

1 10/16/2024 - Monthly Meeting

2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

4 MONTHLY MEETING

5
6 Wednesday, October 16, 2024

7 10:31 a.m. until 11:35 a.m.

8 ESP, Building 3, 19th Floor Boardroom

9 Albany, New York

10

11 COMMISSIONERS:

12 RORY M. CHRISTIAN, Chair

13 COMMISSIONER JAMES S. ALESI

14 COMMISSIONER DAVID J. VALESKY

15 COMMISSIONER JOHN B. MAGGIORE

16 COMMISSIONER UCHENNA S. BRIGHT

17 COMMISSIONER DENISE M. SHEEHAN

18 COMMISSIONER RADINA R. VALOVA

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2 (The meeting commenced at 10:31 a.m.)

3 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Good morning,
4 everyone. I call this session of the Public Service
5 Commission to order. Madam Secretary, are there any
6 changes to the final agenda?

7 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: There are no
8 changes to the final agenda.

9 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. Before
10 moving to the agenda, I'd like to conduct a roll call
11 of the Commissioners. When I call your name, please
12 confirm that you are present. Commissioner James
13 Alesi?

14 COMMISSIONER ALESI: Present.

15 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner David
16 Valesky?

17 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Here.

18 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner John
19 Maggiore?

20 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: Here.

21 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Uchenna
22 Bright?

23 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Present.

24 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Denise
25 Sheehan?

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2 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Here.

3 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Radina
4 Valova?

5 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: Present.

6 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. Before
7 we turn to the regular agenda, do any Commissioners
8 wish to recuse from voting on Item 101? Commissioner
9 Alesi?

10 COMMISSIONER ALESI: No.

11 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner
12 Valesky?

13 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: No.

14 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner
15 Maggiore?

16 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: No.

17 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Bright?

18 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: No.

19 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner

20 Sheehan?

21 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: No.

22 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Valova?

23 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: No.

24 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. We'll
25 now move to the regular agenda. Our first item for

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2 discussion today and our one voting item on the
3 regular agenda is Item 101, Case 24-G-0483, related
4 to an investigation into a gas-related explosion in
5 the service territory of Central Hudson Gas &
6 Electric Corporation.

7 It'll be presented today by John Sipos
8 with Teresa Grant, Dennis DiBari, Michael Moll, also
9 available for questions. Mr. Sipos, please.

10 MR. SIPOS: Good morning, Chair
11 Christian, and Commissioners. The following summary
12 relies on a Department of Public Service staff
13 investigation, which remains active. At the end of
14 2023, Central Hudson was engaged in replacing gas
15 utility distribution pipes in the Wappingers Falls
16 area.

17 In November, the company and its
18 contractors began excavation and replacement work on
19 a residential street known as Brick Row. During that
20 construction work, an excavator bucket encountered a
21 gas line in the vicinity of Seven Brick Row. That
22 contact in turn, led to a gas leak and then an
23 explosion and a fire.

24 The explosion and fire caused
25 significant and life altering injuries to residents

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2 and laborers. It also resulted in the destruction of
3 residential buildings along the street.

4 Soon after the incident, D.P.S. staff
5 began an investigation, obtained video and documents,
6 and conducted sworn interviews. The current state of
7 the D.P.S. investigation is summarized in a report
8 which will be attached to and released by today's
9 draft order before you.

10 Based on the D.P.S. staff
11 investigation to date, it appears to staff that
12 information about active gas accounts along Brick Row
13 was not incorporated into the utility construction
14 plan for the street and the residences.

15 D.P.S. staff identified what they
16 believe to be sufficient, credible information that
17 supports the identification of various apparent
18 violations. The draft order before the Commission
19 today identifies the apparent violations.

20 And the order would also begin the
21 process to commence a civil administrative
22 enforcement proceeding under Public Service Law,
23 Section 25-A, and would direct the company to respond
24 to the identified apparent violations and explain why
25 an enforcement proceeding should not proceed.

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2 I note that this -- I note that at
3 this preliminary stage, the apparent violations are
4 allegations. They are not final findings of fact.
5 They're not final legal conclusions, and nor are they
6 the final verdict. We are at the beginning of the
7 process, and the order before you today provides that
8 the company would have an opportunity to respond.

9 This concludes staff's presentation.
10 I would like to note and express appreciation for the
11 diligent work of Steve DiLillo, Mike Moll in the Gas
12 Safety Office, and Investigator Teresa Grant and
13 Dennis DiBari in the Office of Investigations and
14 Enforcement. Staff is available for questions.
15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. And
17 thank you all for your hard work in doing this
18 investigation and putting this item together and now
19 presenting it before the Commission. Now, having
20 read the report, I can only imagine the challenges
21 that you encountered.

22 And looking through the material and
23 speaking with the individuals, and I -- I know this
24 was not an easy process, so really want to emphasize
25 my thanks and appreciation for your hard work and due

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2 diligence.

3 Now, the core mandate of our work at
4 the Commission is a drive to ensure safety of our
5 utility systems. And the events described in this
6 order highlight the importance of that mandate. As
7 you've made clear, these are apparent -- these
8 apparent violations are allegations, not final
9 findings, not conclusions, nor a final verdict.

10 And as part of the process and
11 procedures, we now seek a response to these
12 allegations from the utility in advance of any future
13 Commission action.

14 Now, for the sake of the residents
15 living in the area, for the families and the workers
16 affected, and for the sake of New Yorkers everywhere,
17 who rely on natural gas to meet their daily needs, I
18 look forward to a prompt response from the utility
19 and expeditious progress and resolution of this
20 matter. So again, thank you for your work.

21 Commissioner Alesi, comments?

22 COMMISSIONER ALESI: Thank you,
23 Chairman. First, I guess that it's -- as I was
24 reading this report and understand the significant,
25 the significant -- shall I start over? Reading this

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2 report, and it is these actions that are preliminary,
3 that we're going to vote on whether we proceed or not
4 today, which my vote will be yes.

5 But it occurs to me that some sympathy
6 and condolences perhaps should also be in the
7 statements; that so many people suffered and were
8 injured and impacted by what occurred. That is not
9 to say that I have a final decision on anything,
10 because this is just a preliminary first step as to
11 whether we proceed forward.

