RESOLUTION NO.  56 - 13

Offered By Councilperson  DAWSON
Seconded By Councilperson  ____________

TITLE:  A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PSE&G’s ENERGY STRONG PROGRAM.

BE IT RESOLVED, by The Council of The Borough Of Glen Ridge, in The County Of Essex and in The State Of New Jersey, as follows:

WHEREAS, The State Of New Jersey has experienced a series of extreme weather events over the last two years, including but not limited to: Hurricane Irene, the October 2011 snowstorm, Superstorm Sandy and an accompanying Nor'easter in October  2012; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Of Glen Ridge was impacted by said extreme weather events, including but not limited to numerous power outages; and,

WHEREAS, Public Service Electric and Gas Company (“PSE&G”) provides The Borough Of Glen Ridge electric and / or gas service; and,

WHEREAS, said extreme weather events severely damaged PSE&G infrastructure, including but not limited to: flooded electrical substations due to storm surges, downed power lines and poles due to high winds and fallen trees, and the destruction of gas meters due to contact with water; and,

WHEREAS, said damages to PSE&G infrastructure contributed to The Borough O Glen Ridge said impacts; and,

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Board Of Public Utilities (“BPU”) issued an order on January 23rd, 2013 directing the State’s electric and gas utilities, including PSE&G, to implement certain recommendations in the areas of: “Preparedness Efforts”, “Communications”, “Restoration and Response”, “Post Event”, and “Underlying Infrastructure Issues”; and,

WHEREAS, PSE&G submitted an infrastructure filing on February 20th, 2013 entitled “Energy Strong”; and,

WHEREAS, “Energy Strong” proposes an investment of $3.9B worth of infrastructure projects over a 10-year period to enhance PSE&G’s electrical and gas system, including but not limited to: fortifying electrical stations, replacing and modernizing cast iron gas mains, deploying smart grid technologies, improving pole distribution systems in place, creating more redundancies, undergrounding of electricity lines, and protecting gas metering stations; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough Of Glen Ridge would benefit from the proposed investments in the “Energy Strong” filing.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Mayor And Council of The Borough Of Glen Ridge formally declares its support for PSE&G’s “Energy Strong” program.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the support of the Mayor And Council of The Borough Of Glen Ridge of the Energy Strong program is contingent upon PSE&G (1) maintaining the historic character of the Borough by maintaining the current streetscape that is free of overhead lines; (2) improving Borough’s existing rear-yard power distribution system and (3) adhering to NJSA 48:3-17a.