

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD**

IN RE: Application of : **Docket No. SB 20 15-06**
Invenergy Thermal Development LLC 's :
Proposal for Clear River Energy Center :

**MOTION FOR INTERVENTION OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL
OF THE NARRAGANSETT INDIAN TRIBE**

I. INTRODUCTION

Now comes the Tribal Council of the Narragansett Indian Tribe (hereafter “Tribal Council”) and pursuant to Rule 1.10(b)(2) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Energy Facilities Siting Board (hereafter “EFSB”), respectfully files this Motion for Intervention in the above-captioned docket. This Docket was opened in November, 2015, yet the directly affected interest of the Tribal Council was only revealed when media outlets reported on September 28, 2017 that Invenergy Thermal Development LLC had reached an agreement to purchase water from the Narragansett Indian Tribe (hereafter “NIT”).

Thus, after due diligence in its attempt to evaluate this purported agreement, and only after those efforts have proven insufficient in meeting its goal and duty to protect its interest, the Tribal Council has determined that its only recourse is to file this motion. Should the EFSB determine it appropriate, the Tribal Council is amenable to being granted intervenor status that limits its participation to the issue of the Water Supply Plan for the proposed facility.

II. THE INTERVENOR

The Tribal Council is a body of nine (9) members empowered by the NIT Constitution to

“act as an executive board on matters pertaining to tribal affairs.” A majority of the current members have determined to seek intervenor status.¹

The Narragansett Indian Tribe holds lands encompassing more than 1,900 acres surrounded by the Town of Charlestown, Rhode Island, and codified under the Rhode Island Indian Claims Settlement Act, 25 U.S.C. §§ 1701-1716. These lands, often referred to as “the reservation” by tribal members in conversation, are nourished by a body of water known as the Lower Wood River Aquifer, which is part of the Pawcatuck River Basin.

While Tribal Council members have not received a copy of the purported agreement between Invenergy and the Tribe, generally speaking formal contracts that may be implied or expressly created in this type of agreement require a tribal resolution, signed by the Chief or First Councilman. Such a resolution requires a special tribal meeting and a vote by the body. No tribal meeting or vote has occurred regarding a proposed agreement to sell tribal water to Invenergy.

III. STANDARD FOR DETERMINING INTERVENTION

Rule 1.10 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Energy Facilities Siting Board governs the standard for determining intervenor status. Intervention is “necessary or appropriate” if a party's interest is “directly affected” and “not adequately represented by existing parties and as to which petitioners may be bound by the Board's action in the proceeding.” Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1.10(b)(2).

¹ There currently exists an internal dispute as to the resrepresentation of the elected leadership of the Narragansett Indian Tribe. While some aspects of this dispute have been a matter of public record (*see e.g.* <http://www.providencejournal.com/news/20161227/its-over-occupiers-of-narragansett-building-claim-victory> (last viewed 10.20.17)), the Tribal Council will not address additional details of the dispute in this filing, as its goal in this Motion is simply to protect its interest regarding the potential impact of any agreements involving the water supply on tribal lands, and not to vet issues of internal governance in this forum.

IV. THE INTEREST OF THE NARRAGANSETT INDIAN TRIBE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Intervention by the Tribal Council more than meets the prescribed criteria, as its interest is directly affected at a fundamental level, that of the most precious resource available to its future generations, i.e. the water supply of the Narragansett people on Narragansett land. Furthermore, no existing intervenor even purports to represent much less is capable of adequately representing the interests of the Tribal Council.

A. The Tribal Council's Interest in Protecting the Water Supply is Directly Affected by the Proposed Clear River Energy Center.

