

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

Garry A. Brown, Chairman

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

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<http://www.dps.state.ny.us>

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

08084/08-S-0153

## PSC Seeks Comment on Joint Proposal Concerning 2007 Steam Pipe Rupture

Albany, NY—08/13/08—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a public statement hearing concerning a Joint Proposal of interested parties offered to resolve regulatory matters related to Consolidated Edison Company of New York Inc.'s (Con Edison) steam pipe rupture in July 2007 at East 41<sup>st</sup> Street and Lexington Avenue in Manhattan. The date and location of the public statement hearing are as follows:

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2008**

City University of New York (CUNY), Room C197

365 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

New York, New York

**2:00 p.m.**

### Background

The principal purpose of the hearing is to hear from the parties, and the interested public, concerning the Joint Proposal submitted, on August 6, 2008, by Con Edison, Department of Public Service Staff and the New York State Consumer Protection Board.

If adopted by the Commission, the Joint Proposal would preclude the recovery from ratepayers of the capital costs, carrying costs, and the operation and maintenance costs that the company incurred to repair and replace steam, electric and natural gas facilities due to the steam pipe rupture. The Joint Proposal would also limit the amount of excess liability insurance costs that can be collected from ratepayers and it would require the company to implement a program, to be executed in the next two months, to inspect, maintain and replace steam traps.

The Joint Proposal is available for inspection at the Department of Public Service's New York City office located at 90 Church Street in Manhattan. It can also be viewed on the Commission's Web site by accessing the "Steam Pipe Rupture Investigation" page at [www.dps.state.ny.us/Case\\_07S0984.html](http://www.dps.state.ny.us/Case_07S0984.html).

### **Public Statement Hearing**

Interested members of the public will have an opportunity to present their views before an Administrative Law Judge at a public statement hearing. It is not necessary to make an appointment in advance or to present written material in order to speak at the public statement hearing. Speakers will be called after completing a card requesting time to speak.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations may place a collect call to the Department of Public Service's Human Resource 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 to reach the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office.

### **Other Ways to Comment**

In addition to the public statement hearing, comments (in English or Spanish) may be mailed to Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. The comments should refer to "Case 08-S-0153 – Prudence Investigation of Con Edison's 2007 Steam Pipe Rupture."

**Toll-Free Opinion Line:** Comments may also be submitted through the Public Service Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is designed to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day. Callers should select English or Spanish and press "1" to leave comments about the Joint Proposal.

**The Internet:** Comments may also be submitted via the "PSC Comment Form," in the "Consumer Assistance" section accessed through the Public Service Commission's [www.dps.state.ny.us](http://www.dps.state.ny.us) Web site. Many libraries offer free Internet access.

Public comments should be submitted as soon as possible, but must be received no later than Friday, August 29, 2008. All public statements and comments received timely will be reported to the Commission, placed in the official case file, and made available for public inspection in the Commission's file room in its Albany offices, Central Files, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, Three Empire State Plaza.