



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Energy Facility Siting Board

89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888
(401) 941-4500

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski
Board Member Meredith E. Brady
Board Member Terrence Gray

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.
Chair, House Corporations Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 5815 – Public Utilities Commission and Energy Facility Siting Board Intervenor support program

Dear Chair Solomon:

I am submitting the following comments on behalf of the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) on House Bill 5815, which creates an intervenor support program to be administered by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that would fund party participation in EFSB proceedings. The bill is intended to remove financial barriers to participation as a full party before the EFSB (as well as the PUC). Similar to the concerns expressed by the PUC in a separate letter, the EFSB cannot support the bill as drafted.

As drafted, this bill appears to have the PUC making decisions relating to the intervention status of parties seeking to participate in EFSB proceedings. The bill also has many other drafting issues which would likely create confusion and implementation challenges for the EFSB. Along with the PUC, the EFSB offers to address the specifics with the sponsor and stakeholders as appropriate.

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Lucarelli
Admin. & Legal Support Services Administrator

cc: Representative Morales