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EYP/

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Re: Systems Benefit Charge and the Photovoltaic Manufacturing Consortium

July 21, 2011

Ms. Jaclyn Brilling:

This letter represents Einhorn Yaffee Prescott Architecture & Engineering's (EYP) support of the Systems Benefit Charge from the Public Service Commission. The main goal, promoting electric and gas technology innovations and market development in New York, is important not only to New York State businesses, but also vital to our nation's prosperity and autonomy.

Environmental responsibility and energy-conscious design have been fundamental to EYP's philosophy and practice for more than 35 years. To ensure its clients benefit from the latest research and development, EYP has established strategic partnerships with organizations including the College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering and the National Institute for Sustainable Energy (NISE). Recently, Architect Magazine named EYP's sustainability practice second in the nation and Engineering News Record ranked EYP #17 of the Top 100 Green Design Firms.

The fact is that the College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering (CNSE) can provide services, resources, capabilities and facilities that simply no other organization has the ability to provide to companies developing disruptive solar photovoltaic thin film technologies. Additionally, the recent funding of a \$57.5 million Photovoltaic Manufacturing Consortium at CNSE by the Department of Energy confirms that current leaders in the solar energy industry will be drawn to CNSE's Albany Nanotech Complex. The collaboration of CNSE, SEMATECH and its partners can and will provide real growth opportunities to local solar energy businesses and attract more promising solar companies to the area. They can do this even more effectively with the support of the Systems Benefit Charge.

Photovoltaic products represent a significant market opportunity for U.S. and New York firms. Worldwide, the grid-connected solar PV market has grown at a compound annual rate of 54% over the past 10 years, 56% from 2003–2008, and 70% from 2007–2008. Experts project that the PV industry will grow from a \$30 billion in 2008 to \$80 billion in 2018; and has the potential to create 3–5 million high-tech jobs in the U.S. over the next decade.

EYP urges that the newly revised Systems Benefit Charge support the PVMC. The PVMC will have a direct impact and serve as a feeder program for the Commission's Renewable Portfolio Standard's Customer-Sited Tier Program and help accelerate the overall deployment of 30% renewables by 2015 in New York State. PVMC's success in achieving the targeted cost reductions and performance enhancements will result in 3X the amount of power generated by installed solar systems in New York State with next generation CIGS technology.

Sincerely,

Bob Kennedy  
Energy Sector Leader  
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