

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

June 18, 2004

NOTICE OF PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS  
ON CONSOLIDATED EDISON PROPOSALS  
TO INCREASE GAS AND STEAM SERVICE RATES

The New York Public Service Commission will hold public statement hearings concerning Consolidated Edison Company of New York Inc.'s proposals to increase rates for gas and steam service. In November 2003, the company proposed to increase gas rates by \$107.5 million (about 9.8%) and proposed to increase steam rates by \$65 million (about 14.6% after accounting for the cost savings expected from the operation of the East River Repowering Project). Since then, the parties participating in the pending rate proceedings have investigated and audited the rate filings.

On May 28, 2004, various parties, including Consolidated Edison and Department of Public Service Staff, submitted a Joint Proposal for the Commission to consider. The proposal presents gas rate increases for the next three years and two years of steam rate increases. Under the gas rate proposal, Consolidated Edison would receive either a \$46.8 million increase in October 2004 to last it for three years or three annual increases of lesser amounts. The steam rate proposal, if adopted, would permit Consolidated Edison to increase steam rates by \$49.6 million in October 2004 and by \$27.4 million in October 2005.

The Commission may adopt, reject or modify the parties' rate proposals. The Commission may also increase or change rates for gas and steam service other than as proposed by the parties. Interested individuals may provide their comments about the rate proposals at the public statement hearings that will be held in:

Manhattan: July 20, 2004 - 1:00 p.m.  
Commission's Office  
One Penn Plaza  
Board Room, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Pursuant to procedures established by the building management at One Penn Plaza, anyone planning to attend the public statement hearing in Manhattan must notify Jan Goorsky of the NYS Department of Public Service at 212-290-4361 no later than close of business on Friday, July 16, 2004, and must be prepared to show valid photo identification upon arrival at One Penn Plaza.**

Bronx: July 20, 2004 - 7:00 p.m.  
Bronx Supreme Court Building  
Veteran's Memorial Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
851 Grand Concourse

White Plains: July 22, 2004 - 7:00 p.m.  
Westchester County Center  
Meeting Rooms C and D, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
198 Central Avenue at Bronx  
River Parkway

The public statement hearings will remain open for one hour and will continue thereafter until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements are made. Persons will be called to speak after completing a request card. The comments will be transcribed and become part of the record. You need not make an appointment in advance or present written material to speak at the hearing.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible.

#### Other Ways of Commenting

In addition to attending the hearings, or as an alternative, comments may be mailed to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Your comments should refer to

CASES 03-G-1671 and 03-S-1672

"Cases 03-G-1671 and 03-S-1672 - Con Edison Gas and Steam Rates".

Other ways to submit comments include:

**Toll-free Opinion Line:** You may call the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day. Callers should select English or Spanish and press "1" to leave comments about the Consolidated Edison rate proposals.

**The Internet:** You also may comment via the "PSC Comment Form," in the "Consumer Assistance" file accessed through the Commission's website at <http://www.dps.state.us>. Many libraries offer free Internet access.

All such comments should be submitted by no later than Friday, August 6, 2004. All statements and comments received by the Commission will be placed in the public case file and made available for inspection in the Commission's file room.

Persons interested in the terms and provisions of the Joint Proposal may view them at the Department of Public Service, Central Files, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, One Penn Plaza, 250 West 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan, New York or may obtain a summary of them by telephoning (518) 474-4520.

These matters are being heard in Case 03-G-1671 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. for Gas Service and Case 03-S-1672 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. for Steam Service.

JACLYN A. BRILLING  
Secretary