

INTRODUCTION

Hi, I am Michael Skelly. I live in Bordentown NJ and our family had a unit in Island House at 9100 Atlantic Avenue in Margate near Lucy the Elephant for about 40 years. You can see that brown brick high-rise building next to Lucy in some of the pictures in the DEIS.

I am a member of UU Faith Action of New Jersey – Environmental Justice Task Force and

I am an active historian serving having led the efforts to preserve, restore, and present 3 historic properties, including 2 on the national register of historic places, and the 3rd one a contributing property in a national register historic district.

I am here to comment on the environmental impact statement for this project and particularly to

Speak against Alternative A and in favor of the project going forward now using the Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation Measures described in the DEIS.

The people of New Jersey, especially the environmental justice communities need this project and others like it to move forward without delay.

While it would be better for the web of life, of which we are an integral part, for humans to have reduced energy demand from all fossil fuel burning sources by half in the 1950's. Unfortunately, we are not presented with that as an option today. What we DO have is a meaningful alternative to some of that fossil fuel driven energy production.

The people of the environmentally overburden communities of NJ have long suffered the health, social, and economic impacts from these bad decisions of the past. However, they are not alone. In fact, our entire state, region, and planet are suffering, and will suffer from these prior decisions and actions for years to come.

I have reviewed the EIS and especially the impact on our EJ communities, nature, and historic resources. We are indeed in a rough spot, but delay and further study will not help us or the natural systems that we depend on for life. Let's move forward with care and comply with the AMM Measures set forth in the EIS.

Thank you for your attention.