October 28, 2013

Honorable Kathleen Burgess
Secretary
NYS Public Service Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

RE: Case 13-M-0412: Petition of New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to Provide Initial Capitalization for the New York Green Bank

Dear Secretary Burgess:

The New York Biomass Alliance ("NYBEA") is pleased to submit comments pursuant to the Public Service Commission’s ("Commission") Notice Soliciting Comments and Notice of Technical Conferences, issued September 13, 2013 in the above-captioned proceeding.

The NYBEA appreciates the opportunity to offer these comments regarding the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority’s ("NYSERDA") initial filing towards creating New York’s Green Bank.

In Section VI, page 11, titled “Governance” in the filing Petition of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority Case 13-M__ to Provide Initial Capitalization for the New York Green Bank, it states:

“NYSERDA will establish an Advisory Committee, which will include experts in the field, to review the plans for and operations of the Green Bank and provide advice and counsel on best practices for the activities of the Green Bank. The Advisory Committee may also make recommendations to the NYSERDA Board regarding various Green Bank matters.”

NYBEA is a coalition of some 50 companies, organizations and institutions in New York that is dedicated to the advancement of renewable biomass energy as a vital component of New York’s energy future. Our membership and their extended professional contacts include the most knowledgeable and experienced people in the Bioenergy sector in New York and the northeastern United States. It is critical that energy industry experts be involved in the ongoing development, definition, and implementation of the Green Bank. We therefore request formal membership on the Advisory Committee.

NYBEA looks forward to working with Department of Public Service Staff ("Staff") and interested stakeholders to achieve a state energy policy that fosters energy generation from biomass material, which contributes to a diverse renewable portfolio and strong regional economies.

Sincerely,

Charles Niebling
President
NYBEA

Matthew McArdle
Chairman
NYBEA Board of Directors