“Water is life” has become a familiar maxim to Native and non-Native peoples throughout the Americas in recent times, much of it due to concerns regarding the impact of contested development projects on water supply in Indian Country. Here, the actual site proposed for the Clear River Energy Center in Burrillville is roughly fifty miles from Narragansett tribal lands, a distance considered “far” by Rhode Island standards. Yet the proposed purchase by Invenergy of water from tribal lands brings the issue as close to home physically, economically, and culturally as possible. The effort by many, many people over the years to secure a tribal homeland for the Narragansett Indian Tribe is far too complex to summarize within the pages of this motion. *See generally, Narragansett Indian Tribe v. State of Rhode Island* 449 F.3d 16, 18-20 (1st Cir., 2006). What is clear is that the members of the Tribe have a profoundly important interest in protecting and preserving the water that belongs to the Tribe. Members of the Tribal Council, beyond an interest, have a Constitutional obligation as elected representatives of the tribal membership to protect their water supply.

The *Water Supply Plan – Supplement* submitted by Invenergy and dated September 28,

2017 states that “CREC has also secured a commitment from the Narragansett Indian Tribe (“the Tribe”) to supply process makeup water to the Facility as an additional back-up or contingent water supply.” Without having direct knowledge of the specific content of the agreement (since the Appendix I referenced in the document is fully redacted) the text of this supplemental plan makes it clear that Invenergy plans to draw water from the Lower Wood River Aquifer, ostensibly using existing tribal well infrastructure. This water source and supply system, as the report acknowledges, provides the public water supply needs associated with tribal land. The outcome of the EFSB's decision, should it precipitate or allow for the sale of any of the Tribe's water, even on a contingent basis, could potentially bind Narragansett Tribal Members and the Tribal Council charged with representing them, for generations to come.

B. The Tribal Council's Interest in Protecting the Water Supply is Not Adequately Represented by Existing Parties.

None of the current intervenors is capable of representing the interests of the Tribal Council in this docket, even should they be so inclined. Other parties are charged with representing a specific population and geographic area (e.g. Town of Burrillville), a broad environmental perspective (e.g. Conservation Law Foundation) or the specific interest of their membership in securing employment (e.g. Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council).

Although the Town of Charlestown was recently granted status as an Intervenor, the Petitioner submits that the Town of Charlestown is wholly incapable of representing the interests of the Tribal Council, and to expect it to do so would be patently unfair to both the Tribal Council and the Town. That the Town and the NIT share a single sole-source aquifer

does not bind their interest in this matter; instead it creates the potential for them to be adverse actors competing for the same limited resource. Charlestown must represent the interests of a specific population: its residents. The Tribal Council must represent the interests of a *distinct* population: its members. While there may be and one can certainly hope for occasions where these interests align, it would be foolish and short-sighted for anyone to assume that the Town of Charlestown can represent the interests of the Tribal Council. This divergence of interests is clear without even beginning to recount any of the historic and sometimes recurring tensions that arise between the municipality and the Tribe.

V. THIS MOTION IS TIMELY

Any perceived delay in the timing of this Motion cannot be attributed to the Tribal Council. The purported agreement between Invenergy and the Narragansett Indian Tribe was only revealed to the Tribal Council through media reports after the proposal was announced in the Water Supply Plan – Supplement submitted by Invenergy on September 28, 2017. Before that time, the Tribal Council was simply a disinterested party with no reason to consider seeking intervenor status.

When media reports revealed the proposed sale of water belonging to the Narragansett Indian Tribe, Tribal Council members immediately sought to learn more about the proposal and to discuss possible responses. Members attempted to learn about the completely new terrain of the EFSB and its permitting process, reviewed what background information they could quickly find about the project, and explored the possibility of retaining counsel to represent them. Even as late as October 19, the Tribal Council, through its attorney, attempted

to communicate with Invergy through its attorneys to obtain a copy of the purported agreement. Invergy's attorneys declined to provide one.

