



BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN NEW JERSEY

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748 RIVER ROAD
FAIR HAVEN, NJ 07704
TELEPHONE: (732) 747-0241
FAX: (732) 747-6962

Letter to the Editor
Red Bank Green

Sent Via Email: redbankgreen@redbankgreen.com

Editor, Red Bank Green:

As the Mayor of the Borough of Fair Haven, I am writing in support of JCP&L's Monmouth County Reliability Project, including the proposed new 10 mile, 230-kV transmission line, to connect the substations in Aberdeen and Red Bank. Fair Haven was one of the last municipalities in Monmouth County to have power restored after superstorm Sandy. Much of the delay in restoring power was that the existing 230kV lines feeding the Red Bank substation from Long Branch were down. Perhaps if this new proposed line were in place at the time, power could have been restored much sooner.

In the wake of Sandy, JCP&L received a great deal of criticism from area Mayors for neglecting the power grid infrastructure. Since 2012, they have made great strides in upgrading and fortifying the grid that services our communities. This new project is being undertaken at the recommendation of PJM, the regional power transmission organization, and it adds a redundancy to the two lines that feed the Red Bank substation from Long Branch.

I have to admit that it is easy for me to endorse this project, in that Fair Haven will realize a benefit without any impact to our residents. I also realize that we must acknowledge the concerns of the 425 residents that live along the NJ transit railroad, which is the pathway for this new power transmission line. The forum for their voices to be heard will be the public hearings when the BPU considers the project, where fact and opinion can be discussed in an open process.

If implemented as proposed, this project will benefit over 214,000 residents and customers in the forty-five towns of eastern Monmouth County with a more reliable energy grid for generations to come. For that reason alone, we must all carefully consider all the pros and cons, before a final decision is made on the Monmouth County Reliability Project.

Respectfully:

Benjamin Lucarelli
Mayor, Borough of Fair Haven