

STATE OF NEW YORK

# Public Service Commission

William M. Flynn, Chairman

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

Further Details: (518) 474-7080

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

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

06014/03T1385

## **Commission Approves RG&E's Environmental Management and Construction Plan for Segment One for the Rochester Transmission Project**

Albany, NY—03/15/06—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today voted to approve, with certain conditions and modifications, the Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP) for construction of Segment One of Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation's (RG&E) 115 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission facility in the Greater Rochester area. This improvement is part of a project collectively known as the Rochester Transmission Project (RTP).

"Today's approval of RG&E's Environmental Management and Construction Plan for Segment One of the Rochester Transmission Project clearly lays out the steps the company must take to upgrade the 115 kV electric transmission system and its interface with the New York State bulk transmission system," said Commission Chairman William M. Flynn. "Segment One and the remaining phases of the Rochester Transmission Project are intended to ensure an adequate and reliable electric system that will aid in future economic development in the region."

In December 2004, the Commission granted RG&E a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (the Certificate) for the construction and operation of approximately 38 miles of 115 kV transmission lines in several municipalities in Monroe and Wayne Counties as part of the Rochester Transmission Project. As a condition of approval, the Certificate required the filing, and approval by the Commission, of an Environmental Management and Construction Plan for the RTP.

In January 2006, RG&E submitted to all interested parties an EM&CP for Segment One for review and comment. Segment One includes construction of a new 7.5 mile 115 kV transmission line between a substation in the City of Rochester and a substation in the Town of Greece, which will be rebuilt as part of the RTP. Also, within Segment One there will be an upgrade of existing above-ground circuits located in the City of Rochester and the Towns of Brighton, Chili, and Henrietta, and improvements to substations in the Towns of Greece, Chili, Henrietta, and Brighton. Additionally, the company will construct a new substation in the Town of Ontario and expand a substation in the Town of Macedon.

Staff of the Department of Public Service reviewed the company's EM&CP, conducted field reviews and provided RG&E with comments and recommendations for the EM&CP. Also, the Department of Agriculture and Markets, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Town of Brighton provided comments and recommendations. On February 22, 2006, RG&E filed a revised Environmental Management and Construction Plan for Segment One for construction of the 115 kV electric transmission facility that today was approved with the conditions and modifications.

The Commission will issue a written decision detailing today's action in Case 03-T-1385. The Commission's written orders, when available, can be obtained from the Commission's Web site at <http://www.dps.state.ny.us> by accessing the PSC Fileroom section from the homepage. Many public libraries provide free Internet access. The orders can also be obtained from the Files Office, 14<sup>th</sup> floor, 3 Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500).