

Notice of Technical Conferences

Background

On November 1, 2023, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation; Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.; New York State Electric & Gas Corporation; KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid, The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a National Grid NY, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (collectively “National Grid”); National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation; Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.; and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (collectively, the “Program Administrators”) filed Low- to Moderate- Income Energy Efficiency/Building Electrification Portfolio Proposals and Non-Low- to Moderate- Income Energy Efficiency/Building Electrification Portfolio Proposals in the aboved referenced cases pursuant to the New York State Public Service Commission (“Commission”) July 20, 2023 *Order Directing Energy Efficiency and Building Electrification Proposals*.

The July 2023 Order directed Program Administrators to file individual proposals for their Low-to Moderate-Income (LMI) and non-LMI portfolios, based on the budgets provided in the Order. Proposals were required to include, at a minimum:

- 1) Portfolio objectives and details on programs to be offered.
- 2) Proposed performance metrics and program targets both for the overall portfolio, and as appropriate, for individual programs by year.
- 3) Proposed budgets by year, represented in the following budget categories: portfolio administration; portfolio evaluation, measurement, and verification (EM&V); and all other program activity, including any co-funding arrangements, particularly leveraging expected federal funds such as those anticipated through the Inflation Reduction Act, and how such co-funding would work in concert with the proposed programs.
- 4) Proposed rules and procedures regarding flexibility to shift funds across years.
- 5) The proposed cost-recovery mechanism and process.
- 6) Specific approaches to be employed to ensure the provision of benefits to Disadvantaged Communities; and,
- 7) Description of how the portfolio will work cohesively with programs offered by other Program Administrators.

In addition, the Order provided additional guidance that the Program Administrators should consider and incorporate into their proposals, including, but not limited to, the imposition of a strategic framework requiring at least 85% of the Program Administrator’s budget to be allocated to measures or programs that are deemed to be strategic, a maximum of 15% of the Program Administrator’s budget to be allocated to measures or programs deemed to be neutral, and no budget allocated to measures or programs deemed to be non-strategic.

As directed by the New York State Department of Public Service (letter from M. Padula to Program Administrators dated December 13, 2023), the Program Administrators filed supplemental filings on January 12, 2024. The supplemental filings were requested to provide additional transparency to aid

Staff and interested stakeholders in conducting efficient and thorough assessments and comparisons of the proposals and collective portfolio. The supplemental filings included clarifications of budgets, achievements, strategic framework definitions, and descriptions of how the Program Administrator's portfolios will work cohesively.

Technical Conferences

This announcement provides notice of the Program Administrators' intention to conduct Technical Conferences to aid interested parties in their review of the proposals and supplemental filings filed as part of Case 14-M-0094, Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Consider a Clean Energy Fund and Case 18-M-0084, In the Matter of a Comprehensive Energy Efficiency Initiative.

The first Technical Conference will be held on **February 2, 2024**, from 10 am to 4:30 pm, at the *Building Energy Exchange 31 Chambers St #609, New York, NY 10007*. The Technical Conference will focus on the proposals and supplemental information filed by the Downstate Program Administrators- NYSEERDA, Consolidated Edison, KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid, and The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a National Grid NY. A virtual option will be provided.

The second Technical Conference will be held on **February 8, 2024**, from 9:30 am to 5:15 pm, at the *Empire State Concourse, Room 6, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12242*. The Technical Conference will focus on the proposals and supplemental information filed by the Upstate Program Administrators- NYSEERDA, Central Hudson, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation, National Grid, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation, Orange and Rockland Utilities, and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation. A virtual option will be provided.

The two Technical Conferences will include Program Administrator presentations, including overviews of proposals, and an opportunity for interested stakeholders to ask questions and receive answers. Both Technical Conferences will offer a virtual option to participate.

Question and Answer Guidance

Stakeholders will be given the opportunity to ask questions in advance of and during the Technical Conferences. Program Administrators may try to address common questions received in advance in their presentations as feasible. During the Technical Conference, PAs will alternate between pre-submitted questions and those received live in person at the event. All questions received will be reviewed and taken into consideration, including through the preparation of a Frequently Asked Questions document that will be released after the conferences.

Pre-Technical Conference:

Stakeholders may submit written questions before the Technical Conferences via Microsoft Form. Stakeholders may submit up to 10 questions per Form¹. Questions for the Downstate Technical Conference are due by January 26, 2024. Questions for the Upstate Technical Conference are due by February 2, 2024. Questions may be submitted via: <https://forms.office.com/r/52S8tfQVv>

¹ This Form is for questions for Program Administrators only and is not a mechanism to submit comments under this proceeding. Comments can only be submitted via the NYS Department of Public Service's Document and Matter Management System (DMM). To submit a comment, select "Post Comment" at the following link (NYS Department of Public Service webpage): <https://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=18-M-0084>

Day of Technical Conference:

Questions will be received in-person and virtually on the day of the Technical Conferences.

- **Written Questions via the Q&A Function in the Webinar (Virtual Participants Only)**

Stakeholders joining via the virtual webinar platform can use the Q&A Function in the webinar application to submit questions during the event. Written questions sent via the Q&A Function of the webinar will be received by the facilitation team directly. The facilitation team will review questions and pose them verbally to presenters.

For the Downstate conference, for more on how to use the Q&A Function in a Zoom Webinar, see the Zoom Support webpage:

https://support.zoom.com/hc/en/article?id=zm_kb&sysparm_article=KB0064380

For the Upstate conference, for more on how to use the Q&A Function in a Webex Webinar, see the Webex Support webpage: [https://help.webex.com/en-us/article/nakt8px/Question-and-answer-\(Q&A\)-sessions-in-Webex-Meetings-and-Webex-Webinars](https://help.webex.com/en-us/article/nakt8px/Question-and-answer-(Q&A)-sessions-in-Webex-Meetings-and-Webex-Webinars)

- **At-Event: Verbal Questions (In-Person Participants Only)**

During the Technical Conferences, in-person participants will have the opportunity to provide verbal questions after Program Administrator presentations. Stakeholders will queue at microphone stations where they will be prompted by the facilitator to provide their questions to presenters.

All in-person participants are invited to provide questions, noting that participants are asked to limit their questions and any follow-up to no more than two minutes total to ensure sufficient time during the conferences for broad participation.

Registration

Registration will be required to attend the Technical Conferences. Please note in-person space is limited. Stakeholders can register for either the in-person or virtual option via the links below.

To register to attend the Downstate Technical Conference: <https://events.nyserda.ny.gov/3NIMEY>

To register to attend the Upstate Technical Conference: <https://events.nyserda.ny.gov/ax0PXV>