

3. I have testified in the New York State Electric & Gas Corporation Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation November 7, 2025, Rate Proceeding Cases 25-E-0375, 25-G-0378, 25-E-0379 and 25-G-0380 (ongoing).

4. I offer this affidavit 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 or JP).

5. On December 18, 2024, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG or Applicant) filed its Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need pursuant to Public Service Law 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 5 (Design Drawings), Exhibit 8 (Other Pending Filings), and 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), Appendices A (Agency Correspondence), B (Testimony), the July 29, 2024 electromagnetic field (EMF) report, and the New York State Independent System Operator, Inc.

correspondence indicating that a System Impact Study is not needed.

7. I reviewed the above exhibits for the following issues: need, constructability, routing and possible alternate routing of the project and location of facilities; reasonableness of the projected project costs; if there is any need to underground the project; confirmation that the project meets all electromagnetic field standards, reliability standards, and all other state, regional, and federal standards.

8. After the deficiencies in National Grid'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. 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.

10. 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 that NYSEG adhere to applicable engineering and electrical codes (Condition 8) and design and construct the project to comply with the Commission's EMF standards (Condition 12).

11. Additionally, the Project will be designed, engineered, and constructed in accordance with all applicable engineering codes and standards of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), NYISO, the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC), and the New York State Reliability Council (NYSRC).

12. The project will use Aluminum Conductor Steel Supported (ACSS) overhead electrical lines. Utilizing ACSS allows for the conductor to operate at higher temperatures, which allows for a greater increase in electrical current. Increasing the circuit's operating current allows greater power delivery without increasing the voltage of the transmission circuit.

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.

J. Pobe-Mensah

Joseph Pobe - Mensah