



Enver Acevedo
Associate Counsel
Law Department
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
4 Irving Place, Room 1815-S, New York NY 10003
Tel.: 212-460-3762 Fax: 212-677-5850
Email: acevedoe@coned.com

December 28, 2020

By Electronic Mail
Hon. Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350

**Re: Case 19-G-0066 – Proceeding on Motion of the
Commission as to the Rates, Rules and
Regulations of Consolidated Edison Company
of New York, Inc. for Gas Service**

Dear Secretary Phillips:

In accordance with Section P (5) of the Joint Proposal adopted by the New York State Public Service Commission in its January 16, 2020 Order in the referenced case, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. is filing its District Energy Initiative bi-annual status report for December 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Enver Acevedo

c: All Active Parties in Case 19-G-0066 (via electronic mail)

**December 2020 Status Report on the District Energy Initiative in Accordance with Case 19-G-0066 -
Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. for Gas Service.**

In accordance with the Gas Rate Plan established in Case 19 -G-0066,¹ Con Edison (Company) submits this status report on its District Energy Initiative and describes herein the planned schedule. Notwithstanding some delays related to the temporary suspension of non-emergency work in customer premises, the Company is advancing the District Energy Initiative while it continues to comply with state and local directives to protect the health and safety of Company employees and the public.

The work summarized below describes Con Edison's efforts to date on **Phase 1** (Detailed Assessment) as set forth in the Gas Rate Plan by reviewing the Company's work on the tasks that the Company will complete as part of that assessment. The Company is on track to complete this phase of the District Energy Initiative in early 2021.

*Task #1: Review of studies and benchmarking with other investor-owned utilities and state agencies
Status: Complete*

The Company has completed its review of applicable studies, as well as benchmarking with other utilities and state agencies. The Company has also completed its internal engineering analysis, as described below (under Task #2). The Company will issue a request for proposals by no later than January 29, 2021 for a consultant to perform engineering services for loop design and customer design.

*Task #2: Identification of potential pilot locations through engineering analysis and technical potential assessments from third parties including the City of New York
Status: Ongoing*

The Gas Engineering team conducted technical and probable analysis of its gas system in areas that contain small diameter cast iron/bare steel that is slated for replacement as part of the Company's safety programs.

This analysis considered the following:

- Location of the pipe slated for replacement
- Number of services (customers) that are attached to each segment
- Thermal availability (geothermal technical potential)
- Usage profile of the customers (low usage versus heating/commercial application usage)
- Economic and Environmental considerations (including community income profiles and air quality issues such as Title V permits)

¹ Case 19-G-0066, *Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. for Gas Service*, Order Adopting Terms of Joint Proposal and Establishing Electric and Gas Rate Plan (Issued January 16, 2020). ("Gas Rate Plan")

- Field verification of customer usage/space

The Company has identified 19 potential locations, which still require field verification. These locations include potential customers in three out of four counties in the Company's service territory (5 locations in the Bronx, 3 in Queens and 11 in Westchester). Con Edison excluded New York County (Manhattan) due to the need for replacement of old cast iron or unprotected steel with new steel pipe in the Steam franchise footprint. Due to the pandemic response and social distancing obligations under the New York State Executive PAUSE Order, the field verification of loop siting potential, and the assessment of the customer's energy usage and dedicated equipment space has been delayed. The Company hopes to undertake these efforts in early 2021, in partnership with the external consultant engineering firm that the Company tasked with assisting in selecting pilot locations, designing the loops, as well as customer design. The Company will continue to identify additional opportunities for such systems if the customers associated with those identified to date are not interested in participating in the district energy pilots.

Task #3: Development of Customer Communications

Status: Ongoing

The Company is developing a customer rate calculator, similar to one that was available during the Area Growth Program. The goal is to develop a tool that will allow customers to see the payback periods for their investment and potential energy cost savings. The Company will have a customer rate calculator available on its website in January 2021.