

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wawayanda, NY -- June 20th, 2017

**SUPPORTERS PAY FINES FOR MEMBERS OF THE WAWAYANDA SIX;
FOUR TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE COURTHOUSE**

WHEN: Wednesday, June 21st, 1pm

WHERE: Wawayanda Town Court, 80 Ridgebury Hill Road, Slate Hill, NY

CONTACTS:

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The Infrastructure Committee of Sustainable Warwick, along with over a dozen individuals, are showing their support for the STOP the CPV POWER PLANT movement by paying fines and court fees. Four members of the Wawayanda Six will be appearing at 1pm tomorrow to pay fines associated with their civil disobedience action at the CPV construction site on December 18th, 2015. They will be joined by representatives of Sustainable Warwick's Infrastructure Committee, which is contributing \$1000, and they will be paying the remainder with money donated by individuals.

The six were convicted of Disorderly Conduct – Obstructing Traffic and each given a fine of \$250 plus court fees of \$125. This followed a two-day trial in April, at which eminent scientists explained to the Court the powerful impact a plant like this would have in contributing to global climate change, and the significant health and safety hazards associated with the extraction, transportation, and combustion of hydro-fracked gas. Pleading the Necessity Defense, each of the defendants testified to their deep concerns about these issues and their urgent feeling that imminent harm was at hand from the construction of this plant.

At the courthouse after the verdict and sentence were handed down two of the defendants – James Cromwell and Pramilla Malick – vowed to serve jail time instead of paying the fines, underscoring that the Six believe they are NOT guilty -- by reason of necessity. Four others – Terri Klemm, Naomi Miller, Madeline Shaw and Maureen Murphy Smolka – will be submitting payment of their fines tomorrow. “We believe this verdict is wrong,” said Terri Klemm, a professor at Centenary University, “but we are enormously heartened at the outpouring of support for our actions demonstrated by the many people who have stepped forward to contribute to these fines.”