



Brockton, Massachusetts
"City of Champions"
Linda M. Balzotti – Mayor

TESTIMONY OF
MAYOR LINDA M. BALZOTTI, CITY OF BROCKTON
ON
THE TENTATIVE DECISION OF THE
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
ON
BROCKTON POWER COMPANY LLC'S
PROJECT CHANGE FILING
September 22, 2011

Good morning. My name is Linda Balzotti, and I am the proud Mayor of the City of Brockton. I want to thank the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") for this opportunity to address the entire board and comment on the Tentative Decision which addresses certain proposed changes to Brockton Power Company's planned power plant to be located in the great city of Brockton.

I also would like to thank the Siting Board and its staff for conducting the many hearings it held and for allowing additional discovery on these proposed project changes and for the opportunity to express publicly my vehement opposition to the construction of this project in my city – the City of Champions.

Even after the additional vetting the project received in your hearing, I still feel and continue to believe that the proposed power plant will have untold and unacceptable adverse impacts on the residents of my proud and beautiful city and the thousands of other good people who live and work in the region. Despite the proposed changes, this project is the wrong project for our community.

For several reasons, the EFSB should not approve any of the proposed changes for this project.

First, I wish to remind you that a significant portion of Brockton's population meet the criteria for what is called an "Environmental Justice Population" because of income, ethnicity, or lacking in English-language proficiency. These city residents are entitled to "Environmental Justice."

The Commonwealth's Environmental Justice Policy is designed to protect Environmental Justice Populations from shouldering a disproportionate share of environmental pollution. In proposing to approve Brockton Power's plant, the Siting Board seems to have forgotten or ignored the Environmental Justice Policy.

Brockton residents are being unfairly burdened by a disproportionate portion of the pollution of this plant.

All types of pollution cross boundaries. Air pollution perhaps is the best example. It goes where the wind takes it. It just doesn't respect artificial lines of property ownership or municipal limits or neighborhood boundaries. The air pollution from the Brockton Power plant will leave the property and cross into the Environmental Justice Population areas within the City of Brockton. It will also go beyond Brockton into neighboring towns.

It makes no sense for the Siting Board to disregard the state's Environmental Justice Policy just because the proposed power plant is not inside a designated Environmental Justice Population area, but merely near one. The closest Environmental Justice Population is within 1,000 feet, to be exact.

The City has recently completed expensive and extensive improvements to its Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility so as to reduce air pollution. The City did not do this to accommodate Brockton

