May 8, 2012

The Honorable Peter A. Hughes
Mayor, Glen Ridge Borough Township
825 Bloomfield Avenue
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

Dear Mayor Hughes,

As you may be aware, we recently introduced legislation to return hundreds of millions of dollars that had been cut from municipal aid through the state’s diversions of money from the Energy Tax Receipts.

This bill is the direct result of talks we have had with mayors in our own districts and across the state. We have heard how communities and taxpayers would benefit enormously if the state would just live up to its obligations and fund state aid as the law requires. We have to stop talking about property tax relief as some sort of ideal, and make it a reality.

Specifically, our bill would restore $385 million cut in ETR funds during fiscal years 2009, 2010 and 2011, and would provide an additional $54 million to support aid increases required under existing law. The funds would be provided over a five-year span, with the first $87.8 million payment coming in the upcoming 2013 fiscal year. After the 5-year run-up, the state would be mandated to distribute the full amount of energy tax revenues to municipalities.

And to ensure the state lives up to its obligation to its communities, the bill also includes a so-called “poison pill” – if the state’s annual appropriations act doesn’t provide the required one-fifth increments over the next five years, the entire Corporation Business Tax would sunset.

The days of Trenton taking property tax relief from municipalities to pad the state budget need to end. It’s no coincidence that the state’s raids of energy tax revenues meant for municipalities have corresponded with our growing property tax crisis. Returning this money to municipalities, where it belongs, is not just good for towns struggling to meet the needs of residents, but for property taxpayers struggling to make ends meet.

We hope you will join us in this effort. We urge you to contact your own legislators and ask them to sign-on to this bill as a co-sponsor, and to commit to vote for it in committee and on the floor of the Legislature.

Together, we can not only provide municipalities with the revenues they rightly deserve, but also protect against future raids of these funds. No one should be allowed to play fiscal games with property tax relief.

Sincerely,

Sen. Paul Sarlo
Sen. Linda Greenstein
Asm. Troy Singleton
Honorable Peter A. Hughes
Mayor
Borough of Glen Ridge
825 Bloomfield Avenue
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028

Dear Mayor Hughes:

I enclose with this letter a copy of the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places nomination submitted for Boundary Increase #2 of the Glen Ridge Historic District within the Borough of Glen Ridge. The Borough of Glen Ridge is a Certified Local Government (CLG) in the national historic preservation program. CLG program regulations require that the Historic Preservation Office notify a CLG municipality when a National Register of Historic Places nomination is received for a historic property within its jurisdiction and provide the chief elected local official and the Historic Preservation Commission with an opportunity to comment on the nomination.

The Historic Preservation Office invites you to share your comments on the nomination to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places of the Glen Ridge Historic District Boundary Increase #2. The Historic Preservation Office requests, within the next 60 calendar days of this letter, your recommendation whether or not Boundary Increase #2 of the Glen Ridge Historic District should be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bob Craig at (609) 984-0541 or by email at bob.craig@dep.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Saunders
Administrator and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure
Mayor Peter Hughes  
825 Bloomfield Avenue  
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028  

Dear Tree City USA Supporter,

The Arbor Day Foundation congratulates Glen Ridge on being named a Tree City USA® community for 2011. Residents of Glen Ridge should take pride in the fact that they live in a community where planting and nurturing trees is a priority.

You already know that trees are a vital component of the infrastructure in cities and towns, providing environmental and health benefits for your citizens. In fact, trees are a rare component of a community’s infrastructure in that they actually increase in value and service over time from a modest investment.

Enclosed is a press release for your convenience as you prepare to contact your local media to share this commendable achievement with the public. We hope you are excited to share the significance of this accomplishment. If you wish to receive this press release in electronic form, please email Randy Gordon, Public Relations Manager of the Foundation, at programs@arborday.org. We will send it to you within one business day.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. Today, more than 3,400 cities and towns have been recognized as a Tree City USA community. State foresters are responsible for the presentation of the Tree City USA flag and other materials. We will forward your awards to Todd Wyckoff in your state forester’s office. They will be coordinating the presentation with you. It would be especially appropriate to make the Tree City USA award a part of your community’s Arbor Day ceremony.

Again, we celebrate your diligence in improving the quality of life for the citizens of Glen Ridge and thank you for creating a healthier, more sustainable world for us all.