12 But it is a significant piece of work
13 so far, and I expect that more will happen. But I
14 think that when it comes to looking at the
15 possibility of penalties that we should also look at
16 the value of what we learn from these kind of
17 investigations as well.

18 Because at the end of the day, it's
19 not how valuable -- well, I shouldn't use the term
20 valuable, but how significant the penalty impending -
21 - possible impending penalties might be, but the
22 what's significant is the value of what we learned to
23 protect people from injury in the future. So those
24 are my comments and I'll be supporting this.

25 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,

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2 Commissioner. Commissioner Valesky?

3 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Thank you,
4 Chair Christian. John, thank you. And -- and to the
5 teams from both offices, Investigations and -- and
6 Gas Safety. Thank you again for the -- the work that
7 you have put forth over this almost year now. It's
8 almost -- almost a year to the day of -- of the
9 explosion itself.

10 It again underscores the importance on
11 behalf of both the Commission and the Department
12 toward that safety mandate that Chair Christian
13 indicated earlier. I also had an opportunity to read
14 the report and -- and feel comfortable in saying that
15 once it is released, and John, you indicated that it
16 will be released subsequent to the consideration of
17 the order itself.

18 I think anyone that does take the time
19 to read it will find that there's certainly enough
20 there there to, from my perspective, advance to the
21 next step, which would be the order to show cause,
22 which is what you have asked for based on the report.

23 And I'm certainly prepared to support
24 that order to show cause and will very much look
25 forward to what the company has to say in response to

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2 the preliminary investigation. Fifteen total
3 apparent violations is not insignificant in any way,
4 shape, or form.

5 So we will be very anxious to -- to --
6 to hear what -- what the response shows. I'll be
7 supporting the item. Thank you.

8 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,
9 Commissioner. Commissioner Maggiore?

10 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: Thank you.
11 John, thank you for the presentation and the work
12 you're doing, and thank you for keeping us apprised
13 of this investigation. I don't -- I don't want to
14 reiterate what my colleagues have already said other
15 than what Commissioner Alesi said that I too extend
16 my sympathies to those affected by this, and I'll be
17 supporting this item, of course.

18 The one thing I would add is I --
19 yeah, I'm an emotional person and when I was reading
20 the -- the draft investigation report, I had an
21 emotional reaction to it. The events described
22 therein are horrific.

23 And you know, it really -- I don't
24 know what else to say other than it underscores the
25 importance of the work that you're doing and

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2 acknowledging that this is the beginning of the
3 process, as you just said, the -- the integrity and
4 then the final outcome of the process, you know,
5 could hardly be more important.

6 So I thank you for your presentation
7 and the work that you're doing and the presentation
8 here today. And also thank the writers of this
9 report for not letting the impact get lost in the
10 technical details. It's a very, very vivid report
11 and like I said, I had an emotional reaction just
12 reading it, so thank you very much. I'll, of course,
13 be in support of this item.

14 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,
15 Commissioner. Commissioner Bright?

16 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Thank you. I
17 had a similar reaction to Commissioner Maggiore and I
18 just want to thank the Offices of Investigation and
19 Gas Safety. As a general matter, utilities have a
20 baseline responsibility to provide safe, reliable
21 service to their customers.

22 And turning to this matter at this
23 time, it is appropriate for the utility to respond to
24 staff's report and to show cause why an enforcement
25 case should not commence concerning the apparent

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2 violations currently identified by staff.

3 I will, of course, keep an open mind
4 about this matter, and I am interested in seeing the
5 utilities prompt response. And of course, just want
6 to thank staff again for your efforts to collect all
7 of this information and review the matter while also
8 keeping the public interest in mind. So thank you.

9 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,
10 Commissioner. Commissioner Sheehan?

11 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Thank you,
12 Chair. It -- I will be -- I'll end up being
13 repetitive, but I -- I want to echo everyone's
14 statements. I really want to thank the staff for the
15 hard work on this.

16 I'm sure it was very difficult to
17 investigate such a traumatic event, so I really want
18 to acknowledge your work on this because I know it
19 was under very difficult circumstances, and I share
20 my sympathies to those who were injured.

21 I'm going to support the order to show
22 -- show cause and as Commissioner Bright noted, keep
23 a open mind for what transpires next and look forward
24 to hearing a prompt response from the utility.

25 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,

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2 Commissioner. And Commissioner Valova?

3 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: I'll be very
4 brief. I second my colleagues and the thoughts they
5 have expressed. Thank you to staff and I look
6 forward to the next steps. Thank you.

7 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. I'll now
8 conduct the call for a vote. My vote is in favor of
9 the recommendations to adopt the recommendations to
10 order Central Hudson to show cause as discussed.
11 Commissioner Alesi, how do you vote?

12 COMMISSIONER ALESI: Yes.

13 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner
14 Valesky?

15 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Yes.

16 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner
17 Maggiore?

18 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: Yes.

19 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Bright?

20 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Yes.

21 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner
22 Sheehan?

23 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Yes.

24 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Valova?

25 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: Yes.

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2 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. The item
3 is approved and the recommendations are adopted.
4 Thank you, everyone.

5 We will now move to our second item,
6 which is a discussion item and informational non-
7 voting item, Item 201, Case 24-M-0205, which
8 addresses the 2024-2025 Winter Preparedness Report.

9 We'll have multiple presenters, first
10 of which will be Chris Stolicky, followed by Davide
11 Maioriello -- apologies. Richard Quimby, Richard
12 George, and Esmin Brown-Anderson. Erin O'Dell-Keller
13 and Paul Darmetko are also available for questions
14 should any arise. Chris, please begin.

15 MR. STOLICKY: Thank you, Chair. Good
16 morning, Chair and Commissioners. Today, staff will
17 be briefing you on the results of our annual
18 investigation into the readiness of the State's
19 natural gas and electric utilities for the coming
20 winter.

21 I will give you a brief overview of
22 this item and then turn it over to staff for the full
23 presentation. Next slide please. The presentation
24 will consist of four components which will be
25 presented by various staff from the Office of Energy

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2 System Planning and Performance, Office of Rates and
3 Tariffs, and the Office of Consumer Services.

