

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

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13055/11-T-0534

## **PSC ORDERS ADDITIONAL REVIEW OF TRANSMISSION SITING PROJECT**

**— Agriculture Impact of Rochester Area Reliability Project to be Reviewed by Parties —**

Albany, NY—08/15/13—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today ordered further review of the agricultural impacts of a proposed substation to be built on a Monroe County farm as part of an electric transmission project designed to increase the reliability of the supply of electricity to the Rochester area.

Earlier this year, the Rochester-area reliability project was approved by the Commission to ensure and increase the safe and reliable service of electricity in the region and to accommodate its growth and economic development years into the future. Specifically, the project calls for the construction of approximately 21 miles of new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines, reconstruction of two miles of an existing 115 kV line, a new 1.9 mile 345 kV line, a new 345 kV/115 kV substation, and the improvement of three existing substations, in the Towns of Chili, Gates, and Henrietta and City of Rochester, Monroe County.

The new facilities are intended to provide for needed reliability for the Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation (RG&E) system. Without the new facilities, the system's ability to meet customers' electricity needs could be compromised in the event of unexpected equipment failure or other factors impacting the delivery of electricity. RG&E estimates the project will cost approximately \$254 million.

On April 18, 2013, the Commission issued a decision granting a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to RG&E to build the project. However, members of the Krenzer family, who own farmland impacted by the project, and the Town of Chili, filed petitions for rehearing and raised questions concerning the impacts of a substation location on agricultural land uses.

The Commission's decision today sends the case back to the parties, including the Krenzers and the town, to examine the impacts of the substation location on the Krenzers' farming activities. The Commission will appoint an administrative law judge to work with the parties in an effort to find a consensus solution while still meeting the electric reliability needs of Rochester residents. The judge will report back to the Commission on the results of the parties' efforts within 30 days.

The Commission's decision today, when issued, may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission's Web site at [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov) and entering Case Number 11-T-0534 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number." Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission orders may also be obtained from the Commission's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500). If you have difficulty understanding English, please call us at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this press release.