STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 20-E-0197 - Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement Transmission Planning Pursuant to the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act.

NOTICE SEEKING COMMENTS

(Issued January 4, 2023)

The Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act (Accelerated Renewables Act)[1] directs the Commission to report on the actions taken to implement its provisions and their impacts on grid congestion and achievement of the clean energy targets established in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).[2] With this Notice, the Commission seeks comment to assist it in performing that review.

Since the enactment of the Accelerated Renewables Act, the Commission has furthered implementation of the statute through the following actions:

- Initiated a proceeding to develop and consider proposals for fulfilling the objectives of the Accelerated Renewables Act and directed electric utilities to conduct a study of the power grid to identify distribution and local transmission upgrades and bulk transmission investments that are necessary or appropriate to facilitate the timely achievement of CLCPA targets;[3]
- Adopted criteria for identifying bulk transmission projects

[1] Chapter 58 (Part JJJ) of the laws of 2020.
[2] Chapter 106 of the laws of 2019.
[3] Case 20-E-0197, Order on Transmission Planning Pursuant to the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act (issued May 14, 2020).

that are needed urgently to meet CLCPA goals and identified the New York Power Authority's proposed Northern New York project as a priority project for development and construction;[4]

- Directed utilities to identify reliability or asset condition projects that contribute to meeting CLCPA goals (Phase 1 projects) in rate case filings;
- Provided guidance on the deployment of advanced transmission technologies;[5]
- Determined that the CLCPA constitutes a Public Policy Requirement driving the need for additional transmission facilities to deliver the output of offshore wind generating resources and referred that need to the New York Independent System Operator, Inc. to solicit, evaluate, and select the more cost effective or efficient solution(s);[6]
- Approved a new methodology for calculating headroom, to be applied by the utilities in identifying potential upgrades;[7]
- Directed electric utilities to develop and propose a new coordinated grid planning process, propose a cost recovery mechanism for Phase 2 projects, and propose cost-effective solutions for three generation pockets expected to see additional renewable generation growth;[8]
- Conducted technical conferences with stakeholders to

[4] Id., Order on Priority Transmission Projects (issued October 15, 2020).
[5] Id., Order on Phase 1 Local T&D Project Proposals (issued February 11, 2021).
[6] Cases 20-E-0497 and 18-E-0623, Order Addressing Public Policy Requirements for Transmission Planning Purposes (issued March 19, 2021).
[7] Case 20-E-0197, Order on Local Transmission and Distribution Planning Process and Phase 2 Project Proposals (issued September 9, 2021).
[8] Id.

examine the proposed coordinated grid planning process;

- Addressed recommendations arising from the power grid study and initial report, including by requiring the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to collaborate with other state agencies to develop coordinated plans for cable routing and to take steps to preserve the option of a mesh offshore grid in the future;[9]
- Ordered the electric utilities and staff of the Department of Public Service (Staff) to establish an advanced technology working group to assess technologies and establish pathways to implementation of beneficial transmission technologies; [10]
- Accepted the proposals of the electric utilities for a cost sharing and recovery agreement along with a cost allocation mechanism for local transmission upgrades designed to support the CLCPA;[11]
- Approved a revised benefit cost analysis that can be applied when evaluating potential investments in local transmission and distribution upgrades needed to achieve CLCPA goals;[12]
- Authorized development of 53 Phase 1 local transmission projects that are necessary to meet CLCPA targets by 2030.[13]

The information specified in Section 7 of the Accelerated

[9] Id., Order on Power Grid Study Recommendations (issued January 20, 2022).
[10] Ibid.
[11] Id., Order Accepting Compliance Filings (issued May 12, 2022).
[12] Id., Order Approving Revised Benefit Cost Analysis Method (issued June 17, 2022).
[13] Id., Order Authorizing Development of Phase 1 Transmission Projects and Cost Recovery Measures (issued July 14, 2022) and Order Authorizing Continuation of Phase 1 Transmission Projects and Cost Recovery Measures (issued December 15, 2022).

Renewables Act will be included in the informational presentation required by the Commission's May 12, 2022 Order on the Implementation of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, filed in Case 22-M-0149.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that public comments are sought on the Commission's implementation actions taken pursuant to the Accelerated Renewables Act and their impacts by February 28, 2023. To submit comments, please go to www.dps.ny.gov, click on "Search," enter "20-E-0197" in the "Search by Case Number" field, and then click on the "Post Comments" box located at the top of the page. Those unable to file electronically may mail their comments to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York, 12223-1350.

(SIGNED) MICHELLE L. PHILLIPS
Secretary