4 First will be a report on the
5 readiness of the State's natural gas utilities,
6 including projected prices which will be presented by
7 Dave Maioriello. Second will be a report on the
8 readiness of the State's electric system, including
9 staff's review of electric generators onsite storage
10 and replenishment plans for backup fuels presented by
11 Richard Quimby.

12 The third component will be the
13 Electric Utilities Hedging performance and portfolio
14 in place for the coming winter, as well as a
15 projection for electricity supply bills presented by
16 Richard George.

17 And the final component will be a
18 discussion of outreach efforts underway to inform and
19 assist utility customers during the upcoming winter
20 season presented by Esmine Brown-Anderson. Overall,
21 staff's investigation found that both the New York
22 State natural gas and electric systems are prepared
23 to meet customer needs for the upcoming winter.

24 With respect to expected prices this
25 winter, as you'll see later in the presentation prior

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2 to 2021 and 2022, natural gas prices had remained
3 relatively low and stable for about a decade. During
4 2021 and 2022 natural gas commodity prices increased
5 significantly driven primarily by the global
6 increased demand for natural gas.

7 As a result of declining gas supply
8 prices during 2023 and 2024, gas commodity prices are
9 expected to be slightly lower than last winter. But
10 customer bills are forecast to be higher due to a
11 number of factors including increased capacity costs,
12 reconciliations, and scheduled rate plan impacts.

13 Residential electric customer supply
14 bills are forecast to be similar to last winter on a
15 Statewide average basis. Both gas and electric
16 utilities have employed their hedging practices in
17 advance of winter, which will re -- reduce volatility
18 of bills during the winter period. I'll now turn it
19 over to Dave Maioriello.

20 MR. MAIORIELLO: Thank you, Chris.
21 Next slide, please. Good morning, Chair Christian,
22 and Commissioners. I am Davide Maioriello and I
23 serve as a Utility Supervisor in the Gas System
24 Planning and Reliability section of the Office of
25 Energy System Planning and Performance.

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2 I will brief you on the results of the
3 annual review into the readiness of the State's
4 natural gas utilities to serve -- serve firm
5 customers for the coming winter. Next slide, please.

6 Each utility has a unique mix of
7 assets, including pipeline capacity, storage, and
8 peaking contracts that are necessary and used to
9 serve a mix of firm customers and meet design day
10 conditions in extreme cold weather events.

11 Interruptible customers or those that
12 have the ability to stop natural gas usage during
13 periods of high demand are important providers of
14 demand response service and reduce the amount of
15 pipeline capacity needed to serve the winter load.

16 More recently, local distribution
17 companies or L.D.C.s focused on the use of demand
18 side management including energy efficiency, demand
19 response, and other non-pipes alternatives to meet
20 growing demand. Staff's review includes forecast
21 demand of design weather conditions for the winter
22 that are both needed -- both the needed gas supply
23 and capacity is in place for expected firm customer
24 requirements.

25 Based upon our review regarding

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2 natural gas supply readiness for the upcoming winter
3 season, staff concludes that the L.D.C.s serving New
4 York State will complete their contracting for
5 adequate natural gas supply, delivery, capacity, and
6 storage inventory to satisfy current firm customer
7 demands under design winter conditions for this
8 winter.

9 Staff continues to communicate with
10 oil industry representatives, the New York State
11 Energy Research and Development Authority or NYSERDA,
12 and the L.D.C.s to ensure that interruptible
13 customers have access to adequate supplies of winter
14 heating fuels.

15 This includes coordinating calls ahead
16 of cold weather events. Now and over the winter
17 heating season, staff will continue to monitor supply
18 conditions for any issues that may arise, including
19 price fluctuations and any pipeline disruptions that
20 may occur along with the performance of our L.D.C.s'
21 demand response customers.

22 Every L.D.C. highlighted that no
23 additional moratoria is expected over the next year.
24 However, National Grid stated it continues to closely
25 evaluate the need for a moratorium within the next

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2 several years.

3 If National Grid determines such a
4 need, it will provide notice to the Commission before
5 the moratorium is implemented consistent with the
6 moratorium management procedures established by the
7 Commission and the gas planning proceeding. It's
8 approximately two years before the moratorium is --
9 would be implemented. Next slide, please.

10 A brief customer bill background, a
11 gas customer's utility bill is comprised of several
12 components. These components include the delivery
13 charge or cost of the pipeline infrastructure to live
14 -- to deliver the gas, the cost of gas supply
15 collected through the gas adjustment charge.

16 The gas supply charge represents
17 approximately 34 percent of the average Statewide
18 bill -- Statewide bill for the coming winter. It is
19 important to note that L.D.C.s do not earn a return
20 on supply costs. The gas bill also consists of other
21 surcharges and taxes. The next few slides will focus
22 on the supply portion of the customer bill.

23 As part of the annual procurement
24 planning for the upcoming winter gas L.D.C.s procure
25 both natural gas supplies and pipeline capacity, as

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2 well as other contracts for peaking and compressed
3 natural gas supplies to meet the overall firm
4 customer demand.

5 For this upcoming winter season, the
6 L.D.C.s are expecting -- expected to -- expecting gas
7 supply prices to be slightly lower than last year.

8 A driver of the lower pricing for the
9 upcoming winter is due to the warmer than normal
10 weather last winter in both the United States and
11 Europe. This resulted in higher storage levels last
12 spring, thus reducing the volume needed to refill
13 storage over the summer months. Next slide, please.

14 Flowing and hedge gas prices -- price
15 forecasts are both influenced by trading on the New
16 York Mercantile Exchange or NYMEX and the in --
17 international markets. This chart show -- that show
18 -- this chart shows that natural gas prices were
19 relatively low for over a decade, increased in '21
20 and '22 -- 2022, and experienced a significant drop
21 leading into the upcoming winter heating season.
22 Next slide, please.

23 The L.D.C.s purchase gas to supply
24 their customers winter's needs in three ways. This
25 is represented by the pie chart on the slide. The

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2 first is by physically filling their natural gas
3 storage facilities during the summer when overall
4 demand is low.