VI. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, for the aforementioned reasons, the Tribal Council respectfully requests that it be granted intervenor status in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

**TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE
NARRAGANSETT INDIAN TRIBE**
By and Through Its Attorney,

/s/ Shannah Kurland
Shannah Kurland, Esq. (#9186)
149 Lenox Avenue
Providence, RI 02907
401-439-0518
skurland.esq@gmail.com

Dated: October 20, 2017

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I did forward a copy of the within Motion to Intervene via e-mail to all on the following service list on the 20th day of October, 2017.

/s/ Shannah Kurland

SB-2015-06 Invenergy CREC Service List as of 10/12/2017

Name/Address	E-mail	Phone/FAX
File an original and 10 copies with EFSB: Todd Bianco, Coordinator Energy Facility Siting Board 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888 Margaret Curran, Chairperson Janet Coit, Board Member Assoc. Dir., Div. of Planning Parag Agrawal Patti Lucarelli Esq., Board Counsel Susan Forcier Esq., Counsel Rayna Maguire, Asst. to the Director DEM Catherine Pitassi, Asst. to. Assoc. Dir. Plann. Margaret Hogan, Sr. Legal Counsel	Todd.Bianco@puc.ri.gov ;	401-780-2106
	Kathleen.Mignanelli@puc.ri.gov ;	
	Patricia.lucarelli@puc.ri.gov ;	
	Margaret.Curran@puc.ri.gov ;	
	janet.coit@dem.ri.gov ;	
	Catherine.Pitassi@doa.ri.gov ;	
	Margaret.hogan@puc.ri.gov ;	
	susan.forcier@dem.ri.gov ;	
	rayna.maguire@dem.ri.gov ;	
	Parag.Agrawal@doa.ri.gov ;	
Parties (Electronic Service Only, Unless by Request)		
Invenergy Thermal Development LLC Alan Shoer, Esq. Richard Beretta, Esq. Elizabeth Noonan, Esq. Nicole Verdi, Esq. Adler, Pollock & Sheehan One Citizens Plaza, 8 th Floor Providence, RI 02903 John Niland, Dir. Of Business Development Tyrone Thomas, Esq., Asst. General Counsel Mike Blazer, Esq., Chief Legal Officer Invenergy Thermal Development LLC One South Wacker Drive, Suite 1900 Chicago, IL 60600	ashoer@apslaw.com ;	401-274-7200
	rberetta@apslaw.com ;	
	enoonan@apslaw.com ;	
	nverdi@apslaw.com ;	
	jniland@invenergyltc.com ;	312-224-1400
	Tthomas@invenergyltc.com ;	
	mblazer@invenergyltc.com ;	
	generalcounsel@invenergyltc.com ;	
	Michael@mcelroylawoffice.com ;	401-351-4100
	leah@mcelroylawoffice.com ;	
Town of Burrillville Michael McElroy, Esq., Special Counsel Leah Donaldson, Esq., Special Counsel Schacht & McElroy PO Box 6721 Providence, RI 02940-6721 William Dimitri, Esq., Acting Town Solicitor	dimitrilaw@icloud.com ;	401-273-9092
	Jelmer@clf.org ;	401-351-1102
Conservation Law Foundation		

