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John Lavelle, Chairman Chris Frassetto Irvine Zuckerman September 8, 2008

Town of Wawayanda Planning Board 80 Ridgebury Hill Road Slate Hill, NY 10973

SUBJECT: Competitive Power Ventures - Valley Energy Center

Dear Chairman and Board Members.

I am writing on behalf of the Orange County Partnership to urge the Planning Board to favorably consider a request by Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) to locate the Valley Energy Center, a natural gas combined-cycle electric power generator plant, on Route 6 in the Town of Wawayanda. The Partnership firmly believes that this new state-of-the-art power plant would promote the creation of excellent, high-paying jobs and tax rateables in the Town of Wawayanda and Minisink School District.

In this highly competitive market where the numbers of new corporate facilities and expansions have been steadily shrinking over the past 5 years, we are not only competing for projects nationally, but globally. Additionally, we read every day about the shortage of power in the northeast corridor and the addition of this power generating plant will further position the town for future balanced growth. It is critical that we position ourselves for success

CPV is demonstrating its commitment to a clean energy future, a better environmental future, and especially to this community. The principals in this endeavor are making every effort to meet with citizens to inform and assure them of the value and viability of this project. A local office will be opened to make the process convenient and transparent. Please consider these positive impacts to the community while going through the scooping process:

- This 630 Megawatt facility will help meet the growing energy needs of the
 <u>Lower Hudson Valley</u> region as identified by the New York Independent
 Systems Operator, while improving the reliability of the state's electric
 infrastructure.
- At a cost of some \$800 million this facility would be the largest taxpayer by far in the Town of Waywayanda and Minisink School District.
- The plant will be sited in a M1 industrial zoned, designated growth corridor
 in a perfectly situated location adjacent to I-84. Approximately 75% of this
 122-acre site will be undeveloped.
- There is an obvious synergy with the site's proximity to the Marcy transmission lines to transmit the generated power and the Millennium gas line to fuel the plant.

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- This facility would be an additional user for the newly created water and sewer district, helping offset the Towns expenses in that regard.
- During construction, this project will employ up to 400 people over a twoyear period.
- Once operational, the plant will employ 25 employees earning an average of \$80,000 to \$90,000 per year.
- CPV is successfully managing the day-to-day operation and maintenance of more than 6,000 MW of generation in eight states to provide improved financial returns, enhanced environmental protection and greater consumer benefits.
- This highly efficient, state-of-the art technology utilizing a Combined Cycle
 Electric Generator will generate local, <u>cleaner electricity</u> that reduces
 dependence on older and coal burning power plants and is better for our
 environment. The process generates electricity from natural gas and the
 waste heat is used to make steam to generate additional electricity via a
 steam turbine.
- Under a proposed Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) the company would pay approximately \$30 million into the local economy providing revenue to support vital public services, school funding, and possible tax relief.

In closing, the Orange County Partnership respectfully requests that your Board act favorably upon the request from Competitive Power Ventures.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Maureen Halahan

President & CEO

Grange County Partnership