5 The second way is by financial
6 hedging, which acts like an insurance policy to
7 protect against high volatility of the gas price.

8 The third way is by purchasing at the
9 prevailing market price, which fluctuates day-to-day
10 with market forces and is called flowing gas. This
11 data is current to October and may fluctuate slightly
12 before the start of winter, November 1st.

13 The average cost of gas this year is
14 forecasted to be slightly lower than last year. As
15 seen in this slide, the forecast of supply prices for
16 the upcoming winter is \$3.08 per dekatherm compared
17 to the actual average price of \$3.10 per dekatherm
18 last winter. It is also important to note that
19 actual weather can have a significant impact on
20 supply prices. Next slide please.

21 For this winter season, we expect the
22 average residential customer's winter heating bill to
23 be about \$1,014. Assuming normal weather, the bill
24 is expected to be higher than last winter, but this
25 will vary by natural gas utility and customer usage.

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2 There are also a few things to note.
3 Forecast bills reflect a normal winter season, while
4 that -- while actual bills last year were the result
5 of a warmer than normal winter.

6 While gas prices are slightly lower
7 than last winter, there are a number of factors that
8 are pushing total projected bills higher this winter,
9 including increased capacity costs, reconciliations
10 due to warmer than normal weather last year, and
11 scheduled rate plan impacts. Next slide, please.

12 This graph shows the -- the relative
13 heating bills over the last 17 years. Bills this
14 winter are forecast to be higher than last year's
15 actuals. In conclusion, staff's review indicates
16 that the gas L.D.C.s serving New York have secured
17 adequate contracts for supplies of natural gas to
18 meet expected firm customer requirements this coming
19 winter.

20 However, staff will continue its --
21 the traditional monitoring of supply, gas markets,
22 and interruptible customer compliance throughout the
23 winter, as well as operations on interstate pipelines
24 that could impact supply and report any situations
25 that require Commission attention.

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2 This slide concludes my portion of the
3 presentation and thank you for your time and
4 attention on these matters and I will be happy to
5 take questions after the panel has finished. I would
6 also like to acknowledge the great work done by
7 Lauren Mielke, new Utility Analyst in our group.
8 Next slide, please. I will now turn it over to
9 Richard.

10 MR. QUIMBY: Good morning, Chair
11 Christian, and Commissioners. My name is Richard
12 Quimby, and I am a Power System Operations Specialist
13 in the Department's Electric Safety and Reliability
14 section of the Office of Energy System Planning and
15 Performance.

16 I am here today to brief you on
17 staff's review of the bulk electric systems'
18 preparedness for the upcoming 2024-'25 winter period.
19 At the outset, I would like to say that based upon
20 our review, we conclude that the bulk electric system
21 is prepared to reliably meet the State's upcoming
22 winter electric demands. Next slide, please.

23 This chart shows the summer and winter
24 historic coincident peaks since year 2000. It also
25 shows that New York State is a summer peaking State

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2 and therefore has sufficient available capability to
3 meet loads well above those typically experienced
4 during the winter.

5 Last winter's electric peak was two --
6 22,754 megawatts. This was 2,984 megawatts lower
7 than the all-time winter peak of 25,738 megawatts,
8 which occurred in the prolonged cold spell during the
9 2013-2014 winter, which we -- we refer to as the
10 polar vortex.

11 The electric peak forecast for the
12 upcoming winter period is 23,800 megawatts. The
13 NYISO expects to have sufficient generation to serve
14 this peak load and still have approximately 90--
15 9,600 megawatts in excess capacity remaining. In
16 short, we have sufficient capability to serve the
17 forecasted load during the upcoming winter. Next
18 slide, please.

19 A winter coordination protocol is in
20 place to facilitate communication between State
21 agencies and the NYISO in circumstances where fuel
22 supply for generating facilities may be at risk or if
23 a generator owner needs a fuel specification waiver
24 from the D.E.C. to maintain reliability. The State
25 agencies involved are the Department, D.E.C.,

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2 NYSERDA, and D.O.T.

3 As part of staff's winter assessment,
4 we reached out to major generating facility owners in
5 Southeast New York who own about 12,000 megawatts of
6 dual fuel generation capability.

7 The dual fuel capability enables
8 generators to burn either natural gas or oil
9 depending upon the situation, which can be driven by
10 economics or unavailability of one of the fuels.
11 Based on our assessment, we expect these facilities
12 will have adequate oil reserves for the upcoming
13 winter.

14 We found that these owners are
15 continuing to implement lessons learned from past
16 winter experiences, including having adequate pre-
17 winter onsite fuel reserves, having firm contracts
18 with fuel oil suppliers, conducting more aggressive
19 replenishment plans, and having more proactive pre-
20 winter maintenance and facilities program.

21 Staff also met with the NYISO to
22 discuss its procedures and protocols for maintaining
23 electric reliability during the winter period. We
24 found that the NYISO closely monitors generator fuel
25 levels and replenishment plans by conducting weekly

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2 surveys with generator owners.

3 In the event that an extreme cold
4 spell is forecasted, the NYISO has the ability to
5 conduct more frequent surveys to determine if fuel
6 availability issues might arise.

7 In addition, we found that the NYISO
8 has adequate procedures to communicate with
9 interstate pipelines, local gas distribution
10 companies, and neighboring I.S.O.s during periods of
11 tight electric operating conditions. This concludes
12 my presentation. I will now turn it over to Richard
13 George. Thank you. Next slide.

14 MR. GEORGE: Good morning, Chair
15 Christian. Good morning, Commissioners. My name is
16 Richard George and I'm a Utility Engineering
17 Specialist in the Office of Rates and Tariffs. As
18 mentioned previously, I'll provide you with
19 information on how the utilities have performed at
20 reducing the electric supply price volatility for
21 their full-service residential customers.

22 I'll talk a little about the Statewide
23 portfolio that the utilities have in place this
24 winter. And lastly, I'll provide an estimate of what
25 the Statewide average full-service residential

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2 customer supply bill may look like this coming winter
3 compared to the last few years if we experience
4 normal weather. Next slide, please.

