

It also would require the BPU to hold a public meeting within 60 days of a municipality notifying the board that a gas utility has “applied to lay conductors and install related facilities for conducting gas within the municipality” if the utility had not previously received BPU approval to install related facilities in the municipality. There is no Senate counterpart to date.

Earlier this year, ATU released two resolutions aimed at encouraging investment in utility infrastructure. **AR131**, sponsored by Assemblyman Troy Singleton (D7), urges the U.S. Congress to pass the “Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act of 2016.” The bill was introduced in Congress by Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and would help provide financing for critical water infrastructure upgrades by facilitating private investment in projects. **AR105**, sponsored by Assemblyman Dancer, “affirms the importance” of modernizing and replacing aging natural gas pipelines in New Jersey “in order to ensure public safety, to improve the reliability of natural gas infrastructure, and to foster economic growth and job creation.”

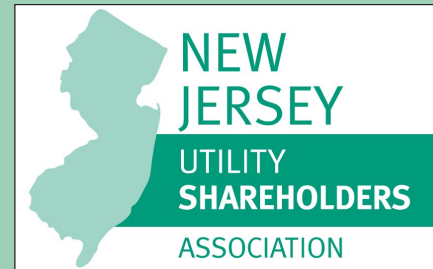
**At the BPU**

Proposals to expedite decisions on new rates and encourage utility infrastructure investment were circulated by the BPU for comment in May. The first proposal would allow utilities to charge customers, subject to refund, “provisional rates” which, upon further review by the BPU may be finalized or modified. The benefit of this proposal to utilities is that this would allow them to recover more quickly in new rates dollars already spent to provide service. The second proposal would establish a program to allow utilities to develop and seek approval from BPU for 5-year infrastructure investment plans for more timely recovery of their costs. NJUSA offered oral comments and submitted written statements in support of the infrastructure proposal.

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# NJUSA Insight

## American Water to Build New Corporate Headquarters in Camden

American Water Works Company is building its new corporate headquarters on the Camden Waterfront. The building will be located at One Water Street along the Delaware River, with the Ben Franklin Bridge and Campbell’s Field to the north and Adventure Aquarium to the south.

“American Water and our employees are excited about our new home on the Camden waterfront,” said Susan Story, president and CEO of American Water. “We know this will be a place where we can become an even stronger presence in this great city; where we can attract and develop talent for today and the future; and where we can develop solutions to challenges for clean, safe, reliable and affordable water and water services for people across the country.”

The five-story, 200,000-square-foot headquarters, which is expected to open late next year, will be the home to more than 600 employees. It is the first building of a new 20-acre, \$1 billion waterfront development project by Liberty Property Trust of Pennsylvania that includes 1.5 million square feet of office space, as well as a hotel, retail and residential component.

The environmentally friendly building, designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects with Gensler responsible for the interior, will demonstrate American Water’s dedication to environmental stewardship. It will feature panoramic views of the Philadelphia skyline, easy access to a waterfront park along the Delaware River, plentiful natural lighting, a rooftop terrace, and cutting-edge technology.

“In addition to increasing our efficiency and ability to work collaboratively to meet customer needs, this new headquarters will reflect our culture,” said Story. “Our employees are passionate about serving our customers, being stewards of the environment, being involved in our communities, and always working together to be innovative and be better at what we do, which is providing clean, safe, reliable and affordable water services. This will be a workplace we can take pride in and one that will help us attract future talent to our company.”

American Water, which broke ground on the new building in December 2016, is committed to hiring Camden businesses and workers during the construction phase of the project.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

There is a rising trend in New Jersey that has the potential to negatively influence policy decisions that affect utility shareholders. That trend is for the voices of opponents to virtually any and everything utilities propose to drown out reason and facts. That is not to say that anyone should be denied an opportunity to be heard, only that what is said and its basis needs to be weighed against fact, rather than beliefs alone.

No one wants to pay more for utility service. But when the product or service costs more to deliver, it is reasonable to expect to pay more. While it is fair to debate how much more people are asked to pay, it is when the answer is simply no, or only offer unachievable alternatives, stalemate or bad decisions result.

The unwillingness to accept the siting of any new power plants is an example of unreasonable opposition for over the past 30 years that has left New Jersey vulnerable to higher electricity costs and service interruptions. Those who “just say no” to proposals to build more reliable electric distribution and transmission lines, who oppose pipelines needed for future natural gas delivery or don’t want to ensure continued operation of existing nuclear facilities choose a zero sum approach that might allow for a short-term win for some, but can lead to dire long-term consequences for all.

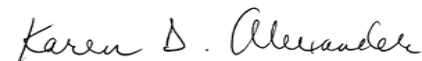
It has been part of the American Way to accept that sometimes we have to make individual sacrifices for the greater good.

We might want to drive 80 mph through a residential neighborhood, but are not allowed to for the safety of others.

