

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 12-T-0248 - Application of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction of the "Columbia County Transmission Project," Approximately 11.1 Miles of 115 Kilovolt Transmission Lines and related facilities in the Towns of Chatham, Ghent, and Stockport, in Columbia County.

NOTICE INVITING COMMENTS ON WAIVER MOTION

(Issued June 19, 2012)

On May 25, 2012, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG, the Applicant) filed an application pursuant to Public Service Law Article VII for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct and operate 11.1 miles of new 115-kV transmission line in the town of Ghent and to modify an existing substation in the town of Chatham, all located in Columbia County. These facilities are referred to collectively as the "Columbia County Transmission Project." On the same day, the Applicant also filed a motion for a waiver of certain requirements of the rules of the Public Service Commission governing applications for such certificates.

Specifically, NYSEG seeks a waiver of 16 NYCRR §§86.3(a)(1) and (a)(2), 86.3 (b)(1)(iii), and 86.4(b). These provisions require, in relevant part, the submission of detailed maps, drawings and explanations of the right-of-way for each proposed facility, using Department of Transportation (DOT) maps at specified scales. The maps must show where permanent clearing or other changes to the topography, vegetation or man-made structures would be required for at least five miles on either side of the proposed facility location; any known archaeological, geologic, historical or scenic areas within three miles of the right-of-way; and the relationship of the proposed facility to the applicant's overall system. In addition, aerial photographs showing the location of access and maintenance routes and DOT maps indicating any alternative route considered must be filed.

NYSEG also requests waiver of 16 NYCRR §88(a)(4), requiring the filing of a System Impact Study (SIS). NYSEG asserts, following consultation with the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (National Grid), that an SIS is not necessary for the Columbia County Transmission Project, due to its minimal impacts on system interfaces.

The waiver motion, along with the Public Service Law Article VII application, may be reviewed online, by accessing the Commission's webpage (go to <http://www.dps.ny.gov>, click on the "Search" option and then type "12-T-0248" in the "Search for Case/Matter Number" box). Comments on NYSEG's waiver motion may be submitted electronically to the Secretary at (secretary@dps.ny.gov). If you are unable to submit comments electronically, you may mail or deliver your comments to Hon. Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. All comments will be posted on the Commission's Web site and become part of the official case record.

Comments on NYSEG's waiver motion should be received by August 13, 2012.

(SIGNED)

JACLYN A. BRILLING
Secretary