5 This slide compares -- oh! Sorry.
6 This graph shows the results of utilities' electric
7 supply price volatility mitigation efforts since
8 December, 2008. It compares the average NYISO day
9 ahead market price volatility, the red line, with the
10 volatility of the utilities residential electric
11 supply portfolios, the blue line.

12 Each monthly value represents the
13 price volatility over a 12-month period as measured
14 by the coefficient of variation. The high point you
15 see on the graph represents the volatility that was
16 experienced due to the 2014 polar vortex, which
17 resulted in a significant increase in market prices
18 and price volatility.

19 Even though customers benefited from
20 the hedges the utilities had in place, the bill
21 impacts that customers experienced were high, but not
22 as high as they would've been absent the utilities
23 hedging efforts. As a result of the lessons learned
24 from the 2014 polar vortex, the utilities modified
25 certain aspects of their hedging programs.

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2 These changes generally included
3 increasing the fixed price hedge level for their
4 residential supply customers during the winter months
5 from about 55 percent to about 70 percent on a
6 Statewide average basis, as well as maintaining
7 multiple portfolios to better hedge their customers
8 located at different regions of their service
9 territories.

10 As you can see from the chart, the
11 utilities have continued to perform well at reducing
12 the portfolio -- the portfolio volatility compared to
13 the market. Similar to the last few years, utilities
14 have maintained on average a 70 percent fixed hedge
15 level for this coming winter, which they have entered
16 into over the last few years to mitigate market price
17 volatility. Next slide, please.

18 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: Before you
19 continue, can you please try moving the mic a little
20 bit closer and speaking louder, we're getting
21 concerns about sound.

22 MR. GEORGE: Okay. This slide
23 compares the last several years of the Statewide
24 average full-service residential winter supply bill,
25 assuming typical use in the winter months of 600

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2 kilowatt hours per month or 2,400 kilowatt-hour --
3 kilowatt hours over the entire winter season. Some
4 of the more --

5 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: I'm sorry, Mr.
6 George?

7 MR. GEORGE: Yes.

8 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: I'm sorry. I
9 think we're having some technical difficulties.

10 MR. GEORGE: Yeah.

11 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: Can we please
12 take a short recess?

13 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Let's take a
14 momentary recess, and we'll restart once our issues
15 have been addressed.

16 (Off the record; 11:05 a.m.)

17 (On the record; 11:08 a.m.)

18 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: Okay I believe
19 the technical difficulties have been resolved, if you
20 could please just make every effort to speak into the
21 mic and speak up.

22 MR. GEORGE: Okay, thank you. So this
23 slide compares the last several years of the
24 Statewide average full service residential winter
25 supply bill, assuming typical use in the winter

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2 months of 600 kilowatt hours per month or 2,400
3 kilowatt hours over the entire winter season,
4 December through March to what we estimate the
5 typical supply bill may be this winter season if we
6 experience normal weather.

7 As you can see at this point going
8 into the winter season, we project that on a
9 Statewide average basis, the typical full-service
10 residential supply bill will be very similar to last
11 winter's actual average.

12 Because this chart shows the Statewide
13 average supply bill, full service residential
14 customers should expect their actual bills to differ
15 from what is shown here based on their actual energy
16 use, their location in the State, the utility they
17 are served by, as well as the difference in weather
18 from normal weather.

19 The purpose of this chart is to
20 provide what the Statewide trend has been and to
21 provide an estimate of where supply costs are
22 expected to head this winter season.

23 If it was a mild winter, we would
24 expect the Statewide average supply bill to be lower,
25 and if it was a colder -- colder than normal, we

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2 would expect the bill to be higher than what is shown
3 here, although still mitigated by utilities' hedges.

4 With that said, the estimated supply
5 portion of the typical full-service residential
6 customer bill could range from an increase of about
7 12 percent to a decrease of approximately 13 percent
8 based on current projections, depending on where in
9 the State the customer is located and by what utility
10 they are served by. But again, these are estimates
11 and actual bills will likely differ.

12 In closing today, if we experience
13 normal weather it is projected that the full service
14 Statewide residential supply bills this winter will
15 be similar to last winter.

16 Utilities have taken steps to mitigate
17 supply price hikes for their full-service residential
18 customers in the event the weather does turn cold or
19 if other system conditions occur that would cause the
20 market price of electricity to spike by maintaining
21 approximately 7 percent fixed price hedge level for
22 this winter season.

23 That concludes my portion of the
24 presentation. I'll now turn the presentation over to
25 Esmin. Next slide, please.

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2 MS. BROWN-ANDERSON: Thank you,
3 Richard.

4 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: Okay. Just as a
5 reminder, the mic has to be kind of close.

6 MS. BROWN-ANDERSON: Thank you,
7 Richard. Good morning. Good morning, Chair
8 Christian, and Commissioners. My name is Esmin
9 Brown-Anderson and I am a Utility Consumer Program
10 Specialist in the Consumer Outreach and Education
11 section of the Office of Consumer Services.

12 Energy affordability remains a serious
13 concern for many New Yorkers. Despite a strong
14 economy, winter bills may be particularly hard on the
15 elderly and households those with fixed or low
16 incomes.

17 This report describes winter
18 preparedness efforts to educate consumers about the
19 upcoming energy forecast, raise awareness of
20 resources available to assist with their energy bills
21 and provide tips to stay safe in the cold. Next
22 slide, please.

23 As part of Winter Preparedness
24 Outreach, the Department and New York Energy
25 Utilities will continue to proactively promote the

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2 following key messages regarding One, the anticipated
3 price of energy in our weather conditions and market
4 forces affect the cost of natural gas and
5 electricity.

6 Two, resources available to help
7 consumers manage winter bills, such as enrolling in
8 budget billing, negotiating affordable deferred
9 payment agreements, and applying for financial
10 assistance such as the Home Energy Assistance Program
11 known as HEAP and the utility administered energy
12 affordability programs.

13 Three, consumer protection rules that
14 shield households from service terminations during
15 cold weather, as well as resources available to
16 assist consumers faced with HEAP related energy
17 emergencies.

