



# Department of Public Service

**For Immediate Release:** 07/02/15

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15051/14-C-0370

## **PSC Seeks Public Input on Telecommunications Assessment Report**

**ALBANY** — The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) announced today that it will hold public statement hearings in Smithtown, NY (Suffolk County) on the recently issued Department of Public Service assessment report on the state of telecommunications in New York. Additional hearings will be held in other parts of the State.

As part of the report, Department of Public Service staff filed 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.

### **Public Statement Hearings**

The public will have an opportunity to present comments at hearings before an Administrative Law Judge assigned by the Department to hear this case. A verbatim transcript of the hearings will be made for inclusion in the record of the proceeding.

The public statement hearings will be held as follows:

#### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015 — SMITHTOWN**

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

<b>Information Session</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Public Statement Hearing</b>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Information Session</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Public Statement Hearing</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>

In the hour prior to each public statement hearing, Department 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. Each public statement hearing will continue until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made. 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.

### **Other Ways to Comment**

**Internet or Mail:** In addition to speaking at the formal hearings, members of the public desiring to comment may submit written comments by sending them electronically to the Commission's Secretary at [secretary@dps.ny.gov](mailto:secretary@dps.ny.gov) or by mail or delivery to Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Comments should refer to "Case 14-C-0370."

**Toll-free Opinion Line:** Comments may also be submitted through the 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 press "1" to leave comments for the cases referenced above. These comments are not transcribed but are summarized, with the summary reported to the Administrative Law Judge and the Commission.

The assessment report may be obtained at <http://www.dps.ny.gov/TelStudy/> or by searching Case 14-C-0370 in the Department's Document and Matter Management System (DMM). Comments are requested to be submitted no later August 24, 2015, but will be accepted throughout the pendency of this proceeding. Written comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission. Written comments may be accessed on the Commission's website by searching Case 14-C-0370 in the input box labeled "Search for Case Number" and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab. Many libraries offer free Internet access.

The Commission's decision in this proceeding, when issued, may be obtained on the Commission's website by searching for Case 14-C-0370 as described above. 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.