their daily lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.