18 And four, availability of energy
19 efficiency and weatherization programs, as well as
20 simple affordable measures consumers can take to stay
21 warm and reduce energy use, which may help to control
22 their bills. And five, safety information regarding
23 natural gas, electricity, carbon monoxide, and storm-
24 related service interruptions.

25 First, I will explain staff's ongoing

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2 outreach and education effort to reach consumers with
3 these important messages. Then I will discuss how we
4 are working with the utility companies to encourage
5 them to maintain robust outreach and education
6 efforts prior to and during the winter period. Next
7 slide, please.

8 The Department's winter outreach and
9 education campaign uses a variety of tools to reach
10 utility consumers with these important messages.
11 Staff uses a combination of multilingual winter
12 publications, event exhibits and presentations,
13 virtual platforms such as Department's website and
14 social media channels and partnership with the other
15 State agencies, service organizations, and the local
16 government.

17 Specifically, we distribute plain
18 publication in English and Spanish that allied our
19 core messages. Many are also available in languages
20 required by now New York's language access policy.
21 Staff distributes these materials through our
22 grassroots program, including presentations to
23 community leaders as well as exhibits at public
24 events such as senior expos, health and energy fairs,
25 and cultural festivals.

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2 Participation in these events provides
3 us with an invaluable opportunity for face-to-face
4 interaction with consumers and allow us to reach
5 large, diverse, or otherwise underserved populations.

6 Staff continues to work with our
7 partner organizations to identify events in
8 disadvantaged communities where we can share valuable
9 information to assist consumers. To further increase
10 our effort to reach consumers and make our
11 information more accessible, staff is updating our
12 dedicated winter page on the Department's website.

13 The winter page will contain winter
14 preparedness and energy efficiency information, links
15 to financial assistance programs, weather protections
16 and safety tips, and digital copies of our
17 publications. In addition, we will utilize the
18 Department's social media channels to promote these
19 messages and to drive traffic to the winter page.

20 Lastly, we will provide training to
21 Department's call center representatives, so they may
22 assist consumers with winter preparedness
23 information. To help us reach as many New Yorkers as
24 possible, staff partners with our network of consumer
25 leaders, including social service organizations,

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2 community leaders, community groups, libraries,
3 government agencies, and elected officials.

4 Staff provides the consumer leaders
5 with access to all our winter preparedness
6 information and invites them to partner with us in
7 educating their constituents about these important
8 messages. We will notify our partners about the
9 start of our winter campaign and direct them to our
10 dedicated winter page where they will find digital
11 copies of our publications that may be shared with
12 their constituents.

13 Staff will also provide a flyer with a
14 Q.R. code that direct users to our winter page and
15 can be posted in high traffic areas. Lastly, this
16 notice will inform our partners that we are available
17 to provide presentations upon request.

18 Additionally, staff recognizes the
19 benefit of a coordinated Statewide outreach program
20 and will once again lead a collaborative effort with
21 the other New York State agencies regarding winter
22 preparedness.

23 This inter-agency group will leverage
24 their resources and expertise to develop and host
25 winter preparedness one-stop shopping events. The

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2 collaborative campaign kicks off with virtual
3 workshops that highlight each agency's consumer
4 services and programs.

5 The virtual workshops target elected
6 officials, service organizations, and consumer groups
7 so they can share the program information with their
8 constituents and maximize the reach of the agency's
9 joint messaging.

10 The initial workshop is scheduled for
11 the start of the winter season, and the second
12 virtual workshop is held in January to reinforce
13 winter messaging. Staff will post recording of the
14 virtual workshop on the Department's dedicated winter
15 page and the YouTube channels. Presentation materials
16 are also sent to attendees for use in their outreach
17 programs.

18 Following the kickoff workshop, the
19 Interagency Group will host a series of in-person
20 winter energy fairs, where representatives from a
21 variety of agencies, consumer service organizations,
22 and energy utilities will be available to provide
23 hands-on real-time assistance to consumers.

24 The Interagency Group will develop a
25 promotional campaign to reach consumers, particularly

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2 vulnerable households, and to drive attendance to the
3 agency's sponsored event.

4 In addition to the Department's in-
5 house outreach program, staff encourages utility
6 companies to maintain strong consumer education
7 programs so their customer -- their customers receive
8 the information and assistance they need during the
9 winter months.

10 All major utility companies have
11 programs to alert customers about the anticipated
12 commodity prices, action the companies have taken to
13 mitigate price spikes, and ways consumers can -- can
14 conserve energy and manage energy bills through
15 affordable payment plans and financial assistance
16 programs, including their Energy Affordability
17 Programs.

18 The utility uses a variety of outreach
19 methods to get their message to consumers, including
20 educational materials, media ads on digital
21 platforms, events and forums, and working with
22 elected officials, human service organizations, and
23 community groups. The companies also provide
24 training to their consumer advocates and call center
25 staff on winter messaging and customer assistance.

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2 In conclusion, the Office of Consumer
3 Services continues to implement a robust winter
4 outreach and education campaign designed to wear --
5 to raise awareness of winter energy forecast and
6 ensure that the consumer has information about
7 resources available to help manage winter energy
8 bills, use energy -- use less energy, and stay warm.

9 Staff will continue to monitor the
10 need for additional outreach and education efforts
11 and work with the State's utilities to modify as
12 needed throughout the winter season. Chair Christian
13 and Commissioners, this concludes our presentation.
14 Thank you. Staff is available for your questions.

15 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you for the
16 presentation. I don't have any major comments. I do
17 have one question and if you could go to slide nine.
18 So I -- I want to confirm what I'm looking at here.

19 So in the 2007 to 2008 winter heating
20 system -- season the average cost was roughly \$1,200;
21 is that correct on this chart?

22 MR. MAIORIELLO: Correct.

23 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Right. And so it's
24 going to be around a thousand, a little over for this
25 heating season, but this chart doesn't -- does it

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2 take into account inflation?

3 MR. MAIORIELLO: No, it does not.

4 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: It does not? Okay,
5 thank you. I just wanted to make sure.

6 MR. MAIORIELLO: If we were to take
7 the 2007 bill impact of -- of one -- of actual bill
8 impact of \$1,200 in today's dollars would be over
9 \$1,800.

