

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 05-M-0090 - In the Matter of the System Benefits
Charge III.

NOTICE

(Issued August 31, 2005)

On January 28, 2005, the Commission issued a notice in this proceeding seeking comments on the System Benefits Charge (SBC) program. Specifically, interested parties were asked to comment upon fourteen questions, including whether the SBC program should be continued beyond 2006, and if so, whether it should be modified or expanded in scope. Comments were received from over 160 parties.

The Staff of the Department of Public Service has reviewed these comments and prepared a proposal for consideration by the Commission entitled "Staff Proposal for the Extension of the System Benefits Charge (SBC) and the SBC-Funded Public Benefit Programs" dated August 30, 2005 (Staff Proposal). The Staff Proposal is on file with the Commission and available for public inspection. It is also available electronically at the Commission's internet Web site at the following link:

[http://www3.dps.state.ny.us/pscweb/WebFileRoom.nsf/Web/721B232D106700BE85257069006D3DF4/\\$File/05m0090.08.30.05.pdf?OpenElement](http://www3.dps.state.ny.us/pscweb/WebFileRoom.nsf/Web/721B232D106700BE85257069006D3DF4/$File/05m0090.08.30.05.pdf?OpenElement).

Interested parties are asked to comment on the Staff Proposal. Parties should submit the original and 15 copies of their comments to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, 3 Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350, on or before October 17, 2005, and serve a copy by the same date on all parties on the active party list for this proceeding posted on the Commission's internet Web site.

In addition, parties are asked to submit an electronic copy of their comments to secretary@dps.state.ny.us. Extensions will not be granted.

Question Thirteen set forth in the January 28, 2005, Notice asked whether the scope of the SBC program should be expanded to include programs for natural gas customers. As a result of the latest gas rate plan established for Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Edison), the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is currently administering a study of the potential for natural gas energy efficiency in the Con Edison service territory and has recently funded an expansion of the scope of the study Statewide. Data from the study is expected to be available in early 2006. The question of whether the scope of the SBC program should be expanded to include programs for natural gas customers will be considered after the study data is available in a separate, new proceeding.¹

(SIGNED)

JACLYN A. BRILLING
Secretary

¹ Case 05-G-1061 - In the Matter of a System Benefits Charge and Program for Gas Utilities.