Best Regards,

John Rosenow  
Chief Executive

cc: Richard Wolowicz

enclosure
April 26, 2012

Honorable Peter A. Hughes  
Mayor  
Borough of Glen Ridge  
Municipal Building  
825 Bloomfield Avenue  
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028-0066  

Dear Mayor Hughes:

This letter serves to notify you that all of the interests in Merit Mountainside, LLC, the sole owner of Mountainside Hospital, located at 1 Bay Avenue, Montclair, NJ, will be sold on or about July 1, 2012 to Montclair Health System, LLC, a joint venture between LHP Hospital Group, Inc. and HackensackUMC. The sale will not result in any loss of employment at Mountainside Hospital, as all of the employees at Mountainside Hospital will be retained at their same positions and at the same location following the closing of the transaction, although some of the employees may experience a change in their benefits. A list of the employees at Mountainside Hospital and their job titles is attached hereto.

In order to comply with the terms of the Millville Dallas Airmotive Plant Job Loss Notification Act, to the extent it applies notwithstanding the lack of any job loss, we are providing you this notice along with a copy of the notices that we have provided to all employees who work at Mountainside Hospital today.

Please contact me at (973) 429-6151 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Francis M. Coridon  
Vice President, Human Resources

enclosures
PASSAIC VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

SERVICE FEE SCHEDULE FOR TREATED EFFLUENT FOR BENEFICIAL USE

Please take notice that the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission will hold a Public Hearing on May 22, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time in the Public Meeting Room of the Commission, 600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey on the establishment of a Service Fee Schedule for the Distribution and Sale of Treated Effluent for Beneficial Reuse.

As part of the Service Fee Schedule, an effluent rate of $0.75/1000 gallons shall be established through December 31, 2016. The effluent rate will be thereafter revised on an annual basis, based on the increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index. Notwithstanding the above, any annual increase shall be a minimum increase of two and one half percent (2.5%) and a maximum increase of five percent (5.0%).

At the hearing, the Commission will present evidence that the proposed service fee rate is reasonable and necessary. Any interested person may appear at that time and will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

A full copy of the Service Fee Schedule is available for inspection at the offices of the Commission, 600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey on any regular business day between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. prevailing time. Further, a transcript of the Public Hearing will be made and copies will be available to all interested parties at a cost of $.05 per page.

Wayne J. Forrest
Executive Director
April 27, 2012

Dear Mayor Hughes

Consumer Alert!

Has Verizon lived up to the statewide franchise agreement in your community?

According to the terms of the statewide franchise granted to Verizon in 2006 the residents, institutions and businesses of New Jersey were eligible for installation of FiOS broadband service by the end of 2010.

That was a commitment that Verizon agreed to deliver in exchange for a very valuable franchise that allowed this company to gain a competitive advantage over other broadband telecommunication services providers.

A recent order issued on March 12, 2012 by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) indicates that Verizon has fallen far short of meeting this commitment in many New Jersey municipalities and school districts.

The BPU wants Verizon to provide evidence that it has lived up to the agreement to provide full broadband capability by the end of 2010.

The important thing to remember is that Verizon's franchise has allowed this company to make enormous profits while allowing them to write off expenses as tax losses.

A recently released report by the New Networks Institute (Verizon's State-based Financial Issues and Tax Losses: The Destruction of America's Telecommunications Utilities, the Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN).) estimates that in New Jersey alone, Verizon collected over $13 billion in excess profits and tax breaks, while only delivering enough cable to serve an estimated 57 percent of the households in its New Jersey territories.

Is your community or school district one where Verizon has failed to live up to its franchise agreement obligation?

The Verizon statewide franchise is up for renewal in 2012, so the time to make sure that Verizon delivers what they promised for your community is right now.

- over -
At IBEW Local 827, we believe a contract must be honored and that Verizon should honor the contract that it made to provide broadband service to New Jersey communities, businesses and institutions.

So what can you do if you believe that Verizon has failed to deliver the FiOS broadband service that it promised your community?

One option is to join with our union, IBEW Local 827, in our fight for consumer rights. We represent the workers who can do the installations necessary for Verizon to meet their obligations to the citizens of New Jersey. Let us know if Verizon has fulfilled its obligations to your community.

Our members and their families live, work, pay taxes and vote in communities throughout New Jersey. We are on the front line of telecommunications service delivery in the state and we know, first hand, how Verizon has failed to deliver promised broadband service. We have therefore decided, as a union, to become the advocate for the consumers we service.