10 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Sorry, \$1,800?

11 MR. MAIORIELLO: Over \$1,800.

12 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Got it. Okay.

13 Thank you. Appreciate the clarification. No other
14 questions. Thank you very much. Okay, Commissioner
15 Alesi?

16 COMMISSIONER ALESI: Thanks to you,
17 all of you, and those people that we don't see up
18 front here that worked with you to help develop all
19 of this. Lots of good work and very much
20 appreciated.

21 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: All right, thank
22 you. Commissioner Valesky?

23 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Thank you all
24 for your presentation today and the work that goes
25 into preparing it. Just Chris, I think I will just

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2 ask you a quick question if I may. Could you just
3 explain what impact, if any, of the recent hurricanes
4 have had on -- on supply and/or pricing this upcoming
5 winter?

6 MR. STOLICKY: So that's actually --
7 that's actually a really good question because if --
8 if you go back in history a little bit, say 19 years
9 ago, our predecessors, one of which is sitting behind
10 us, we're lucky to have her as a consultant these
11 days.

12 We had Hurricanes Katrina and Rita
13 that impacted Texas and of course New Orleans. And
14 at that point in time in the -- in the evolution of
15 the gas industry, a lot of the supply came from the
16 Gulf. It was transported through long haul pipelines
17 up to the -- the big load center, if you will, and
18 that was the Northeast.

19 There -- there was a big session
20 during that time to talk about the potential impacts
21 and it was -- it was pretty hairy for a while. But
22 in the late 2000's and early 2010's there -- there
23 was the discovery of -- of -- of technology to -- for
24 -- to getting gas out of shale.

25 And so since that time, the industry

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2 has actually flipped from the country being a net
3 importer to a net exporter. And a lot of the gas we
4 receive in the Northeast now comes from the -- the --
5 the Pennsylvania, West Virginia region including a
6 little bit from Canada.

7 But because of that relatively closer
8 supply source, when hurricanes hit the Gulf, we -- we
9 see less impact on the Northeast. And at the same
10 time, a lot of the shale gas is now going towards the
11 Gulf because of the -- the L.N.G. or Liquified
12 Natural Gas export facilities. So we may actually
13 see an -- an opposite impact on prices if we can't
14 export due to the storm.

15 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Thank you.
16 That's very helpful. Thank you.

17 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: All right, thank
18 you. Commissioner Maggiore?

19 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: Thank you. I
20 -- I don't have any questions. I thought the
21 presentation was very thorough as well as the -- the
22 written material that was -- that we had to review,
23 so I don't have any questions. I do want to thank
24 you for your, you know, continued good work and
25 thorough work. So I -- I'm not going to add anything

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2 to that. Thank you.

3 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you.

4 Commissioner Bright?

5 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Thank you,
6 Chair. I also have no questions. Esmin, great to
7 see you, and thank you for all your hard work.

8 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,
9 Commissioner Sheehan?

10 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Thank you,
11 Chair. I do -- I just wanted to have Chris or Davide
12 maybe talk a little bit about our specific role in
13 terms of protecting against gas price volatility.
14 Okay, just the high level.

15 MR. STOLICKY: Sure. Can we move this
16 slide back to the one with the pie chart, please?
17 There it is. So as -- as you know, the Commission
18 has a policy, a gas purchasing policy, where
19 utilities have to purchase gas at the lowest price
20 possible, as reasonably priced possible to maintain
21 reliable service.

22 And -- and -- and what you see on --
23 on this, this chart is kind of a three-legged stool
24 model that -- that I -- I -- I like to call because
25 they -- there are three different ways that they

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2 purchase gas and what happens if you -- in the three-
3 legged stool model, if -- if one starts to drop the
4 other two balance.

5 And so what we have here is -- is that
6 they -- there -- there's flowing gas, which is the 48
7 percent model there. And in -- in a lot of the cases
8 when it's -- it's normal or warmer than normal
9 weather flowing gas is -- is effectively the
10 cheapest. And it's -- it's again, going back to the
11 Marcellus region, it's -- it's close to New York.

12 But then you have the physical storage
13 that we've mentioned where they actually inject
14 physical gas into storage near the market. So that's
15 available, it's already paid for, we know what the
16 price is. And then of course there's the financial
17 hedges, which are financial instruments that are used
18 to -- to mitigate those price spikes, so all of this
19 kind of works together.

20 The gas industry compared to the
21 electric industry is a little different because you -
22 - gas utilities are limited on where they can get the
23 gas from. It has to be, you know, they have to be
24 physically connected to the pipeline serving their
25 region. So they're a little limited here.

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2 So each L.D.C. is a little different,
3 which is part of the work we do when we -- we do our
4 deep dive in into the analysis every year. I hope
5 that answered your question.

6 MR. MAIORIELLO: I want to add a
7 little bit to that. The physical hedge is typically
8 inject -- the gas injected for the season is after
9 the winter heating season when gas prices typically
10 start -- typically start to go down.

11 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Uh-huh.

12 MR. MAIORIELLO: In my career here,
13 there's been maybe only one year where gas prices
14 actually continue to go up and that was in 2022, I
15 believe. But that 29 percent is also part of that
16 hedging. But it's just a physical hedge where we're
17 actually injecting gas at a different price, a lower
18 price typically into the inter storage for use during
19 the winter heating season.

20 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Great, thank
21 you. I don't have any other questions. I just thank
22 you all for a very thorough presentation and I'm
23 obviously pleased to know that we're prepared for the
24 winter. Thanks very much.

25 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. And

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2 Commissioner Valova?

3 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: Thank you. I
4 have a question and a couple of comments. The
5 question is perhaps for Chris or Davide. You
6 mentioned when discussing customer bill impact this
7 year that notwithstanding the fact that contracted
8 gas supply is going to be lower than last year,
9 customer bills will continue to rise.

10 And part of that reason, I think, is
11 because of scheduled rate increases based on rate
12 cases, and I just wanted to confirm my understanding
13 that that is one of the elements, correct?

14 MR. MAIORIELLO: That's correct.

15 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: Okay. I think
16 that that's a really important point to keep in mind
17 and this -- this goes to Esmin's presentation as well
18 regarding customer preparedness and the customer
19 perspective of everything that we're talking about.

