

September 9, 2020

Chairwoman Joyce Wilkerson Philadelphia School Board 440 N. Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19130

Dear Chairwoman Wilkerson and the Philadelphia School Board:

I am writing to express support for the extension of the Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) for the former refinery property in South Philadelphia. The transformation of the site from a vacant refinery property to a state-of-the-art, multi-modal logistics campus represents a unique opportunity for the City and the region. We understand that the employment impact at full buildout is estimated to be 19,000 permanent jobs, as well as 13,000 jobs during the construction of this project.

This project fits perfectly into the purpose of the KOZ program, i.e. to stimulate investment, economic growth and employment in the commonwealth for development and revitalization. KOZ designation is an important tool to help enable the site to reach its full development potential. Extending KOZ benefits for the site is a way for key stakeholders to come together to support a project that will create opportunity and economic growth.

PECO is also actively engaged with Hilco Redevelopment Partners (HRP) on this project and is committed to be an important partner to provide reliable and resilient electric service for this site. We have also been in early talks with HRP to discuss expanding the Workforce Development program, increasing apprenticeship participation and finding innovative ways to get the local community engaged.

We firmly urge the School Board to extend the existing KOZ, which will accelerate the development of this project creating more jobs more quickly. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phillip T. Eastman, Jr.

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Senior Manager, Economic & Business Development