

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

Garry A. Brown, Chairman

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PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT ON O&R PROPOSED RATE INCREASE — Utility Seeks \$59.4M Rate Increase to Cover Expenses, Higher Costs —

Albany, NY – 1/26/11 – The New York State Public Service Commission today announced it will hold a public statement hearing concerning a proposal by Orange & Rockland Utilities, Inc. to increase electric rates.

Orange & Rockland proposed, in a January 5, 2011 filing, to increase its revenues by \$59.4 million. The company stated several reasons for rate request, including the need to recover costs already incurred (e.g., pensions, other post-employment benefits, storm costs); increases in operating expenses; lower forecasted sales; increased property and other taxes; and carrying costs associated with new utility infrastructure. The Commission may grant, deny or modify any portion of the company's rate proposals.

The public statement hearing will be held in two sessions as follows:

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Afternoon Session: 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Evening Session: 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Ramapo Town Hall

237 Rt. 59

Suffern, NY

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

The public may also participate in the 8:00 p.m. hearing by telephoning (845) 357-0102 or by sending comments via email to PSChearing@ramapo.org, and may view a streamed live broadcast of the hearing at the Town of Ramapo's internet site www.ramapo-ny.org, or on Cablevision Channel 75, 77, or 78 or Verizon Fios Channel 32. Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible.

Other Ways To Comment

Writing: Those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing may comment electronically to the Secretary at secretary@dps.state.ny.us. If you are unable to submit comments electronically, you may write to Honorable Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary, NYS Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York, 12223-1350. Your comments should refer to "Case 10-E-0362 – Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. – Electric Rates."

Toll-Free Opinion Line: You may call the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up 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.

Internet: Comments may also be made via the "PSC Comment Form," in the "Consumer Assistance" file accessed through the Commission's Web site at <http://www.dps.state.ny.us>.

All comments by these alternative methods should be submitted, or mailed and postmarked, no later than March 28, 2011. All such statements and comments will become part of the record, be made available for inspection in the Commission's file room and be reported to the Commission for its consideration.