

known as the State University of New York Institute of Technology in Utica, New York and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering technology.

3. I have testified before the Commission and the Siting Board in several cases regarding proposed electric infrastructure upgrades, electric power transmission routes, the siting of electric generation plants, electric rates, and research and development programs. Some representative cases include the matter of Hudson Transmission Partners, LLC Case 08-T-0034 in which I provided analyses of its proposed electric upland route in Manhattan, the constructability of the route, proposal of alternative routes, and construction practices. Additionally, I reviewed routing and constructability issues pertaining to the granting of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need through a Joint Proposal for Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc., in Case 10-T-0139. I have also testified regarding decommissioning plans, and general construction provisions of proposed major electric generation facilities in cases 14-F-0490; 14-F-0122; 15-F-0122; 16-F-0062; 16-F-0205; 16-F-0267; 16-F-0238; and 16-F-0559. Additionally, I testified as part of the Staff Policy Panel for Case 16-F-0267. And, I have prepared and submitted testimony as part of the Staff Panel in Support of Settlement for the Mohawk Solar Project in Case 17-F-0182, the Coeymans Solar Farm, Case 17-F-0617, East Point Energy Center, Case 17-F-0599, and High Bridge Wind, Case 18-F-0262.

4. I am in support of a Joint Proposal filed with the Commission on or about May 28, 2026, in the above-captioned proceeding, Case 24-T-0710 (Joint Proposal).

5. On December 18, 2024, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed its Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need pursuant to PSL Article VII to rebuild approximately 21 miles of the existing 115 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line from the Montour Falls Substation in the Town of Montour, Schuyler County, to the Coddington Substation in the Town of Ithaca, Tompkins County. Appendix B to the Joint Proposal describes the location of the Project.

6. As a member of the DPS Staff team, I reviewed the following Application Exhibits: Exhibit 2 (Location of Facilities), Exhibit 3 (Alternatives), Exhibit 4 (Environmental Impact), Exhibit 5 (Design Drawings), Exhibit 7 (Local Laws), Exhibit 8 (Other Pending Filings), Exhibit 9 (Costs of the Proposed Facility), the Electric Line Exhibits E-1 (Description of Proposed Transmission Line), E-2 (Other Facilities), E-3 (Underground Construction), E-4 (Engineering Justification), E-5 (Effect on Communications), and E-6 (Effect on Transportation), and Appendices A (Agency Correspondence), B (Testimony), the Invasive Species Report, the Wetland Delineation Report, and the State Historic Preservation Office Reports.

7. I reviewed the above exhibits for the following issues: co-located infrastructure, different routes and configurations, wetland and stream impacts, threatened and endangered species impacts, invasive species, proposed construction practices and processes and their impact on the environment and local communities, proposed construction and maintenance practices and processes and reliability and electric transmission maintenance, the need for the Project, the impact to cultural and historical resources, and consistency with

federal permitting regimes, such as the Clean Water Act, the impact to agricultural lands, and New York State substantive environmental protections.

8. After the deficiencies in NYSEG's Application were cured on March 27, 2025, and NYSEG filed its settlement notice on October 10, 2025. I participated in all of the settlement meetings noted in the Joint Proposal narrative on behalf of DPS Staff.

9. During the course of our review of the Application and participation in settlement negotiations, we raised issues related to wetland and stream impacts, threatened and endangered species impacts, invasive species, proposed construction practices and processes and their impact on the environment and local communities, vegetation management, agricultural impacts, and general design questions regarding the transmission line and station facilities.

10. Throughout the course of settlement, the participating parties discussed and exchanged drafts of the Joint Proposal, including Ordering Clauses and Environmental Management & Construction Plan (EM&CP) Specifications and associated guidance documents. Many of these modifications and additions were incorporated into the final Joint Proposal and its Appendices.

11. All of the issues raised by the parties were resolved and are reflected in the Joint Proposal and its Appendices. For example, the Proposed Certificate Conditions in Appendix D require establishment of spill prevention and response protocols (Conditions 15, 90, 93-95), maintaining compliance with erosion and sediment control (Conditions 56 & 57), establishment of oversight of construction activities (Conditions 61-73),

protection of threatened and endangered species (Conditions 84-89), protection of nearby wetlands and waterbodies (Conditions 90-91), protection of agricultural resources (Condition 92) and coordination with municipalities (Conditions 8, 11, 46, 75 & 77).

12. During settlement, the parties discussed the type and height of the structures to be used during construction of the project. Based on this discussion, along with community feedback, input from customers, municipalities, and individuals NYSEG revised the project design as originally proposed. The revisions include replacing the majority of the existing structures with H-frame structures, instead of using steel monopole structures (the design is limited to the installation of four monopoles along the entire project). The H-frame structures will result in a lower height of approximately 20 to 25 feet, reducing the visual impacts of the project.

13. On behalf of DPS Staff, I believe the terms of the Joint Proposal are reasonable and consistent with the Commission's previous adoption of Joint Proposals in PSL Article VII proceedings, the record is adequate to justify adoption of all the terms of the Joint Proposal, and Commission approval of the Joint Proposal is in the public interest.

AFFIRMATION

I affirm this __11th_ day of ___June___, 2026, under the penalties of perjury under the laws of New York, which may include fine or imprisonment, that the foregoing is true, except as to matters alleged on information and belief and as to those matters I believe it to be true, and I understand that this document will be filed before the New York State Public Service Commission and may be filed in an action or proceeding in a court of law.

John Quackenbush

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