

Franklin Township



A Proud Somerset County Community

WEBSITE: <http://www.franklintwpnj.org>

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
475 DEMOTT LANE
SOMERSET, NJ 08873

TEL: (732) 873-2500, X6201
FAX: (732) 873-1284
bob.vornlocker@twp.franklin.nj.us

Ms. Carmen D. Diaz
Acting Secretary of the Board
44 South Clinton Ave. 1st Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton NJ 08625-0350
Re: Request for Comment PSEG Conversion to LED Lighting

Dear Ms. Diaz,

Franklin Township Management and its Environmental Commission have reviewed the BPU Proposal to permit PSEG to convert existing street lighting from High Intensity Discharge and or High-Pressure Sodium Lamps to LED Light Fixtures. We support this proposal and recommend the BPU adopt it.

Our Chair of the Environmental Commission has extensive experience in the Lighting Industry having worked both for Westinghouse Lamp Division and its successor Philips Lighting. He has worked with LED lighting since 1975. He has supported LED conversions for many years. Our Township Manager is in support of the both the Environmental benefits and the financial benefits that can accrue from implementation of this proposal. The energy efficiency, long life and improved color all make them an ideal replacement for Metal Halide and High-Pressure Sodium Lamps. The improved color rendering aids in security identification efforts.

Our Environmental Chair has since retirement in 2005 worked as a supplier and consultant for lighting products. In 2015, 168 LED streetlamps were installed in a

Community in Lawrenceville. Budgeted electric costs dropped from \$40,000 to \$17,000. Maintenance costs were entirely borne by the manufacturer for several years.

Similar experiences in parking lot lighting at two locations, one in Hillsborough (along Route 206) and one in Cranford (a Senior complex). A Commercial Hillsborough complex reported a sense of increased security after the replacement was completed. The senior complex felt the higher Color Rendering Index also improved visibility. The Senior Complex auditor noticed the reduction in the electric bills.

Since these installs, efficiency and rated life have improved. Current ratings from a NJ manufacturer are 360 watts replacing 1000 watts and 150 watts replacing 400 watt lamps, Based on 10 hours per day. The rated life of 100,000 hours translates to 27 years of operation. We believe the reductions in operating costs need to be reflected in a tariff which reflects that reduction. This would be of great help to Municipal cost control and high property tax burdens faced by our residents. We have reviewed Tariff changes across the Country due to LED conversion. The vast majority showed significant reductions, as did Atlantic Electric.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Robert G. Vornlocker, Jr.

Robert G. Vornlocker, Jr.
Franklin Township Manager

Paul Walitsky

Paul Walitsky
Chair Franklin Township Environmental Commission