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September 20, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Department of Public Service
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: *Case 21-T-0340 - Application of New York Power Authority and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Rebuild of Approximately 100 Linear Miles of Existing 230 kV to Either 230 kV or 345 kV along with Associated Substation Upgrades Along the Existing NYPA Moses-Willis 1&2, Willis-Patnode, Willis-Ryan, and National Grid's Adirondack-Porter 11, 12 and 13 Lines in Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Lewis, and Oneida Counties, New York; Preconstruction Notifications, Commencement of Construction and Request for Limited Notice to Proceed – National Grid Part 1*

Dear Secretary Phillips:

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid") hereby requests issuance of a Limited Notice to Proceed in order for National Grid to commence construction for Part 1 of the Project under the approved Environmental Management and Construction Plan ("EM&CP"), on or about October 13, 2022.

By way of background, the Project was approved by the Commission with its Order Adopting Joint Proposal filed on August 11, 2022 ("Order"). Appendix B of the Joint Proposal contains the Description and Location of the Project. Certificate Condition 33 of the approved Joint Proposal provides that the Certificate Holder shall not commence construction until it has received a "Notice to Proceed" from the Director of the Office of Electric, Gas and Water, or his designee.

As noted above, National Grid's EM&CP was approved by the Commission at its meeting on September 15, 2022 ("EM&CP Order-Part 1"). With that approval, National Grid now seeks a Notice to Proceed for the work contemplated under that approved EM&CP for Part 1 of the Project. In compliance with the Certificate and in contemplation of

commencing construction of Part 1, National Grid has taken the following pre-construction activities or completed the following pre-construction tasks:

- Held a pre-construction meeting on September 14, 2022 (Condition 44(a));
- Communicated to the Public a toll-free phone number per Condition 36(a);
- Provided on the Project's website a means for the public to communicate to National Grid (Condition 36(b));
- Notified the public, media and local officials (including a notice for display in Town Halls and Post Offices or libraries) of the anticipated commencement of construction of Part 1 of the Project (Condition 37(a)(i) – (iii), including through the publication of the attached advertisement in local newspapers;
- Notified persons who own properties that are crossed by or abut the Right of Way and identified residents (if different from the owner) of the commencement of construction of Part 1 (Condition 37(a)(iv));
- Notified properties in the vicinity of the planned construction activities and anticipated schedules affecting their residences (Condition 37(d)) with the attached postcard mailing. The intent of this condition is to provide notice to residents in the vicinity of upcoming construction so they have notice that construction will begin in their area between 7 and 30 days of the notice. If for any reason, construction does not progress as anticipated and takes longer than expected, the attached notice states that an updated notification with new dates will be sent to such landowners;
- National Grid will soon stake the right of way as required under Condition 47;
- National Grid has provided DPS Staff and Agriculture and Markets Staff with the names and qualifications of inspectors it will use for the work as required under Condition 71.

Furthermore, pursuant to Condition 37(c), attached to this transmittal letter is a form of the notices sent to the required recipients.

On August 18, 2022, DPS Staff filed its Water Quality Certification (WQC). The WQC was subsequently provided to the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) from whom we now await a verification of the applicability of the Nationwide Permit. Thus, this request is limited to any transmission line construction activity on Part 1 except that which would also require authorization from the Corps. Once National Grid receives its authorization from the Corps, an updated request for a Notice to Proceed will be filed with the Secretary.

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
September 20, 2022
Page 3

The construction approved by the Commission with its EM&CP Order-Part 1 will encompass the proposed transmission facilities from the point the Adirondack-Porter ROW intersects North Chase's Lake Road in the Town of Watson, Lewis County, NY, southerly to the intersection of the Adirondack-Porter ROW with Bethel Road in the Town of Steuben, Oneida County, NY. Part I also encompasses the proposed plans for the Austin Road Substation in the Town of Watson, Lewis County, NY. In satisfaction of Certificate Condition 124, this is to report that materials are available for construction of the transmission facilities other than the substation work at Austin Road. Prior to the commencement of construction at the Austin Road substation, National Grid will make an additional filing demonstrating landowner notifications, compliance with Certificate Condition 68 (noise) and Certificate Condition 124 (availability of materials).

As required by Condition 40, please consider this letter notice that National Grid wishes to commence construction of Part 1 of the National Grid portion of the Smart Path Connect project (other than at the Austin Road substation or in areas that require authorization from the Corps) starting on October 13, 2022. National Grid therefore requests a Limited Notice to Proceed for Part 1 as described above from DPS Staff.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

BOND, SCHOENECK & KING, PLLC



Kevin M. Bernstein

/ajh

Construction to Start in Your Area

Smart Path Connect Transmission Project

PSC Case # 21-T-0340

nationalgrid

Smart Path Connect, a project being developed in partnership with the New York Power Authority, is part of a comprehensive portfolio of transmission upgrades being undertaken across the state to support New York's clean energy goals. Together, the projects will enable the flow of an additional 1,000 megawatts (MW) of clean, renewable energy across New York State. Smart Path Connect will rebuild approximately 100 miles of electric transmission by replacing aging wood H-frames with steel poles almost exclusively within existing transmission rights-of-way and replace or upgrade approximately 10 substations along the Project path.

Construction of Part 1 of National Grid's portion of the Smart Path Connect Transmission Project is about to begin in your area. The Project is being constructed by National Grid and its contractors and subcontractors. The work to be performed is detailed below. Should this work not start within the next 30 days, you will receive an updated notification.