20 If you read a news article that says
21 contracted gas supply is for -- for anyone that that
22 reads such -- such news, contracted gas supply is
23 going to remain stable, but then my -- my bills are
24 increasing, why?

25 And -- and I think that there's an

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2 important element there to consumer education and I
3 think this is a -- a really important part of -- of
4 the Department's work and I -- I very much appreciate
5 your presentation Esmin about everything that the
6 Department and the utilities are doing to reach
7 customers and help them understand what they can do
8 to -- to manage their bills.

9 And I hope -- also hopefully
10 understand why their bills might be increasing,
11 notwithstanding seeing potentially reductions in --
12 in costs else -- elsewhere.

13 And I think it's also a really
14 important reminder to us on the Commission that the
15 impacts of a rate case don't end when we vote on --
16 on the bench that they continue in year one and year
17 two and year three. And it's just an important thing
18 for us to remember.

19 And -- and thank, thank you all for
20 your hard work. I think having the opportunity to
21 plan is incredibly important. I know none of us are
22 clairvoyant and can know exactly what's going to
23 happen this -- this winter season, but I think it's
24 so great that we can view together what the expected
25 out -- outcomes will be and know that we can be

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2 reasonably certain we're -- we're prepared. So thank
3 you very much.

4 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you,
5 Commissioners. Now, since this is an information
6 item, there's no vote. So we're going to move on to
7 the consent agenda, before we do thank you, staff,
8 for presenting. Richard George, I believe this is
9 your first time as well and Esmin, I think this is
10 your first attempt as well. So thank you for your
11 good work today and looking forward to seeing you all
12 in the future.

13 All right, now we'll move to the
14 consent agenda. Do any Commissioners wish to comment
15 on or recuse from voting on any of the items on the
16 consent agenda? I'll begin with Commissioner Alesi.

17 COMMISSIONER ALESI: No.

18 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER ALESI: I'll be voting
20 yes on everything.

21 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Valesky?

23 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: I have no
24 comments or recusals.

25 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you.

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2 Commissioner Maggiore?

3 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: It -- I was
4 going to comment on one but I won't -- I'll skip it.
5 No comments or questions or -- or recusals. Thank
6 you.

7 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Okay, thank you.
8 Commissioner Bright?

9 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Yes, thank you.
10 I wanted to comment on two. One, Item 371 the
11 commercial E.V. charging. And just wanted to thank
12 staff. We've initiated a number of proceedings
13 recently that support the increasing number of
14 electric vehicles that are already coming online and
15 that we know through planning and evaluation will be
16 coming online in the future.

17 So I just want to acknowledge staff's
18 hard work and in being forward thinking in this
19 effort as New Yorkers continue to bring more E.V.s on
20 the road and so that charging options are more cost
21 effective.

22 And then I was going to also comment
23 on Item 374. This order is working to ensure that
24 we're adequately valuing our clean energy resources
25 and their value to our electric system.

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2 So this is locally made New York
3 hydroelectricity and it does have an environmental
4 value, so it complements our current efforts while
5 ensuring that we have a diverse mix of renewable
6 resources to draw from -- from -- and that those
7 resources and that renewable energy credits are
8 staying in New York while supplying a path to what
9 can now be community hydro.

10 So thank you so much to staff and for
11 all your hard work and I'll be voting on the whole
12 yes.

13 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Great. Thank you.
14 Commissioner Sheehan?

15 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Yes. So I am
16 recusing from Item 371 and then I did have comments
17 on 374. So this order, as Commissioner Bright points
18 out responds to a 2022 petition from small hydropower
19 facilities seeking additional value stack
20 compensation for existing facilities, meaning pre-
21 2015.

22 The order approves the petition with
23 modifications, notably creating a new H value that is
24 75 percent of the E value. The order recognizes the
25 important role that small hydro-facilities play in

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2 meeting our clean energy goals and also recognizes
3 that these facilities face significant operational
4 costs and challenges.

5 I'm supporting the order because it
6 recognizes these factors and because of its intent to
7 ensure that these small hydro resources remain
8 operational and that New York consumers benefit from
9 their clean power. I understand that this order may
10 not be a full solution for all small hydro
11 facilities.

12 So I look forward to continuing to
13 hear from our independent hydro operators in the
14 future and in future proceedings. So thank you.

15 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you.
16 Commissioner Valova?

17 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: No recusals and
18 I second Commissioner Sheehan and Bright's comments
19 on Item 374. Thank you.

20 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: All right, thank you
21 all. I'll now move to the call for a vote. My vote
22 is in favor of the recommendations on the consent
23 agenda. Commissioner Alesi, how do you vote?

24 COMMISSIONER ALESI: I vote yes on all
25 items.

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2 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner

3 Valesky?

4 COMMISSIONER VALESKY: Yes, on all

5 items.

6 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner

7 Maggiore?

8 COMMISSIONER MAGGIORE: Yes, on all

9 items.

10 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner Bright?

11 COMMISSIONER BRIGHT: Yes, on all

12 items.

13 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Commissioner

14 Sheehan?

15 COMMISSIONER SHEEHAN: Recused from

16 371 and yes on the remaining items.

17 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you. And

18 Commissioner Valova?

19 COMMISSIONER VALOVA: Yes, on all

20 items.

21 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you all. The

22 items are approved, and the recommendations are

23 adopted.

24 Madam Secretary, is there anything

25 further to come before us today?

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2 SECRETARY PHILLIPS: There is nothing
3 further.

4 CHAIR CHRISTIAN: Thank you very much.
5 And with that I adjourn. Thank you everyone.

6 (The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.)

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2 STATE OF NEW YORK

3 I, MONIQUE HINES, do hereby certify that the foregoing was
4 reported by me, in the cause, at the time and place, as
5 stated in the caption hereto, at Page 1 hereof; that the
6 foregoing typewritten transcription consisting of pages 1
7 through 53, is a true record of all proceedings had at the
8 hearing.

9 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
10 subscribed my name, this the 18th day of October, 2024.

11

12

13 MONIQUE HINES, Reporter

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