



HOWARD MARKLEIN

STATE SENATOR • 17TH SENATE DISTRICT

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Senator Marklein Statement on Alliant Plant Closure in Cassville

MADISON— State Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) released the following statement today regarding the pending closure of the Nelson Dewey Generating Station in Cassville:

“I was informed, last night, that Alliant Energy has begun the formal process to close the Nelson Dewey Generating Station in Cassville. Workers at the plant received official termination notices that have been expected for several months. The reality of this plant closing is beginning to truly hit home.

“I have been working with leadership in the Village of Cassville, Grant County and Alliant Energy to find ways to make this transition easier for the community. Governor Scott Walker recently signed a proposal I authored to become Act 61 which helps Grant County and the Village of Cassville manage the drastic changes in utility aid payments that are a part of their annual budget. The state is also deploying resources to surrounding communities to help with worker re-training, job search and other state-supported programs.

“We are trying to help Cassville, but it is disappointing that so many families are being impacted by this closure which is a direct result of politics at the Federal level of our government. Dozens of families and an entire community will be forever impacted by political policies created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Washington, DC.

“Despite the EPA’s claim that regulations protect the American people, the Nelson Dewey Generating Station, a coal-fired power plant, produced some of the cleanest, cheapest energy in the region. It provided family-supporting, private-sector jobs to dozens of people in a community without other industry. Alliant Energy is a terrific community steward.

“However, the regulatory environment governing our utilities have made it nearly impossible and cost-prohibitive for companies like Alliant to continue operating power plants that are not compliant with unreasonable environmental standards.

“As your State Senator, I will continue to seek ways to soften the blow of this plant closure in Cassville and will encourage the state agencies to take an active role in supporting the workers and their families who will be impacted by this significant change in their lives.”

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