

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

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## **COMMISSION EXPANDS ENERGY EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES — Select Municipal Electric Systems Join Effort to Reduce Energy Consumption —**

Albany, NY—11/12/08—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today decided to allow four municipal utilities — the Village of Freeport (Freeport Electric), the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities, the Village of Rockville Centre, and the Village of Sherburne — to expand their ability to offer energy efficiency programs to customers.

“To confront the reality of rising energy prices, we must take immediate and bold steps to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy consumption,” said Commission Chairman Garry Brown. “The most cost-effective way to accomplish this goal is to ensure that energy efficiency becomes an integral part of a utility’s framework. This initiative approved today is squarely in context of broader State policies designed to develop a clean energy industry and economy.”

The Commission’s action today will further help fund a variety of energy efficiency programs offered by the four municipal utilities, including initiatives such as a residential program to help homeowners identify energy efficiency opportunities, a commercial lighting program targeting offices, hotels, retail shops, schools, and government and institutional customers to retrofit fluorescent and incandescent light fixtures in existing buildings, a commercial equipment rebate program, an ENERGY STAR equipment program, and a custom-audit program targeting industrial and large commercial customers who might not otherwise participate in an energy efficiency program.

With its decision, the Commission will allow the four municipal utilities to recover the costs of the new energy efficiency programs. The total amount expected to be collected annually is nearly \$975,000. The four municipal utilities serve a total of more than 46,000 residential and business customers. The New York Association of Public Power (NYAPP) made the request on behalf of the four municipal electric systems. NYAPP is undertaking the program in partnership with the New York Power Authority.

The Commission's action is designed to better incorporate municipal utilities in its overall effort to reverse the pattern of ever-increasing energy use in New York by reducing electric usage 15 percent of projected levels by 2015. The four municipal systems will administer their own programs, and work with Department of Public Service Staff and consultants of NYAPP to provide coordination and assistance.

The Commission's decision, when issued, may be obtained from the Commission's [www.dps.state.ny.us](http://www.dps.state.ny.us) Web site by accessing the Commission's File Room section of the homepage and referencing Case 07-E-1303. 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).