JAMESTOWN bpu BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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Western New York Technical Experts to Explain BPU Power Plant Project at October 1 Ward One Meeting at C.C. Ring School Auditorium

Four western New York technical experts involved in the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) proposed power plant project will appear at a City Council Ward One informational session on Wednesday, October l. The public is invited to attend the 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. meeting in the auditorium of C.C. Ring Elementary School on Buffalo Street. Ward One Councilman Steve Szwejbka will host the session.

The meeting is the first of several Ward meetings to be scheduled by the BPU and City Council members throughout the coming year. The original Circulating Fluidized Bed (CFB) base plant project introduced in 2003 has been enhanced by Oxy-Coal technology. The speakers who will appear can explain the technology in easy-to-understand terms, according to General Manager David Leathers. The BPU and city officials believe that residents should have the opportunity to continue to learn about the project and what it will mean to the area, as well as to provide input as the project goes forward.

The organizations participating in the meeting, in addition to the BPU, include Praxair, Ecology and Environment and the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo.

Praxair is a global Fortune 500 company that supplies atmospheric process and specialty gases, high-performance coatings and related services and technologies. The company was originally founded in 1907 when it was the first company to commercialize cryogenically separated oxygen. Its primary products are atmospheric gases (such as oxygen, nitrogen and rare gases) and process and specialty gases (such as carbon dioxide and hydrogen). Oxy-Coal technology has been developed by Praxair. Dante Bonaquist and Rick Victor will represent the company on Wednesday.

Senior Corporate Fellow and Chief Scientist for Praxair Dante Bonaquist has worked for 28 years with the company at its Tonawanda location. He is responsible for research and development programs in energy, hydrogen and advanced materials technologies. A Pennsylvania State University graduate who resides in Grand Island, Bonaquist received Praxair's Innovation Award for his sustained technical contributions. The American Institute of Chemical Engineers honored him with its Institute Award for Excellence in Industrial Gases Technology. He holds more than 110 U.S. patents.

Victor, a Buffalo native, is the Director of Technology Development for Praxair and is primarily focused on gaining external funding to support research and development for the company. He graduated from the SUNY at Buffalo with both a mechanical engineering degree and a Masters in Business Administration. He has worked at Praxair since 1977 in both engineering and business positions and is the inventor or co-inventor of five U.S. patents. With Leathers, Victor is leading the alliance of companies involved in the Jamestown project.

Ecology and Environment (E & E) is a Buffalo-based corporation that specializes internationally in climate change issues, particularly carbon dioxide capture and sequestration. Appearing on behalf of E & E is its Vice President and Regulatory Specialist, George A. Rusk.

At E & E, Rusk oversees permitting activities, coordinates regulatory agency proceedings and supervises environmental due diligence and regulatory compliance audits. He specializes in emerging greenhouse gas initiatives and trading programs; and synthetic and alternative fuel development; clean coal technology; and carbon dioxide capture and sequestration. A Yale University graduate, Rusk holds a law degree from the University at Buffalo.

Dr. Harvey Stenger, Jr., Dean of the University at Buffalo's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, also will attend the meeting at Ring School. Dr. Stenger graduated with a chemical engineering degree from Cornell University and holds a doctorate of science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The former Dean of Lehigh University's College of Engineering and Applied Science, Dr. Stenger received 11 academic awards there from 1988-2006. In addition to his service as a Dean at the University at Buffalo, Dr. Stenger also is a Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering.