Consider A Resolution In Opposition To The Discharge Of Contaminated Water Into The Hudson River

Trustee Bencosme moved and it was seconded by Trustee Edelstein

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE DISCHARGE OF CONTAMINATED WATER INTO THE HUDSON RIVER

WHEREAS, Holtec International, the company decommissioning the Indian Point nuclear power plant has announced its intention to release water from onsite radioactive fuel waste pools into the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, to date there has been no specific reporting of the radionuclide contents of this water which is heavily contaminated from the storage of the nuclear fuel waste; and

WHEREAS, pre-release filtration to remove these isotopes has been presented as a solution to reduce the content of these carcinogenic contaminants to a level “as low as reasonably achievable;” and

WHEREAS, the National Academy of Science has indicated that there is no verifiable safe level of these isotopes when they are ingested or inhaled; and

WHEREAS, such pre-release treatment would not remove tritium, also carcinogenic, from the water; and
WHEREAS, any contaminants in the Hudson River present the risk of entering the food chain; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson River is an estuary that flows from south to north as well as from north to south and seven communities upriver source drinking water from the Hudson River Estuary and its tributaries (namely members of the Hudson River Drinking Water Inter-municipal Council representing the City of Poughkeepsie, Village of Rhinebeck and the Towns of Esopus, Hyde Park, Lloyd, Poughkeepsie and Rhinebeck); and

WHEREAS, the river also serves as a source of recreational activities and represents an economic resource that will be endangered by this action; and

WHEREAS, tritium has a half-life of only 12.3 years, and therefore the contaminated water can be reasonably stored in enclosed tanks on site without interfering with the decommissioning of the waste pools, affording time to study alternative waste solutions or uses for the tritium; and

WHEREAS, New York State Senator Peter Harckham and New York State Assemblymember Dana Levenberg have introduced legislation (Senate Bill S.5181 and Assembly Bill A.5338, respectively) which would ban release of radioactive waste into the Waters of the State, including the Hudson River, by Holtec International or any other successor to the decommissioning from the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Ardsley opposes the plan to release over a million gallons of contaminated water from the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant site into the Hudson River, and be it further,
RESOLVED, that the Village Ardsley hereby urges the New York State Senate and Assembly to adopt the aforementioned bills S.5181 and A.5338, and urges the Governor to sign such legislation, and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is hereby directed to send copies of this resolution to the following individuals/agencies: the Environmental Protection Agency, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, NYS Dept. of Health, NYS Decommissioning Oversight Board, NYS Public Service Commission, Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, State Senator Peter Harckham, State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, State Assemblymember Dana Levenberg, State Assemblymember Mary Jane Shimsky, Westchester County Executive George Latimer, Congressman Jamaal Bowman and the Westchester County Board of Legislators.

Carried by the following votes: 5-0-0

Ayes: Mayor Kaboolan, Trustee DiJusto, Trustee Edelstein, Trustee Bencosme and Trustee Weltz

Nays: None

Abstained:

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 3, 2023

Dated: April 4, 2023

Ann Marie Rocco, Village Clerk