

July 14, 2016

**JOINT RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTIES OF OSWEGO & WAYNE
IN SUPPORT OF THE PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND
ATTRIBUTES OF ZERO-EMISSIONS NUCLEAR POWERED ELECTRIC
GENERATING FACILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTRIC SYSTEM, ITS
CUSTOMERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

By Legislator Daniel Farfaglia and Legislator Shane Broadwell:

WHEREAS, in response to Governor Andrew Cuomo's to the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) to develop a Clean Energy Standard, in an effort to achieve a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, while at the same time increasing by 50% the renewable sources of energy in New York State by the year 2030; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo's leadership and forward-looking approach to the environment and economy is a standard by which all other states should follow, and has resulted in the development of a Clean Energy Standard proposal currently under consideration by the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC), in a proceeding identified as Case No.: 15-E-3020, Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2016, the staff of the DPS issued its responsive proposal for preserving zero-emissions attributes of nuclear-powered electric generating facilities as part of a component of the Clean Energy Standard under consideration by the PSC; and

WHEREAS, the counties of Oswego and Wayne are home to all four nuclear facilities and will be directly affected by the proposals currently under consideration by the PSC; and

WHEREAS, the legislative bodies of Oswego and Wayne wish to jointly acknowledge and support Governor Cuomo's leadership on this matter, and the DPS staff's analysis of the values and attributes of preserving all four nuclear power plants in our respective counties; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the DPS staff's responsive proposal, including the formula for establishing Zero-Emissions Credits (ZECs), will have immediate and significant economic and environmental benefits for the State of New York as a whole, and Upstate New York in particular; and

WHEREAS, the replacement of the zero-emission nuclear power with equivalent amounts of fossil-fueled electrical generation would result in an increase of approximately 31 million metric tons of CO2 emitted into the atmosphere over the next two years with a societal cost of \$1.4 billion, as reported by The Brattle Group; and

WHEREAS, the report by The Brattle Group produced in 2015 found the nuclear plants that provide the zero-emission attributes at risk provide direct economic benefits of approximately \$1.7 billion per year, including critical local economic and Statewide benefits in the form of property taxes and on average over 2,600 well-paying jobs (as well as secondary employment benefits); and

LEGISLATURE
COUNTY
OSWEGO

WHEREAS, the legislative bodies of Oswego and Wayne support the conclusions of DPS staff that the benefits of paying for the zero-emission attributes far exceed the costs, in that during the first two years of the program, the economic and environmental benefits associated with carbon reductions, supply cost savings and property tax benefits are estimated to be approximately \$5 billion, while during this same period, the total attribute payments are calculated to be up to \$965 million, for a net benefit of \$4 billion; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the proposal supports New York's environmental stewardship, protects the energy market from an over-dependence on fossil fuel, promotes the upstate economy, and allows New York time to implement the 50% by 2030 renewable portion of the CES standard; and

WHEREAS, failure to recognize the substantial value that upstate nuclear contributes at this critical time will result in higher energy costs, capacity costs, higher CO2 and other criteria pollutants and lock New York State into an enormous long term dependence of fossil fuel for the next 20-30 years; and

WHEREAS, the DPS staff's proposal is fair and accurate and should be implemented expeditiously to ensure future refueling outages can be executed at each of these critical nuclear facilities located in Oswego and Wayne counties; and

WHEREAS, the legislative bodies of the counties of Oswego and Wayne are committed to working with the PSC and other stakeholders on this important proceeding;

NOW, THEREFORE, UPON DUE DELIBERATION AND CONSIDERATION IT IS AND SHALL HEREBY BE:

RESOLVED, that the legislative bodies of the counties of Oswego and Wayne acknowledge the leadership and efforts of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in pursuing solutions that are intended to save the economic engines that are our upstate nuclear facilities, while at the same time leading the rest of the country in a Clean Energy Standard that helps to sustain our environment for generations to come; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the legislative bodies of the counties of Oswego and Wayne urge the PSC to incorporate the DPS staff's responsive proposal for preserving zero-emissions attributes into the final order in Case No.: 15-E-0302: Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the PSC's final order, incorporating DPS staff's proposal for ZECs, be issued as soon as possible to ensure that the nuclear facilities located in Oswego and Wayne counties are in a position to utilize the ZECs, thereby continuing to support the economy of Upstate New York, while preserving the ability to generate reliable electricity for the State of New York, and helping to sustain a clean environment to pass along to generations that follow.

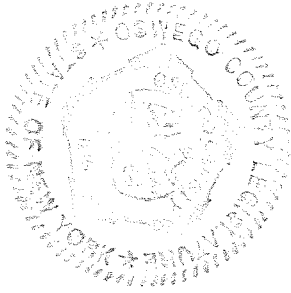
ROLL CALL

YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF OSWEGO) ss:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of Resolution No. 148 adopted by the Oswego County Legislature on July 14, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the said County Legislature at Oswego, New York, on this 18th day of July, 2016.



Wendy M. Falls
Wendy M. Falls, Clerk
Oswego County Legislature

OSWEGO
COUNTY
LEGISLATURE