Many were understandably unhappy to have to relinquish their property under the government’s claim of eminent domain, but had that not happened, the Interstate Highway System could not have been built. Electric and gas distribution infrastructure have made the comforts and advances of modern life possible. They have been ubiquitous in the landscape, sometimes seen, sometimes unseen, for over 100 years. They need to be expanded, reinforced or replaced if our way of life and economy are to continue as they have been known, much less if they are to progress.

NJUSA was formed to bring the perspective of shareholders into the public discussion and decisions on utility issues. To do so most effectively, we will need to engage our members more directly to help us raise the level of fact and reason in the public discourse on these issues and make it known that there are New Jerseyans who understand and support the need for well thought-out projects that will allow progress.

We hope you will add your voice to our efforts and are grateful for your continued support!



Karen D. Alexander, President

## PSEG Launches “New Jersey Needs Nuclear” Campaign

According to the Energy Information Administration, nuclear energy provides approximately 60 percent of the nation’s carbon-free energy. In New Jersey, nuclear provides around-the-clock power for 2.7 million New Jersey homes. PSEG’s nuclear plants at Salem and Hope Creek have become a vital part of the state’s energy mix – **providing nearly half of the power generated in the state.**

As New Jersey and the rest of the U.S. look for ways to reduce carbon emissions from fossil fuel energy sources, energy experts agree that nuclear plants will have to play a central role in reaching carbon-cutting targets. However, changing energy economics put nuclear energy at risk.

Since 2013, 10 U.S. nuclear plants have closed or are scheduled to be shut down prematurely – not for issues related to age, safety or licensing, but for economics. In May 2016, the Nuclear Energy Institute warned that 20 more U.S. nuclear plants could close within 10 years due to economic pressures, including low natural gas prices, the costs associated with federal regulations and emissions credits for renewables.

In an effort to ensure that nuclear remains an integral part of a diverse energy mix – one that includes natural gas and renewables, PSEG and a number of other stakeholders have launched the **NJ Needs Nuclear** campaign, with the common goal of educating residents about the benefits nuclear brings to the state.

Nuclear plants provide jobs and stimulate the economy, as well as provide a clean and reliable source of energy. PSEG’s three nuclear plants at Salem and Hope Creek employ 1,800 people, contribute nearly \$600 million to the economy and pay \$80 million a year in taxes. Replacing the state’s nuclear energy with coal and gas would add as much as 14 million tons of pollution to the air - the equivalent of 3 million cars on the road.

Without the state’s nuclear plants, New Jersey would use more electricity than it generates – sending jobs and dollars out of state and leading to increasing reliability risks. Some argue that New Jersey would do better without nuclear energy and should move more rapidly and exclusively to renewable energy. The problem with that approach is that renewable resources cannot yet provide the same level of consistent, reliable and affordable electricity as the state now receives from nuclear.

All New Jersey residents and businesses need safe, affordable and reliable energy. PSEG is working with New Jersey leaders and legislators to find a solution that would preserve the state’s nuclear energy – before it’s too late. NJUSA supports those efforts. To learn more about the value nuclear provides for New Jersey’s citizens, its economy and its environment, visit [NJNeedsNuclear.com](http://NJNeedsNuclear.com).

## Help NJUSA Plan a Day at the State House!

This September, NJUSA will be hosting A Day at the State House to allow members to learn the history of the place where our state laws are made, tour the facility and, if the Assembly or Senate are in session, see lawmaking at work. But first, we need your help.

In the next few weeks, you will receive a survey relating to timing, transportation and logistics. Your valuable feedback will help us ensure that all members interested in attending this event have the opportunity to do so. Please keep an eye on our mailbox for this short survey.

## Talk in Trenton

So that our members have a sense of what New Jersey policymakers are doing on utility issues, NJUSA will periodically provide news briefs under a “Talk in Trenton” column. Members are encouraged to contact us if interested in more information on these developments. Below is a recap of a few of the issues considered so far this year.

### In the Legislature

Assembly bill **A1701**, sponsored by Assemblyman Ronald Dancer (R12) was scheduled for a vote in the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee (ATU) in February, but was discussed without a vote. The bill would require the NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to reserve a portion of each of its public meetings for public comment.

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## Upcoming NJUSA Events

### North Jersey Lunch & Learn

Wednesday July 12 at Hasbrouck Heights Holiday Inn in Hasbrouck Heights

### Central Jersey Lunch & Learn

Thursday, July 13 at the Holiday Inn & National Conference Center in East Windsor

### South Jersey Luncheon

Thursday, August 10 at Adelphia in Deptford

*All events take place from noon to 2 p.m. Registration begins at noon.*

**Be on the look out for more information and invitations about each of the events.  
Call Hailey at 856-840-4089 with questions or to RSVP.**