

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

Audrey Zibelman, Chair

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## STATEMENT FROM PSC CHAIR AUDREY ZIBELMAN

Albany, NY—9/29/13— Audrey Zibelman, Chair of the New York State Public Service Commission, today issued the following statement regarding the electricity outage that is hampering the ability of Metro North to provide service along certain routes:

This outage is clearly unacceptable. In keeping with its oversight function, the PSC has been in continuous communication with Con Edison and has assured itself that the utility is working with multiple crews around the clock to restore service as rapidly as possible. We are undertaking an independent examination of the outage to understand both its root cause and what steps could have been taken to avoid the incident and/or reduce its severity. In that regard, we are asking Con Edison to retain the damaged equipment and related materials to enable our investigation going forward.

Based upon this review, we will determine a course of action we will direct the utility to undertake to assure this will not happen in the future, and assess whether in this particular circumstance the imposition of the PSC's authority to impose penalties is appropriate. In addition, we will be working with all parties involved, including our Connecticut counterparts to make certain that all our resources are deployed to prevent an outage like this from happening again.