

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

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11092/11-E-0559

NYSEG BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PLAN APPROVED

— Plan Set for \$7M Economic Development Aid for Storm-Tossed Businesses —

Albany, NY—10/19/11— The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today announced approval of a petition submitted by New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) for three new economic development programs to provide up to \$7 million in immediate assistance to qualifying customers in its service territory affected by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee.

“Many customers within NYSEG’s service territory are recovering from the effects of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee,” said Commission Chairman Garry Brown. “Record flooding has caused severe damage to many communities. In many areas, the electric and gas infrastructure, along with buildings and equipment necessary to operate certain businesses, have been destroyed. These programs will provide timely and meaningful assistance to customers and communities located in designated disaster areas within NYSEG’s service territory.”

The specific programs approved by the Commission are as follows:

- The Emergency Community/Municipality Assistance Program will provide funding to offset costs incurred by communities/municipalities for repair and replacement of customer owned gas and electric infrastructure. Grant awards are limited to one per community, and not to exceed \$100,000.
- The Emergency Building Redevelopment/Revitalization Assistance Program will provide funding to offset costs incurred by commercial/industrial/larger farms agri-type businesses including food processing companies and large residential type establishment

such as nursing homes, apartment complexes and multi-family units. This includes retail and mixed-use development facilities and educational/medical institutions. Grant awards are not to exceed \$200,000.

- The Emergency Agriculture Assistance Program will provide funding to smaller farms and agri-type businesses to offset costs incurred for repair and replacement of customer-owned gas and electric infrastructure. Grant awards are not to exceed \$50,000.

These emergency programs are designed to provide customers and communities with quick and immediate access to all available resources for the repairs and rebuilding necessary after the devastating effect of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. With the approval of these programs, communities and commercial businesses are encouraged to formulate their plans for projects to recover from the extraordinary damages caused by these storms as soon as possible.

The Commission order in this matter, when available, can be accessed on the Department's www.dps.state.ny.us Web site by searching for Case 11-E-0559.