Jerry Elmer, Esq. Max Greene, Esq. 235 Promenade Street Suite 560, Mailbox 28 Providence RI, 02908	Mgreene@clf.org ;	
Ms. Bess B. Gorman, Esq. Assistant General Counsel and Director Legal Department, National Grid 40 Sylvan Road Waltham, MA 02451 Mark Rielly, Esq. Senior Counsel	Bess.Gorman@nationalgrid.com ;	781-907-1834
	Mark.rielly@nationalgrid.com ;	
Office of Energy Resources Andrew Marcaccio, Esq. Nick Ucci, Chief of Staff Chris Kearns, Chief Program Development One Capitol Hill Providence, RI 02908 Ellen Cool Levitan & Associates	Andrew.Marcaccio@doa.ri.gov ;	401-222-3417
	Nicholas.Ucci@energy.ri.gov ;	401-574-9100
	Christopher.Kearns@energy.ri.gov ;	
	egc@levitan.com ;	
Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council Gregory Mancini, Esq. Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd. 2374 Post Road, Suite 201 Warwick, RI 02886	gmancinilaw@gmail.com ;	401-739-9690
Residents of Wallum Lake Road, Pascoag, RI Dennis Sherman and Kathryn Sherman Christian Capizzo, Esq. Partridge Snow & Hahn, LLP 40 Westminster St., Suite 1100 Providence, RI 02903	cfc@psh.com ;	401-861-8200
	kags8943@gmail.com ;	
Residents of Wallum Lake Road, Pascoag, RI Paul Bolduc and Mary Bolduc Joseph Keough Jr., Esq. 41 Mendon Avenue Pawtucket, RI 02861 Paul and Mary Bolduc 915 Wallum Lake Road Pascoag, RI 02859	jkeoughjr@keoughsweeney.com ;	401-724-3600
	oatyssl@verizon.net ;	401-529-0367

Abutter David B. Harris Michael Sendley, Esq. 600 Putnam Pike, St. 13 Greenville, RI 02828	msendley@cox.net ;	401-349-4405
Entities with Pending Intervention (Electronic Service Only)		
Town of Charleston Peter Ruggiero, Esq., Town Solicitor David Petrarca, Esq., Asst. Town Solicitor Ruggiero Brochu & Petrarca 20 Centerville Road Warwick, RI 02886	peter@rubroc.com ;	401-737-8700
	david@rubroc.com ;	
Interested Persons (Electronic Service Only)		
Harrisville Fire District Richard Sinapi, Esq. Joshua Xavier, Esq. 2347 Post Road, Suite 201 Warwick, RI 02886	ras@sinapilaw.com ;	401-739-9690
	jdx@sinapilaw.com ;	
Residents of 945 Wallum Lake Road, Pascoag, RI (Walkers) Nicholas Gorham, Esq. P.O. Box 46 North Scituate, RI 02857	nickgorham@gorhamlaw.com ;	401-647-1400
	edaigle4@gmail.com ;	
Peter Nightingale, member Fossil Free Rhode Island 52 Nichols Road Kingston, RI 02881	divest@fossilfreeri.org ;	401-789-7649
Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM 99 Fillmore Street Pawtucket, RI 02860	mpendergast@mercyrne.org ;	401-724-2237
Patricia J. Fontes, member Occupy Providence 57 Lawton Foster Road South Hopkinton, RI 02833	Patfontes167@gmail.com ;	401-516-7678
Burrillville Land Trust Marc Gertsacov, Esq. Law Offices of Ronald C. Markoff 144 Medway Street Providence, RI 02906	marc@ronmarkoff.com ;	401-272-9330

Paul Roselli, President Burrillville Land Trust PO Box 506 Harrisville, RI 02830	proselli@cox.net ;	401-447-1560
Rhode Island Progressive Democrats of America Andrew Aleman, Esq. 168 Elmgrove Avenue Providence, RI 02906	andrew@andrewaleman.com ;	401-429-6779
Fighting Against Natural Gas and Burrillville Against Spectra Expansion Jillian Dubois, Esq. The Law Office of Jillian Dubois 91 Friendship Street, 4 th Floor Providence, RI 02903	jillian.dubois.esq@gmail.com ;	401-274-4591
Burrillville Town Council c/o Louise Phaneuf, Town Clerk 105 Harrisville Main Street Harrisville, RI 02830	lphaneuf@burrillville.org ;	401-568-4300
Christine Langlois, Deputy Planner Town of Burrillville 144 Harrisville Main Street Harrisville, RI 02830 Joseph Raymond, Building Official	clanglois@burrillville.org ;	401-568-4300
	jraymond@burrillville.org ;	
Michael C. Wood, Town Manager Town of Burrillville 105 Harrisville Main Street Harrisville, RI 02830	mcwood@burrillville.org ;	401-568-4300 ext. 115
Mr. Leo Wold, Esq. Department of Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903	LWold@riag.ri.gov ;	401-274-4400
Public Utilities Commission Cynthia Wilson Frias, Esq., Dep. Chief of Legal Alan Nault, Rate Analyst	Cynthia.Wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov ;	401-941-4500
	Alan.nault@puc.ri.gov ;	
Division of Public Utilities and Carriers John J. Spirito, Esq., Chief of Legal Steve Scialabba, Chief Accountant Tom Kogut, Chief of Information	john.spirito@dpuc.ri.gov ;	401-941-4500
	steve.scialabba@dpuc.ri.gov ;	
	thomas.kogut@dpuc.ri.gov ;	

