

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

- CASE 17-E-0594 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Investigate the March 2017 Windstorm, Related Power Outages, and Rochester Gas and Electric and New York State Electric & Gas Restoration Efforts.
- CASE 15-E-0283 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation for Electric Service.
- CASE 15-G-0284 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation for Gas Service.
- CASE 15-E-0285 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation for Electric Service.
- CASE 15-G-0286 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation for Gas Service.

NOTICE SEEKING COMMENTS ON JOINT PROPOSALS

(Issued June 6, 2018)

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) is seeking public comments concerning two proposals to resolve issues related to its investigation into the March 8, 2017 windstorm that affected portions of western New York and the related power outages and the restoration efforts of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (the Companies). **Comments should be submitted to the Secretary of the Commission by August 13, 2018.**

On March 8, 2017, a severe windstorm caused damage to utility infrastructure in parts of western New York, resulting in outages, some of which were of significant duration. After receiving complaints regarding certain utility restoration efforts, the Commission held Public Statement Hearings in Erie and Monroe counties, eventually opening an investigation into whether any violations of the Commission's regulations occurred during the Companies' restoration efforts. After the investigation was completed, on November 16, 2017, the Commission issued an order pursuant to Public Service Law §25-a instituting this proceeding. On February 12, 2018, the Companies sent notice of their intent to enter into settlement discussions.

On May 18, 2018, trial staff of the Department of Public Service (Staff) and the Companies filed with the Commission a joint proposal intended to resolve a potential penalty action for \$3.9 million, in lieu of further penalty proceedings and any admission of guilt by the Companies (the Resolution JP). Contemporaneously with that Resolution JP, Staff and the Companies, together with the Department of State, Consumer Protection Division, Utility Intervention Unit; the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers IBEW Local 10; and the City of Rochester filed a second joint proposal detailing certain investments that the Companies propose to make using the \$3.9 million contained in the Resolution JP (the Investment JP).

The Investment JP proposes that the Companies use the \$3.9 million to make investments into certain relevant programs that fall into a number of categories: Life Support Equipment - Assistance Program; Life Support Equipment - two way text messaging; Composite Pole - Storm Hardening/Resiliency, Distribution Hardening/Resiliency; Installation of Monitoring at

Critical Facilities; Mobile Command Center; and Backup Generation for Rochester Warming Center. The Investment JP was also filed in Cases 15-E-0283, 15-G-0284, 15-E-0285 and 15-G-0286, the Companies' most recent electric and gas rate cases.

**Ways to Comment**

There are several ways to provide your comments to the Commission. Comments should refer to "Case 17-E-0594."

**Via the Internet or Mail:** The public may submit comments directly into the case file by locating the case via the home page of the Commission's website, [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov), by clicking on "Search," and entering either "17-E-0594" in the "Search by Case Number" field. In the open case, access the screen to enter comments by clicking on the "Post Comments" box located at the top of the page. Many libraries offer free internet service.

Comments may also be sent by email to the Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, at [secretary@dps.ny.gov](mailto:secretary@dps.ny.gov) or by mail or delivery to Secretary Burgess at the New York State Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350.

**Toll-Free Opinion Line:** Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This line is set up to receive in-state calls 24 hours a day. These calls are not transcribed but a summary is provided to the Commission.

Written comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission. Written comments are posted and

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may be read on the Web site by searching by the case number (17-E-0594) and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab.

(SIGNED)

KATHLEEN H. BURGESS  
Secretary