*We stand ready to complete the FiOS fiber optic network that Verizon promised to deliver but that promise may never be fulfilled unless you, as an elected representative in your community, petition the Board of Public Utilities for compliance before the franchise deal is renewed.*

*More importantly, you can take action right now by sending a letter urging the BPU to force Verizon to live up to their promises to Robert M. Hanna, President, and Commissioners Jeanne M. Fox, Joseph L. Fiordaliso, Nicholas Asselta, and Mary-Anna Holden of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor, Post Office Box 350, Trenton New Jersey 08625-0350.*

*In your communications with the BPU on this matter please refer to Docket No. TO12020155.*

If you would like more information about Verizon’s failure to honor its commitment to provide broadband service in New Jersey please contact us through our web site at [www.ibew827.com](http://www.ibew827.com) or at the address below.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William D. Huber
President/Business Manager
Date: April 23, 2012

To: New Jersey State League of Municipalities
   Essex County Municipalities

From: Evelyn Rosario, Municipal Clerk
      Township of Nutley

Subject: Resolution “Employment Initiative Program of the New Jersey Employer Support Guard and Reserves”

Enclosed please find a certified true and complete photocopy of resolution number 93-12 entitled “Employment Initiative Program of the New Jersey Employer Support Guard and Reserves.” Said Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley at their meeting held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012.
Resolution

Introduced by: Mayor Mauro G. Tucci AND Commissioner Thomas J. Evans
Seconded by: Commissioner Alphonse Petracco

Date: April 17, 2012
No. 93-12

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, January 24, the Commander-in-Chief of our Armed Forces reminded all Americans that, “Above all, our freedom endures because of the men and women in uniform who defend it,” and that “this generation of heroes has made the United States safer and more respected around the world.”; And

WHEREAS, the President, further promised, “As they come home, we must serve them as well as they’ve served us. That includes giving them the care and the benefits they have earned...And it means enlisting our veterans in the work of rebuilding our nation.”; and

WHEREAS, National Guard and Reserve forces today total over 1 million service members and represent 48 percent of our total military force; while every day around the globe, thousands of men and women in uniform including dedicated members of the National Guard and Reserves, risk their lives and make great sacrifices to defend our national interests, serving extended tours away from their homes, families and jobs; and

WHEREAS, at the same time, we are now seeing unprecedented levels of unemployment and underemployment among members of the Guard and Reserve, as up to 22 percent of Guard and Reserve members face unemployment; and

WHEREAS, in this time of economic uncertainty, the Employer Support Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is focusing on connecting employers with the talented pool of service members and their spouses, with the intent of facilitating meaningful employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, to further this goal, the New Jersey ESGR has launched an Employment Initiative Program (EIP), which is a collaborative effort with federal agencies including the Department of Labor (Veterans Affairs), the Department of Veterans, the Small Business Administration and the Office of Personnel Management; and

WHEREAS, the goal is to enhance the employment process and serve as an effective resource for service members and employers. ESGR is also partnering with Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces (EPAF) through EIP with a high-tech and high-touch approach; and

WHEREAS, for almost a year now, the United States Chamber of Commerce has also endeavored to find employment for our returning veterans and the spouses of those who continue to serve, at home and abroad, with its Hiring Our Heroes Program; and

WHEREAS, the Hiring Heroes Program is a nationwide effort to help veterans and military spouses find meaningful employment, in partnership with the Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), to improve public-private sector coordination in local communities, where veterans and their families are returning every day; and

WHEREAS, despite those efforts, the unemployment rate for veterans of our Armed Forces in our Nation and in our State continues to exceed the over-all rate; and

WHEREAS, in order to take the lead on advancing the EIP to the next level, the New Jersey ESGR has enlisted strong and positive support from corporate leaders, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, US Dept. of Labor/VETS and the New Jersey League of Municipalities; and
WHEREAS, it is incumbent on all of us to prove that New Jersey cares for the men and women in uniform who risk their lives and make great sacrifices to defend our national interests; and

WHEREAS, this employment initiative can be New Jersey’s way of saying thank you to the men and women who made great sacrifices to protect our nation’s freedom; and

WHEREAS, local officials throughout the State of New Jersey, working together through the League of Municipalities, and with the New Jersey ESGR, their local and State Chambers of Commerce, and local business leaders can help to advance basic fairness to our vets and their families by pursuing one simple goal: to allow America’s over one million unemployed veterans and military spouses to follow their dreams, instead of spending their lives just trying to catch up;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this April 17, 2012, that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley recognizes that we will never be able to repay the debt we owe to all members of our armed forces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in gratitude, the Township of Nutley pledges its enthusiastic and unqualified support for the Employment Initiative Program of the New Jersey Employer Support Guard and Reserves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey State League of Municipalities and to our neighboring municipalities.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of an resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Nutley, County of Essex, State of New Jersey on 4-17-2012.

Evelyn Rosario, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk

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