

# SUSPENSION

## A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATOR MAZUR

RE: In Support of Upgrades to New York State's Electrical Transmission Lines

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy and the New York Independent System Operator have identified New York State electric transmission lines as being aged and unable to deliver adequate capacity, a condition known as "transmission congestion", and

WHEREAS, there is a growing demand for electricity in the New York City area, but because of the inadequate transmission system in New York State, specifically the "choke points" for electric transmission from Utica going east, and Albany going south, plants in Upstate New York that have abundant available power, NRG Huntley included among them, cannot get their product to this demand market, and

WHEREAS, as a result of this "transmission congestion", New York City pays significantly more for power, and is currently moving forward on a plan to import power from New Jersey with an \$800 million subsidy from the New York State Power Authority to address New York City Power needs, and

WHEREAS, a Canadian developer has approached the New York State Public Service Commission with plans to build a 385 mile, 1,000 MW cable from Quebec to New York City, by-passing New York State transmission lines and denying New York power generators any chance to compete in the marketplace; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of reasons why importing power is bad for New York State, not the least of which are the lost opportunity for our WNY power generation facilities having the ability to compete and retain good paying jobs; New York State losing its fuel diversity and energy independence, placing us at the mercy of supply and demand price spikes; and the abandonment of renewable energy projects that could create a significant number of green jobs, and

WHEREAS, several plants in Upstate New York are facing uncertain economic futures and the owners of one facility have put that facility up for sale because of its inability to compete, and

WHEREAS, the ability to move abundant, available power from these plants in Western New York to the downstate area would have a positive effect on these struggling facilities, saving hundreds of jobs, and significant tax base for all of WNY, and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of jobs in transmission construction and power generation, including renewable energy, will occur from investing in New York State's energy infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature goes on record requesting that the State of New York make a much needed investment in the upgrading of New York State's electric transmission line infrastructure by using existing mechanisms for funding transmission upgrades that would hold the ratepayers harmless, and will go a long in stabilizing employment at existing power plants, while creating enormous opportunities in renewable energy development, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, the members of the Western New York State Delegation and Gil C. Quiniones, Acting President and CEO, New York State Power Authority.

FISCAL IMPACT: Positive for the residents of Erie County