



GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO

September 20, 2024

Mark Takahashi, Chair, PJM Board of Managers
Manu Asthana, PJM President and CEO
PJM Interconnection, LLC
2750 Monroe Boulevard
Audubon, PA 19403

RE: Support for the Crane Clean Energy Center

Dear Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Asthana:

As you well know, Pennsylvania has long been and continues to be an energy leader in the United States. Our Commonwealth is a leading producer of energy and the second largest net exporter — helping serve as a backbone generating state within PJM and powering homes and businesses throughout the northeast and mid-Atlantic. My Administration is committed to building on that legacy, embracing an “all-of-the-above” energy strategy that creates jobs, reduces emissions, and ensures safe, reliable, affordable power for Pennsylvanians for the long term.

As we work to navigate the current and anticipated energy needs in our Commonwealth and across the region, it is critical that your interconnection queue serve — as it has in the past — as a tool to facilitate the rapid entry of projects that can quickly begin adding capacity to the grid. Projects sited at locations of a dormant interconnection, where a generating facility shut down in the past, present an excellent opportunity to meet our shared goals of supplying reliable power to the grid and encouraging economic growth.

Pennsylvania is home to many such sites and my Administration is eager to support efforts that would revitalize our power grid, supply much-needed new electrons to homes and businesses, and continue supporting nearby communities.

I write today in support of an important and notable reactivation—the Crane Clean Energy Center that Constellation Energy Corporation announced this morning. My Administration is excited about the potential of this project and Pennsylvania looks forward to returning this strong asset to our energy generating fleet.

The PJM interconnection queue has been shut down for new applications since 2021 and is not scheduled to review new applications for generation resources until February 2026. Even when the queue reopens, it will be several more years before energy can actually flow from those projects and into our communities. Given the lengthy review process for new projects, it is imperative that shovel-ready resources like the Crane Clean Energy Center be allowed to come online as quickly as possible rather than waiting in the queue as if they were an entirely new development.

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Earlier this month, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) conducted a workshop to discuss innovations and efficiencies in generator interconnection. One promising idea put forth in that discussion was the prioritization of interconnection requests based on enhanced criteria for determining project readiness when — as today — there is a demonstrated need for more electrons on the grid as electrification and data center demand increases. I am encouraged by your public commitment this week to develop an expedited framework for approval of incremental generation projects and ask that you dedicate your creative thinking, ingenuity, and skill to such innovative proposals in order to facilitate the interconnection of shovel-ready generation projects in Pennsylvania and across the region. I ask that you direct your staff to quickly study and implement any rule changes necessary to allow Crane Clean Energy Center and similar projects to support the growing demand for electricity in the region.

My Administration stands ready to support the Crane Clean Energy Center's reactivation and would welcome suggestions as to how the Commonwealth may partner with PJM to ensure that reliable, clean energy projects are brought onto the grid as quickly as possible. Thank you for your work to effectuate this important change that will help deliver safe, reliable, and affordable electricity for consumers in Pennsylvania and across the PJM footprint.

Sincerely,



Governor Josh Shapiro

cc: The Honorable Stephen M. DeFrank, Chair, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
The Honorable Thomas L. Mehaffie III, Pennsylvania House of Representatives