SHARE SAFE HEALTHY AFFORDABLE RELIABLE ENERGY

PRESS RELEASE

SHARE EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR CLEAN, AFFORDABLE ENERGY FROM THE INDIAN POINT ENERGY CENTER

January 12, 2012 (New York, NY) - In a show of support, multiple unions, business leaders and community groups joined SHARE to advocate for the relicensing of the Indian Point Energy Center at a public hearing convened by the New York Assembly Committee on Energy and the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions. This diverse group of New Yorkers expressed their agreement that the closure of the Indian Point Energy Center would have a direct and significant impact on the health of individuals and the strength of local businesses.

Currently, New York City's air quality violates Federal Clean Air standards. Recognizing that the operation of Indian Point, the area's largest source of clean energy, does not release greenhouse gases harmful to our air, it is not in the interest of New Yorkers to shut down this facility. Numerous studies have demonstrated that the closing of Indian Point would have catastrophic effects on air quality because fossil fuel burning energy sources, that would be required to replace the amount of energy Indian Point generates, would release harmful emissions. Additionally, local businesses would be forced to pay significantly higher electrical bills, straining our economy further in already difficult times.

"Now is not the time to look into providing less energy," stated Yonel Letellier Sosa, SHARE's Executive Director. "NYC's already poor air quality coupled with the negative economic situation for the past several years, requires public policy makers to maintain and expand on healthy and affordable sources of energy, like Indian Point, that will meet our future energy needs. Closing Indian Point will only set the stage for summertime brownouts and blackouts."

"In the age of global warming, it is clear that now is not the time to limit our region's clean energy sources," said Peter Fontanes, President of the New York State Hispanics in Real Estate & Construction Association. "Keeping a safe and secure plant like IPEC open will provide clean and reliable power to roughly 25 percent of New York City, limit rapidly rising electricity prices that disproportionately impact low-income communities like the South Bronx, and provide healthier air for all residents."

"Indian Point provides the clean and affordable electricity that homes, businesses, schools, and hospitals in New York City rely on," said Maria Castro, the President and CEO of the Manhattan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "A safe and secure facility like Indian Point is key to the City's environmental and economic health."

"Indian Point employs thousands of highly skilled workers in the area, including hundreds of unionized workers, at a time when jobs are not readily available," stated Santos Rodriguez, Political Director at Insulators Local 12. "The closing of Indian Point would drive working men and women to the unemployment lines. We must look to the future and create a healthy and sound energy structure that would safeguard our environment and create jobs."

About SHARE: SHARE is a non-profit coalition of organizations committed to ensuring the continued supply of reliable, clean and affordable electricity for all New Yorkers. High electricity prices have placed an undue economic burden on New York families and businesses, while poor air quality has led to high asthma rates which place our most vulnerable at risk. SHARE, and its member organizations, is committed to working with local stakeholders in the New York metropolitan area to address these problems and provide all New Yorkers with the clean and affordable power they deserve.

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