General Construction Phasing

- **Phase 1:** Establish site access roads and site preparation, including environmental protections.
- **Phase 2:** Excavation and foundations installed (where applicable), and new monopole structures erected
- **Phase 3:** Conductor (wire) strung and the existing lattice structures removed and recycled.
- **Phase 4 (final):** Ground surface restoration.

Please note, construction phasing is intermittent and there will be times of no activity.

Anticipated Construction Schedule

- **Construction Start:** Fall 2022
- **Construction Complete:** Spring 2026

Construction Updates

Updates on construction work can be found on the Project website. The website is updated regularly. You may also call the Project team toll-free for updates: 1-315-401-0065.

Safety Message

National Grid is committed to the safety of its staff, contractors, and neighbors. For your safety, please do not enter construction sites or marshall yards during construction. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, please contact the Project team. If there is an emergency, please dial 911.

Project Map



Questions? Contact:

Amy Rood
National Grid Stakeholder Relations
Phone: 315-401-0065
Amy.Rood@NationalGrid.com

Project Website:
nypa.gov/power/transmission/transmission-projects/smart-path-connect

Scan the QR code
to go directly to the website:



nationalgrid

Construction Commencement Notice

Smart Path Connect Transmission Project

PSC Case # 21-T-0340

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (doing business as “National Grid”) anticipates that it will commence site preparation and construction of its Smart Path Connect Transmission Project on or about October 13, 2022.

Smart Path Connect, a project being developed in partnership with the New York Power Authority (NYPA), is part of a comprehensive portfolio of transmission upgrades being undertaken across the state to support New York’s clean energy goals. Together, the projects will enable the flow of an additional 1,000 megawatts (MW) of clean, renewable energy across New York State.

The Smart Path Connect Project will include the rebuild of electric transmission by replacing aging wood H-frames structures with steel poles, almost exclusively within existing transmission rights-of-way, and replace or upgrade substations along the Project path. National Grid’s portion of the Project will generally be from just south of Croghan, New York. The construction that will start on October 13 will constitute Part 1 of National Grid’s portion of the Project.

The Project Map to the right shows the project route, which is where site preparation and construction will take place.

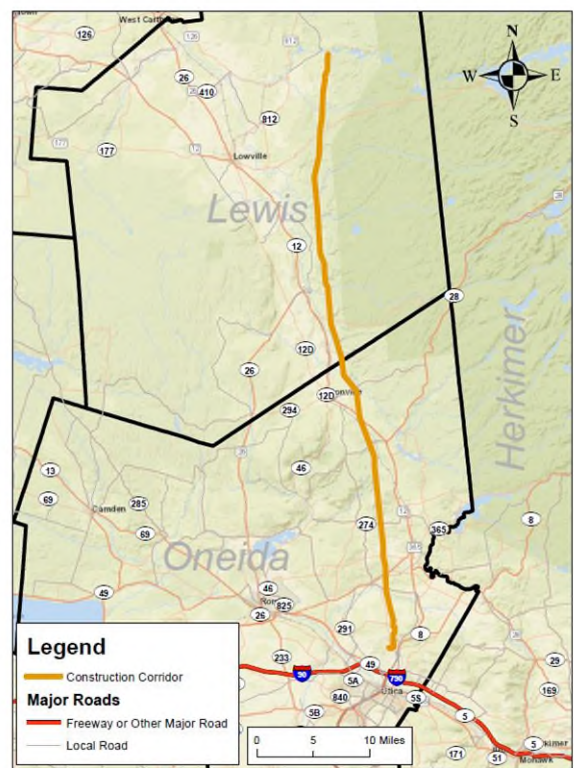
For Part 1 of National Grid’s portion of the Smart Path Project, the proposed route of the Project will traverse the Towns of Croghan, Greig, New Bremen, Lyonsdale and Watson in Lewis County, NY and the Towns of Boonville, Floyd, Marcy, Steuben, and Trenton, in Oneida County. Construction is expected to start on approximately October 13, 2022.

The Project is under the jurisdiction of the New York State Public Service Commission, which is responsible for enforcing compliance with environmental and construction conditions. The Public Service Commission may be contacted at:

New York State Department of Public Service
Environmental Compliance Section
Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223-1350
Telephone: 518-474-8702
Email: lilly.schelling@dps.ny.gov

National Grid is giving this notice to local officials, emergency personnel and local media in the Project area and arranging for it to be displayed in public places.

Project Map



Project Contact Information

Any inquiries or complaints during construction of the Project should be directed to:

Amy Rood

National Grid Stakeholder Relations
300 Erie Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13202
Phone (Toll-Free): 315-401-0065
Email: Amy.Rood@NationalGrid.com

Project Website

Use the QR code on your device to go directly to the website.



nypa.gov/power/transmission/transmission-projects/smath-path-connect

nationalgrid

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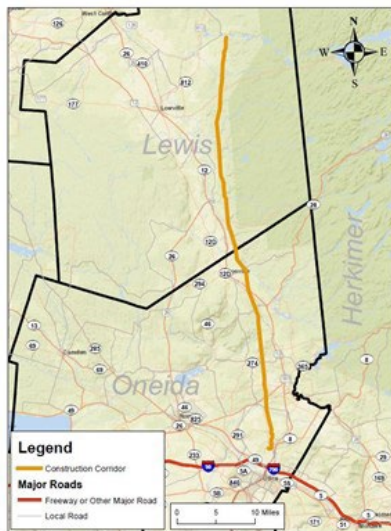
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