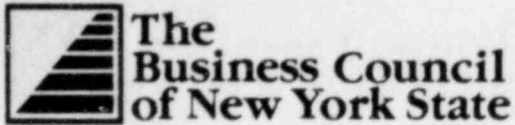


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Statement by

The Business Council of New York State, Inc.

On Behalf Of

Long Island Lighting Company

Before

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board

April 14, 1982

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Good evening Judge Brenner, Dr. Carpenter, and Mr. Shon.

Thank you for the opportunity to present a statement in support of the licensing of the Shoreham plant. The plant is an integral part of the Long Island Lighting Company's service area and will have a positive impact on the economic climate of the Long Island area and New York State.

The Business Council represents more than 4,000 business firms and some 200 chambers of commerce, small business councils, and other statewide trade associations in New York State. Our members are highly diverse, ranging from large manufacturers to small businesses, from mature firms to emerging industries, from capital intensive to labor intensive firms.

One of the goals our organization shares with these many firms is to revitalize our private sector economy. We understand the significant relationship that exists between source of energy, supply of energy and economic growth. Therefore, one of our major efforts as a spokesman and representative of business in this State has been to support efforts that will provide a reliable supply of energy capable of accommodating the needs of the business and residential community. The health and well-being of the citizens of New York State depend on new economic growth. This growth will be influenced by the availability and stability of energy at reasonable rates.

The New York State Energy Office was established in 1976. It is the vehicle for standardizing those functions relating to the basic energy problems faced by the citizens of New York State. One objective of the Energy Office is to reduce our reliance on foreign oil. The State Master Plan is the centerpiece of activity within the New York State Energy Office. It encourages development of alternative domestic energy supplies thereby reducing our dependence on foreign energy sources. Specifically, the New York State Energy Master Plan includes the completion and licensing of the Shoreham facility as part of the diversified energy mix in New York State. It is the position of The Business Council to support such an objective.

Significant progress has occurred since the adoption of the New York State Energy Master Plan. The State's dependence upon petroleum declined from 65 percent to 57 percent, and its dependence upon imported petroleum declined from 46 percent to 40 percent. Despite this progress, the need for further reduction in petroleum use and reduced dependence on OPEC remains. New York State still consumes more OPEC oil than any other State. The State's dependence upon petroleum exceeds the national average by 16 percentage points -- 57 percent to 41 percent -- and its reliance on imported petroleum exceeds the national average by 24 percentage points -- 40 percent to 16 percent.

Such dependence on one source of energy results in a continued export of New York income and capital which could be better used for investing in the expansion of companies in New York State, thus improving our economic base. It also contributes to a situation whereby other states with indigenous energy supplies continue to attract businesses from states such as New York, which are heavily dependent on fuel imports.

The business community is supportive and encourages the objective of the New York State Energy Office in alleviating this dependence on one source of energy. It is imperative that New York State reflect the concerns and needs of the business community by providing a reliable and economical supply of energy, a supply which will attract and retain industry in this State, a supply permitting businesses to plan for future expansion, thereby assuring a stable economic climate from which New York State will benefit.

The Business Council contends that the licensing of the Shoreham plant will greatly assist both the Long Island Lighting Company's service area and New York State in a unified effort to maintain an adequate and continuous supply of safe, dependable and economical energy for the people of New York State.