



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

SENATOR PATTY RITCHIE
48TH DISTRICT
OSWEGO, JEFFERSON, ST. LAWRENCE COUNTIES

November 21, 2011

Hon. Andrew Cuomo
Governor, New York State
Executive Chamber
NYS State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

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RURAL RESOURCES

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I write to express my support for increased investment in the New York State's electric transmission network.

As you are well aware, Central and Western New York serve as regional hubs for large scale power generation in New York State. However, the ability for facilities in these areas to maximize generation capacity is being stunted by our state's aging electric transmission system.

Moreover, deficiencies in the State's electrical grid played a role in the decision not to site an additional nuclear power facility in Oswego County. The addition of another nuclear facility in Oswego would have significantly enhanced the state's generation capacity and served as an economic boon in a county that sports one of the highest unemployment rates in the state.

The need for upgrades to the State's transmission system are not exclusive to Central and Western New York. Upgrades are also needed to the Northern/Southern corridor to relieve transmission bottlenecks that have manifested downstate. The New York Power Authority (NYPA) is well positioned to make strategic investments along these lines to relieve current pressures in the marketplace. I have spoken directly with NYPA officials in regards to my support of such investments.

Having said this, the cost associated with upgrades to the grid should not be shouldered by upstate ratepayers. Investments in upstate infrastructure provide direct benefits to downstate consumers, whom without increased capacity will be subjected to escalating energy prices due to the lack of supply.

REPLY TO: □ **ALBANY OFFICE:** ROOM 815 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247 (518) 455-3438
□ **JEFFERSON COUNTY OFFICE:** 317 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 418, WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601 (315) 782-3418
□ **OSWEGO COUNTY OFFICE:** 46 EAST BRIDGE STREET, FIRST FLOOR, OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126 (315) 342-2057
□ **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE:** 330 FORD STREET, OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK 13669 (315) 393-3024

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As a member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Telecommunications, I look forward to working with you to address this issue. An issue that is directly linked with the State's long-term economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patty Ritchie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patty" and last name "Ritchie" clearly distinguishable.

Patty Ritchie
NY State Senator

Cc: Senator George Maziarz, Chair Senate Committee on Energy & Telecommunications
John Dyson, NYPA Board of Trustees
Gil Quinones, CEO New York Power Authority