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**LABOR IS HONORABLE**

Affiliated With The Rockland County Building and Construction Trades Council



May 10, 2012

Hon. Jaclyn A. Brilling  
Secretary, Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Dear Secretary Brilling:

I would like to commend the Commission and the Governor for their foresight with regard to the rebuilding and updating of New York State's power generation and transmission capabilities. It has been a long time coming and the people of the State deserve public officials that care about both the present and future needs of New York.

I represent Laborers' Local 754 in Rockland County, NY. We are a small trade union local that covers the jurisdiction of Rockland County only. As with other parts of the State, Rockland County has been hit hard by the past economic downturn and the current slow recovery. We are in desperate need of good paying jobs with decent benefits in order to secure the future for the families of Rockland County.

It has come to my attention that the Commission is considering the Champlain Hudson Power Express transmission line from Clinton County to New York City as a potential power source for the New York area. I only recently became aware of this and missed the public hearings where comment could be heard by the Commission. I am writing you to request another opportunity to express our views on the project.

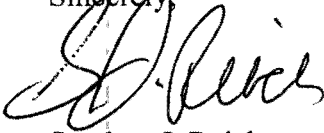
The Town of Haverstraw and Stony Point, both in Rockland County, currently have two areas where state of the art, green power generation facilities can be built. There are private companies willing to invest in new facilities and will commit to using local union tradesmen at prevailing wages and benefits to build them. This would be a huge help to my members and to thousands of other families in the area. A second benefit would be a huge addition to the tax base of the two aforementioned towns. I am sure you are aware of the current situation where these towns have been crippled by the reduction of tax income from the dismantled Tompkins Cove power plant and the reduced tax assessment of the old Bowline 1&2 generating facilities. I

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think it is important that our State officials allow investment and growth to occur in this area so residents can have the opportunity to build thriving communities here. We must create jobs within the State and be self sufficient with our power generation capabilities.

In closing I would like to thank you for your time and effort concerning the future needs of our State's power infrastructure. Please consider an extension of the public comment period with regard to the Champlain Power Express project. More importantly, please consider the inclusion of a state of the art power generation facility being built on the Bowline Point site in New York State's overall power generation plan. The Towns of Haverstraw and Stony Point were there for the Public Service Commission when they needed them for the original plant construction in the 1960's and 70's. It is time for the Commission to repay that commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Reich", written in a cursive style.

Stephen J. Reich  
Business Manager

Cc:

Howard Phillips, Town of Haverstraw Supervisor  
John Maria, Rockland County Building Trades