

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 25-T-0178 - Petition of Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, Pursuant to Article VII, for the Reconstruction of Approximately 60.32 Miles of 115kV Transmission Line from New Beaver River Substation in the Town of Croghan, Lewis County, to the Porter Substation in the Town of Marcy, Oneida County.

NOTICE OF JOINT PROPOSAL AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

(Issued May 27, 2026)

On May 22, 2026, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) filed a Joint Proposal signed by National Grid, trial staff of the New York State Department of Public Service, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Department of Transportation, the New Bremen Fire Department, Lewis County, and Barbara Freeman (collectively, the Signatory Parties).

The Joint Proposal contains the terms, conditions, practices, and guidelines recommended by the Signatory Parties for inclusion in a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate). The Certificate, if granted, would authorize National Grid to reconstruct 60.32 miles of a 115 kilovolt transmission line between the new Beaver River Substation in the Town of Croghan, Lewis County, and the existing Porter Substation in the Town of Marcy, Oneida County (the Project).

As detailed in the Joint Proposal, the Project also includes the construction of the new Beaver River Substation in the Town of Croghan and the new Gulf Road Substation in the Town

of Leyden, and the decommissioning of the existing Boonville Substation in the Town of Leyden. The Project is located in the Towns of Croghan, New Bremen, Watson, Lowville, Martinsburg, Turin, West Turin, and Leyden, and the Villages of Croghan, Lowville, and Turin in Lewis County, and the Towns of Boonville, Steuben, Floyd, Trenton, and Marcy and the Villages of Boonville and Holland Patent in Oneida County.

A summary of the Joint Proposal, prepared by National Grid, is attached to this Notice. The full Joint Proposal and all related documents may be viewed on the Department of Public Service's (Department) website by going to www.dps.ny.gov, clicking on "File Search" (located under the heading "Commission Files"), entering "25-T-0178" in the "Search by Case Number" field, and clicking "Search."

The Public Service Commission (Commission) may adopt, adopt with changes, or reject, in whole or in part, any of the terms of the Joint Proposal. The Commission also may adopt terms other than those proposed.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that interested persons are invited to submit comments pertaining to the Project and the terms of the Joint Proposal. Comments should refer to "Case 25-T-0178" and be submitted **by June 15, 2026**. Please be advised that untimely comments may not be considered by the Commission. Comments may be submitted using one of the following methods:

Internet or Mail: Go to www.dps.ny.gov, click on "File Search" (located under the heading "Commission Files"), enter "25-T-0178" in the "Search by Case Number" field, and then click on "Post Comments" at the top of the page.

Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 1223-1350; however, electronic filing of comments is strongly encouraged.

Written comments submitted in accordance with this Notice will be posted on the Department's website. Comments may be accessed by searching the case number, as described above, and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab.

Toll-Free Opinion Line: Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to receive comments about pending cases from in-State callers, 24-hours a day. These comments are not transcribed verbatim, but a summary is provided to the Commission.

(SIGNED)

MICHELLE L. PHILLIPS
Secretary

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SUMMARY OF THE JOINT PROPOSAL

I. Introduction

On March 7, 2025, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or the “Applicant”) filed an application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (“Certificate”) under Article VII of the Public Service Law (“PSL”) to construct, operate, and maintain the Beaver River to Porter Transmission Rebuild Project (the “Project”). The Project involves the reconstruction of existing 115 kV transmission lines in the Towns of Croghan, Leyden, Lowville, Martinsburg, New Bremen, Turin, Watson, and West Turin and the Villages of Croghan, Lowville, and Turin in Lewis County and the Towns of Boonville, Floyd, Marcy, Steuben, and Trenton and the Villages of Boonville and Holland Patent in Oneida County. The Project also involves construction of the new Beaver River Substation in the Town of Croghan, New York and the Gulf Road Substation in the Town of Leyden, New York. A full description of the Project and its location is included as Appendix B to the Joint Proposal.

The Applicant supplemented its Application on May 6, 2025, by filing a confirmation from New York State Independent System Operation (“NYISO”) Staff that a System Impact Study was not required for the Project (Record Exhibit 27), and on May 27, 2025, by filing an Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Modeling Analysis for the Project (Record Exhibit 31). By letter dated May 8, 2025, the Secretary identified certain deficiencies in the Application, which the Applicant addressed in its May 16, 2025 filing. The deficiency response filing included: (i) a revised Figure 2-4; (ii) a revised Exhibit 6; (iii) a revised Exhibit 7; (iv) a revised Exhibit 8, (v) an Herbicide Mix Sheet, and (vi) Soil Erodibility K-factor maps (Record Exhibits 28, 29, and 30). Thereafter, the Secretary issued a letter, dated October 23, 2025, finding the Application, as supplemented, to be in compliance with PSL § 122 as of October 22, 2025. On November 4, 2025, the Applicant filed a Notice of Impending Settlement Negotiations, pursuant to 16 NYCRR § 3.9 (Record Exhibit 33). Settlement conferences were held at least biweekly between December 1, 2025 and April 20, 2026.

