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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1319

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Senator Deanna Demuzio
140 Carlinville Plaza
Carlinville, IL 62626-1191

Dear Senator Demuzio:

As the Congressman representing Taylorville and Christian County, it is my distinct pleasure to inform you of my support of the Taylorville Energy Center (TEC). I have heard from constituents and local leaders of the importance of this project to the regional economy. The General Assembly has supported this project in the past, and I urge you to continue supporting it during the veto session.

It appears that the current debate surrounding TEC is not about thousands of construction jobs and hundreds of permanent jobs that would be created during this time of unemployment rates at record levels. Nor is the debate about a reliable, long-term supply of electricity at reasonable rates for consumers. Nor is the use of clean coal technology at issue.

As someone who normally sides with those opposed to TEC, I can say that we must look beyond traditional allies. We must instead look at what is best for job creation, the local economy, and consumers.

Would the Citizens Utility Board and Illinois Attorney General's Office really approve a deal that was as bad as opponents make it out to be? The Illinois Commerce Commission had an independent consultant review Tenaska's proposal. The independent review validated every key finding Tenaska made regarding TEC.

Again, the General Assembly has previously approved TEC by wide bipartisan margins. I again urge you to continue to show your support for Illinois jobs at the Taylorville Energy Center.

Sincerely,


JOHN SHIMKUS
Member of Congress

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