

RESOLUTION NO. 16-185

**TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLETOWN
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SIGNIFICANT CONCERN REGARDING
THE NEED FOR AND IMPACT OF JCP&L'S PROPOSED TOWER PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Jersey Central Power & Light Company ("JCP&L") has recently announced plans for a 230,000 kv transmission line with 140+/- foot high monopoles along the New Jersey Transit right-of-way running through the Township of Middletown ("Middletown"), generally known as the JCP&L Reliability Project; and

WHEREAS, a substantially similar project was proposed by JCP&L in 1989, but was withdrawn in the face of overwhelming opposition, including from Middletown; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that based on the information presented to date, the need for this project is questionable, particularly when weighed against the significant and disproportionate negative impact it will have on Middletown and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes this project, as proposed, will have a significant negative impact on real estate values, which will decrease the tax base of the Township with no public benefit to Middletown in exchange; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes this project, as proposed, will directly and adversely impact the Middletown Village Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee believes that less intrusive alternatives have not been given sufficient consideration prior to dusting off failed 30 year old plans for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Middletown in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey that it hereby formally expresses and states its opposition to JCP&L's tower project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Middletown encourages JCP&L to more fully consider less detrimental means to increase the reliability of its transmission services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Executive Director of New Jersey Transit, urging New Jersey Transit to not grant an easement to JCP&L for this project as proposed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Board of Public Utilities (“BPU”) to preemptively register the Township’s opposition as an interested party in the event that JCP&L submits an application to the BPU.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to Assemblywoman Amy Handlin to encourage her to utilize her state position to lobby New Jersey Transit to deny JCP&L’s use of its right of way and to utilize her influence before the BPU in anticipation of an application being made.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional copies of this resolution shall be sent to Senator Joseph M. Kyrillos Jr., Assemblyman Declan J. O’Scanlon Jr., and the Clerks of the Township of Holmdel, Township of Aberdeen, Township of Hazlet and the Borough of Red Bank for dissemination amongst their respective governing bodies.