



JOSEPH D. MORELLE
Majority Leader

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Hon. Jeffrey C. Cohen, Acting Secretary
New York State Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Acting Secretary Cohen

I write to you today in regard to the implementation of the Indian Point Energy Center contingency plan, which I believe may be contrary to the best interests of New York's energy consumers and its economy.

While rates charged by an energy provider typically only impact the customers of the respective utility, the Con Ed-New York Power Authority (NYPA) plan recommends that the costs of the projects selected by the PSC be borne by all state ratepayers. It is reasonable to ask whether any contingency for the provision of energy should deviate from standard practices in this respect, and whether it sets a precedent that should be avoided.

I am also concerned that the contingency plan appears to be on a fast-track relative to the typical process involved. For example, Con Ed's post-Sandy request for a \$375 million rate increase is subject to an 11-month review by the PSC, and yet only two weeks of comment were allowed regarding a plan that will add more than \$800 million to energy bills state-wide.

Regardless of the speed of the process, the central question remains: Should ratepayers in one region subsidize power generation that will exclusively serve consumers in another?

Due largely to state taxes and fees, New York already has the fourth highest electric rates in the nation. As one who has long sought to reduce the cost of living and doing business in the Empire State, I can assure you that raising the price of energy will be unhelpful to our businesses and hard-working families, particularly in Upstate.

Therefore, I urge you to abandon current efforts to fast-track the contingency planning process so these issues may be more thoroughly examined.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Warmest personal regards,

Joseph D. Morelle
Majority Leader