

Unofficial Translation from the Hebrew

13 January 2021

Benjamin Netanyahu
Prime Minister of Israel
Jerusalem

Re: Your intervention in revoking the Planning Administration decision that threatens our residents and was adopted in violation of government policy

Honorable Prime Minister,

We, the undersigned, mayors of cities, regional councils and local authorities in the Samaria and the Sharon area represent over half a million Jews and Arabs, residents, members of kibbutzim, city people and working-class moshavim. We turn to you and request your urgent intervention in the implementation of government policy, which was decided on 25/10/20 in Government Resolution No. 465 regarding energy policy.

The government decision announced a priority for electricity generation using renewable energy and stipulated that any new power plants powered by fossil fuels (including natural gas) would only be established in areas adjacent to existing power plants and national infrastructure facilities, such as desalination plants.

This decision, which was made by the government under your leadership, in fact removed a heavy risk to the lives of over half a million of our residents - the construction of power plants involving a variety of risks, from security, through to air pollution and disease, to issues of transport access. Decision 465 adopted by the government under your leadership, led, in effect, to the cancellation of the destructive plans for the construction of polluting and unnecessary power plants near Kfar Saba (TATAL 91) and adjacent to the residents' homes in Kfar Qassem and Rosh Ha'ayin (TATAL 98).

Despite Resolution 465 and in stark contrast to the government policy led by you, on 11/1/2021, the Planning Administration passed a decision to approve Tatal 98 - the private (gas) power station "Kesem Energy" adjacent to Rosh HaAyin and Kfar Qassem. This decision also gives impetus to the further promotion of the plans for the establishment of Tatal 91 - A private (gas) power plant near Kfar Saba (Reindeer), which threatens the security and health of the area's residents and transport access to Highway 6.

The aforementioned Planning Authority decision is in stark contrast to the government's position and the energy policy that you and your ministers announced only last October!

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We call on you to demonstrate your leadership, demonstrate good governance and call the executive echelon to order! We demand that the decisions of the Planning Authority and its methods of operation be aligned with the government's policy and in accordance with its public commitments.

We urge to meet with you and look forward to your personal intervention for the health and safety of over half a million residents.

Signed by 18 Jewish and Arab municipalities and regional councils