

DOCKETED

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Opposed to reopening without thorough investigation into cause of Catastrophic Failure

I was in favor of this project when first proposed due to its tax benefits to the city and its fuel source being relatively benign. I wish now I had done my due diligence to find that "Calpine" is a greenwashing term for a company that is out of state, privately owned, thus granting the public zero insight into the financial structure, stability, or truth about how the company is run.

The average life of a steam turbine in the US is 50 years+. This turbine was designed for "peak use" only, requiring it to be in operation roughly 4 months/year, giving it a total operating time of roughly 28 months before exploding.

Calpine Russel City did not come remotely close to operating in the way it was designed and was either deliberately built below specifications, or so incompetently run, they blew up their own machinery. Either case requires a thorough review of not just this plant, but also any other projects they have in the state before they could be allowed to reopen.

To the extent it is possible, consultation with other state utility commissions to notify them of the scale of this incident and see if there are other failures, delays, or other questionable behavior that shows this company has a history of doing shoddy work. This is especially of concern given the recent statewide power catastrophe in Texas where both Calpine and Russel City Energy are incorporated. A state with a ruinous record of a lack of regulations in the generation, distribution, and stability of electricity to its citizens.