

PA PUC

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Re: Grid Modernization and Potential Redevelopment of Deactivated Energy Sites-Cromby Generating Station

I appreciate this opportunity to provide comments regarding Docket Number **M-2026-3059601**. My name is Donna Jackson, and I am a resident of East Pikeland Township, living just 2.1 miles from the deactivated Cromby site.

Cromby is not an isolated industrial site! Rather, it's a defunct industrial site that unfortunately sits on the edge of our quiet, countrylike, suburban community.

Since Cromby's closure in 2011, the township has grown and changed significantly! A townhouse community (Phoenixville Heights) of 188 townhomes was built, only half a mile from the site. A housing community (Kimberton Glen) of 332 upscale homes was also built, only 1.1 miles from the site. Additionally, a new community elementary school, (Hares Hill Elementary School) now serving 723 students, was built, only 2.2 miles from the site.

Well established community resources such as the Phoenixville Recreation Center, a community hub featuring a gymnasium, multipurpose event spaces, and preschool classrooms for early childhood programs, is located just .8 miles from the site, the Renaissance Charter School, located in the Franklin Commons area, also sits just .8 miles from the site, and serves 1199 students! Also located in Franklin Commons is the Phoenixville Area Children's Learning Center, a day care center serving approximately 75 young children and the Stepping Stones Education Center, a day care facility serving approximately 120 children, as well as the Facetime Theatre for elementary through high school aged students! Not to be overlooked is the Kimberton Waldorf School, serving approximately 270 students, sitting just 3.7 miles away from Cromby. Last, the French Creek Trail, a quiet, peaceful walking/hiking trail that runs alongside the historic French Creek sits only 2 miles from the Cromby site.

I also have great concerns about the negative impact the potential re-development of the Cromby property would have on our local air quality, noise levels, traffic congestion, open space, and environmental and recreational resources!

Perhaps my greatest concern is the lack of sustainability for energy generating sites and data centers. Plants running on fossil fuels like gas, oil, and coal are using non-renewable resources. Nuclear plants create radioactive waste, which does not align to clean, long

term energy needs, and the long-term sustainability of data centers is truly unknown as there is no historical data to reference for such. If something is not sustainable, it's in humanity's best interest not to create such!

East Pikeland is THE quintessential Chester County community, with nearly 200 designated historic sites listed on the National Register of Historic places, including the Continental Powder Works, the Rapps Dam Bridge, our very own covered bridge built in 1866, the Hares Hill Road Bridge, and the Kimberton Historic District which includes the Kimberton Inn, built in 1820, the original Kimberton Whole Foods store, and our Kimberton Waldorf School, the second largest Waldorf School in North America! And lest we forget, East Pikeland Township, via French Creek and the Continental Powder Works, has direct ties to our American Revolution!

Considering all the above, neither a recommissioned energy generating plant, nor a data center, align with the current priorities of, and lifestyle of, the East Pikeland Township residents. Though I am only one person, I truly believe I speak for the silent, possibly under informed, majority of my community!

I respectfully request the PA PUC consider these points when evaluating the development of the Cromby property, and that as an important stakeholder, East Pikeland Township and its residents, be included in future discussions regarding the Cromby property.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Jackson

East Pikeland Resident