

STATE OF NEW YORK  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 14-C-0370 - In the Matter of a Study on the State of  
Telecommunications in New York.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS

(Issued June 24, 2015)

In May 2014, the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) opened a proceeding to examine the state of telecommunications in New York State. The Commission has a primary responsibility and an overarching interest in ensuring that telecommunication services are provided in a safe and reliable manner and are available at just and reasonable rates. In light of radical changes in the telecommunication landscape over the past decade and with the emergence of new more robust technologies, the Commission is seeking to determine if the current regulatory system is sufficient to protect the interests of consumers and whether current laws or regulations should be changed to promote the public interest.

As part of the Telecommunications Study, Staff of the Department of Public Service (Staff) prepared a fact based assessment of the current telecommunications landscape in New York, examining trends in voice, video and broadband services and reviewing different technologies such as copper, fiber, cable and wireless networks. On June 23, 2015, Staff filed its Assessment Report and a Notice seeking comments was issued.

The Commission seeks public comment on the Assessment Report and on the questions posed in the Notice. Obtaining public input from consumers, the telecommunications industry, public interest groups and other interested stakeholders is critical to developing a rational and balanced approach to meet the needs of the changing industry and evolving customer demands. Comments received in response to the Notice will be used to develop recommendations for further regulatory changes.

TAKE NOTICE that opportunities for public information and comment will be held, as follows:

Long Island

Wednesday, July 8, 2015  
William J. Lindsay County Complex  
W.H. Rogers Legislature Building  
Rose Y. Caracappa Auditorium  
725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, NY  
11788

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Information Session  
3:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins  
  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Information Session  
7:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins

NYC

Wednesday, July 15, 2015  
NY Institute of Technology on Broadway  
1871 Broadway between 61<sup>st</sup> and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10023

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Information Session  
7:30 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins

Utica

Tuesday, July 28, 2015  
SUNY Polytechnic Institute  
Kunsela Hall Auditorium, Room A112  
5701 Horatio Street, Utica, New York 13502

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Information Session  
3:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins  
  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Information Session  
7:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins

Binghamton

Wednesday, July 29, 2015  
Binghamton City Hall  
38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, New York 13901

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Information Session  
3:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins  
  
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Information Session  
7:00 PM Public Statement Hearing Begins

**Lake Placid**

**Tuesday, August 4  
Olympic Regional Development Authority  
Conference Center at Lake Placid  
2608 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York 12946**

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM      Information Session  
3:00 PM                      Public Statement Hearing Begins**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM      Information Session  
7:00 PM                      Public Statement Hearing Begins**

**Buffalo**

**Wednesday, August 5, 2015  
Buffalo Central Library  
1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, New York 14203**

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM      Information Session  
3:00 PM                      Public Statement Hearing Begins**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM      Information Session  
7:00 PM                      Public Statement Hearing Begins**

In the hour prior to each Public Statement Hearing, representatives from Staff will present an information session on the Assessment Report and be available to answer questions. The information sessions will be immediately followed by Public Statement Hearings where all those wishing to comment on the Assessment Report and the discussion questions will have an opportunity to make a statement on the record. It is not necessary to be present at the start of the hearing, to make an appointment in advance, or to present written material to speak at the hearing. Persons will be called to speak after completing a request card. The public statement hearing will remain open for a minimum of one hour and will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made. A verbatim transcript of the hearings will be made for inclusion in the record of these proceedings and will be posted on the Commission's website.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should call the Department of Public Service's Human Resources Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this notice.

The Staff Assessment Report may be obtained at <http://www.dps.ny.gov/TelStudy/> or by searching the above-referenced case number in the Department's Document and Matter Management System (DMM). Public comments will be accepted throughout the pendency of this proceeding, but parties are encouraged to comment on the assessment at one of the Public Statement Hearings, or by other means described below, prior to August 24, 2015. All comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission.

**Other Ways to Comment**

For those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing, there are several other ways to provide your comments to the Commission. Comments should refer to "Case 14-C-0370."

**Via the Internet or Mail:** The public may submit comments electronically to the Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, at [secretary@dps.ny.gov](mailto:secretary@dps.ny.gov), or by mail or delivery to Secretary Burgess at the New York State Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Comments also may be entered directly into the 14-C-0370 case file from the Commission's website, [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov), by entering the case number into the Search field on the homepage

and selecting the "Post Comments" button on the upper right hand corner of the page.

**Toll-Free Opinion Line:** Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This line is set up to receive in-state calls 24 hours a day. These calls are not transcribed but a summary will be reported to the Commission.

(SIGNED)

KATHLEEN H. BURGESS  
Secretary