



Heather C. Briccetti, Esq.
President & CEO

November 20, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

On behalf of the Business Council of New York State, Inc. (“The Business Council”) and its members, I write to express our support for Crestwood’s proposed Finger Lakes LPG storage project. This shovel-ready project will provide New York businesses and consumers with the cost-effective propane they need to run their businesses and heat their homes.

The Business Council is the leading business organization in New York State, representing the interests of large and small firms throughout the State. Our membership is made up of thousands of member companies, as well as local chambers of commerce and professional and trade associations. Though 72 percent of our members are small businesses, we also represent some of the largest corporations in the world. All told, our members employ more than 1.2 million New Yorkers.

On a local level, this fuel storage facility will bring jobs and tax revenue to some of the Upstate communities that need them the most. The Finger Lakes LPG storage facility will create 58 construction jobs and 17 permanent jobs. It will also help retain more than 130 jobs at the century-old salt plant used to supply the brine required for LPG storage, and bring more than \$600,000 annually through property taxes to Schuyler County. This is not an insignificant impact, and would go a long way towards improving the local job market and overall business climate in Schuyler County.

Statewide, a quarter million residential consumers and thousands of businesses, schools and municipalities rely on propane to heat their homes and fuel their operations. The lack of adequate propane storage means these customers are subject to constrained supply and price volatility due to longstanding infrastructure constraints. The Finger Lakes LPG storage facility would help end the local LPG supply gap that has plagued New York consumers during seven of the last ten winters, costing New York households more than \$130 million dollars in the past two winters alone.

Regionally, the Finger Lakes LPG storage facility would also have a positive impact area wide, easing supply strains across the Northeast and allowing businesses to reduce the uncertainty surrounding their propane supply.

Additionally, approval of this storage facility – designed and engineered to standards far exceeding those of the existing LPG facilities in the Finger Lakes that have been operating safely for 60 years – would signal to businesses looking to invest across New York that if a project meets the required environmental standards, it will be permitted. In contrast, unnecessary permitting delays send a strong, negative signal to businesses looking to invest in New York.

In conclusion, The Business Council and its members strongly support the Finger Lakes LPG storage project. Seven years of regulatory uncertainty for a safe, proven project is a discouraging prospect for any business looking to invest in this state. The Business Council urges you to take decisive action and approve the project's permits as soon as is practicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephen C. Brucetta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "S".