II. Joint Proposal

The Applicant, New York State Department of Public Service Staff (“DPS Staff”), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“NYSDEC”), New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (“NYSAGM”), New York State Department of Transportation (“NYSDOT”), New Bremen Fire Department, Lewis County, and Barbara Freeman (collectively, the “Signatory Parties”), have concluded settlement negotiations under the procedures in 16

NYCRR § 3.9 and reached agreement on a Joint Proposal, which was filed with the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) on May 22, 2026.

The Joint Proposal and its Appendices, including the proposed Certificate Conditions appended to the Joint Proposal, resolve all issues between the Signatory Parties. The Signatory Parties worked together on developing a Joint Proposal, proposed Certificate Conditions, and Environmental Management and Construction Plan (“EM&CP”) Guidelines and Procedures that would minimize potential adverse environmental impacts and protect environmental resources. The Signatory Parties also worked to update Exhibits and Appendices to the Article VII Application to reflect changes to the Project developed during the course of the settlement negotiations. These updated Exhibits and Appendices to the Application¹ are filed as Appendices to the Joint Proposal and incorporated into the list of documentation proposed for inclusion in the Evidentiary Record (Appendix A to the Joint Proposal).

The Joint Proposal, including the numerous proposed Certificate Conditions appended to the Joint Proposal (Appendix D), contains safeguards that, taken together, minimize the potential environmental impacts that may result from construction and operation of the Project. The Joint Proposal and its appendices prescribe guidelines and requirements for an EM&CP that are acceptable and appropriate for the Project, and protective of public interest and environmental resources.

The Joint Proposal further supplements the information contained in the Application through the inclusion of details regarding Marshalling and Laydown Yards (Appendix F), Demolition Work Details (Appendix G), copies of the Applicant’s NYSDEC Freshwater Wetlands Jurisdictional Determination Requests (Appendix O), and copies of the parties discovery requests and responses (Appendices R and S).

III. Changes to the Project Reflected in the Joint Proposal

The Joint Proposal introduces several changes to the Project that were not contemplated in the Application, as filed on March 7, 2025. These changes are primarily the result of communications with landowners, municipalities, and the parties who participated in settlement. Several changes also related to constructability issues discovered after the Application was filed.

The most significant change to the Application was the decision to implement the Penn Mountain Compact Design and route the Project on National Grid’s existing right-of-way (“ROW”) through Penn Mountain State Forest (as discussed above). The Application included the Penn Mountain Reroute as the preferred alternative, which included a reroute around Penn Mountain State Forest

¹ This Joint Proposal includes updated versions of Exhibit 2, Exhibit 3, Exhibit 7, Exhibit E-2, and Exhibit E-4 (or sections thereof) to incorporate and reflect the Project changes. In addition, numerous appendices filed with the Application were updated and supplemented through the Joint Proposal, including: (1) Agency Correspondence (Appendix A to the Application, Record Exhibit 16); Addendum II to the Phase IB Report (Appendix F to the Application, Record Exhibit 20); (2) Updated Substation Sound Study Report (Appendix G to the Application, Record Exhibit 21); and (3) Updated Wetland and Stream Delineation Reports (Appendix E to the Application, Record Exhibit 19). Copies of responses to discovery requests are included as Record Exhibit 41. Exhibit 7 was revised to include local law provisions flagged by public commenters and to include local laws and ordinances that were adopted between the Application and Joint Proposal filing dates.

and the acquisition of an entirely new ROW for this portion of the Project. Additionally, the Joint Proposal proposes updates to the Waters Route Reroute and Marcy Reroute to avoid residential impacts and areas prone to flooding.

Revised Exhibit E-2 to the Application (Record Exhibit 11) incorporates the proposed shifted location of the Gulf Road Substation. Revised Exhibit 3 discusses land uses, visual resources, cultural/historic resources, terrestrial and wildlife resources, wetlands and water resources, topography and soils, noise, invasive species, necessary property rights, and other aspects of each proposed reroute, including the Gulf Road Substation relocation. The revised Figure 2.5 in Exhibit 2 depicts the changes to the Project to accommodate these reroutes.

Exhibit E-4 (Record Exhibit 13) was revised to add analysis of the criticality of construction timing for the Beaver River Substation and the ripple effect a delay to the start of construction will cause across all of National Grid's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act ("CLCPA") projects.

IV. Additional Property Rights

Currently, the Applicant maintains a 100-foot ROW for the existing transmission lines. To accommodate the Project, the Applicant will obtain up to 250-foot-wide easements along the Project corridor. The Applicant is working with property owners along the Project corridor to obtain the necessary property rights. The Applicant will require new property rights for the Holland Patent route variation, the Croghan Reroute, the Marcy Reroute, and the Waters Road Reroute. These reroutes are discussed in Exhibit 3 and in the Joint Proposal narrative. Notably, the Project does not require new property rights from New York State within the Penn Mountain State Forest.

The Applicant may require a new railroad license agreement from the Mohawk Adirondack Northern Railroad in the Town of Trenton, Oneida County. There is also a need for Danger Tree Easements in certain areas.

The Applicant will require new property rights for construction of the Beaver River Substation and Gulf Road Substation in the Towns of Croghan and Leyden, respectively. The Applicant will acquire property for the new substations, and additional easement rights will be needed for the transmission and sub-transmission facilities entering and exiting the substations.