Matthew Jerzyk, Deputy Legal Counsel Office of the Speaker of the House State House, Room 302 Providence RI, 02903	mjerzyk@rilin.state.ri.us ;	401-222-2466
Hon. Cale Keable, Esq., Representative of Burrillville and Glocester	Cale.keable@gmail.com ;	401-222-2258
Nick Katkevich	nkatkevich@gmail.com ;	
Avory Brookins	abrookins@ripr.org ;	
Joseph Bucci, Acting Administrator Highway and Bridge Maintenance Operations RI Department of Transportation	joseph.bucci@dot.ri.gov ;	
Kevin Nelson, Supervising Planner Statewide Planning Program	kevin.nelson@doa.ri.gov ;	
Jennifer Sternick Chief of Legal Services RI Department of Administration	Jennifer.sternick@doa.ri.gov ;	
Doug Gablinske, Executive Director TEC-RI	doug@tecri.org ;	
Tim Faulkner ecoRI News 111 Hope Street Providence, RI 02906	tim@ecori.org ;	401-330-6276
Sally Mendzela	salgalpal@hotmail.com ;	
Keep Burrillville Beautiful Paul LeFebvre	paul@acumenriskgroup.com ;	401-714-4493
Mark Baumer	everydayyeah@gmail.com ;	
Nisha Swinton Food & Water Watch New England	nswinton@fwwatch.org ;	
Kaitlin Kelliher	Kaitlin.kelliher@yahoo.com ;	
Joe Piconi, Jr.	jiggzy@hotmail.com ;	
Hon. Aaron Regunberg Representative of Providence, District 4	Aaron.regunberg@gmail.com ;	
Paul Ernest	paulwernest@gmail.com ;	
Skip Carlson	scarlson@metrocast.net ;	
Kathryn Scaramella	kscaramella@outlook.com ;	

Diana Razzano	Dlrazzano13@verizon.net ;	
David Goldstein	tmdgroup@yahoo.com ;	
Douglas Jobling	djobling@cox.net ;	
Claudia Gorman	corkyhg@gmail.com ;	
Curt Nordgaard	Curt.nordgaard@gmail.com ;	
Colleen Joubert	Colleenj1@cox.net ;	
Matt Smith Food & Water Watch	msmith@fwwatch.org ;	
Christina Hoefsmit, Esq. Senior Legal Counsel RI Department of Environmental Management	Christina.hoefsmit@dem.ri.gov ;	
Steven Ahlquist, RIFuture	atomicsteve@gmail.com ;	
Pascoag Utility District William Bernstein, Esq. Michael Kirkwood, General Manager Robert Ferrari, Northeast Water Solutions, Inc.	mkirkwood@pud-ri.org ;	
	Wlblaw7@gmail.com ;	
	rferrari@nwsj.net ;	
Russ Olivo Woonsocket Call	rolivo232@gmail.com ;	
Suzanne Enser	svetromile@gmail.com ;	
Rhode Island Student Climate Coalition	riscc@brown.edu ;	
Tom Kravitz	tkravitz@nsmithfieldri.org ;	
Barry Craig	barrygcraig1@gmail.com ;	
Joanne Sutcliffe	Josut321@cox.net	