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Rory M. Christian, Chair

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PSC Improves Innovative Transmission Planning Process

Upgrades Needed to Meet State Clean Energy Goals

ALBANY — The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today approved updates to the Coordinated Grid Planning Process (CGPP) to improve the efficiency, transparency, and accuracy of long-term transmission planning. These updates enhance stakeholder engagement efforts while streamlining the modeling and proposal development processes. The CGPP continues to evolve and serves as the leading example to other regions of a dynamic and cutting-edge planning framework.

“Today, the Commission adopted the recommendations to improve transparency and engagement with stakeholders in the energy planning process, and provide more granular data inputs for system models,” **said Commission Chair Rory M. Christian.** “To continue meeting the state’s goals requires smart and timely investments for significant upgrades and additions to the state’s existing transmission and distribution systems to enable the continued and reliable integration of new large-scale renewable energy projects into the state’s energy supply. Today’s decision will ensure the CGPP provides a robust and transparent foundation for these key transmission investments.”

In 2020, in response to the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act (Accelerated Renewables Act), the Commission initiated a proceeding to implement long-term transmission planning that resulted in the development of the CGPP. In mid-2023, the Commission approved the CGPP process framework, and the first cycle of CGPP planning studies is currently underway. The completion of the first cycle in early 2026 will result in a filing by the major utilities for Commission consideration on the portfolio of grid upgrade projects required to maintain progress on electricity decarbonization and reliability.

In its decision today, the Commission adopted modifications to the CGPP to be implemented in future cycles of the process and authorized the phasing of upgrade cost estimates for the next phase of the process.

Submitted comments were largely consistent with each other, acknowledging the need to improve some aspects of the CGPP as recommended, while unanimously opposing one proposal directed at utilizing alternate modeling arrangements outside the New York Independent System Operator, Inc.’s process.

Today’s decision may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission’s Web site at www.dps.ny.gov and entering Case Number 20-E-0197 in the input box

labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number". Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission documents may also be obtained from the Commission's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500). If you have difficulty understanding English, please call us at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this press release.