

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

William M. Flynn, Chairman

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

06006

"Market Expo" for National Fuel Gas Distribution Customers

-Commercial and Industrial Sales Customers Can Obtain Information Regarding Competitive Natural Gas Supply Offerings-

Albany, NY—01/20/06— New York State Department of Public Service (Department) staff will participate in a Market Expo to provide information about energy companies (ESCOs) offering competitive choices for natural gas to commercial and industrial sales customers of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (NFG). The date, location and time of the Market Expo are as follows:

**Tuesday, January 24
Michael's Banquet Facility
4885 Southwestern Boulevard
Hamburg, NY
Noon—5:00 PM
Presentations begin at 1:00 PM**

NFG's Market Expo provides a forum where ESCOs, non-residential customers, and Department staff can exchange information regarding retail choice and where customers can obtain competitive offers from ESCOs. The Market Expo will include presentations by representatives of NFG, participating ESCOs, and the Department. Non-residential customers also can obtain printed information at the Market Expo and ask questions on a one-on-one basis with participating ESCOs and NFG representatives. Department staff will be available to provide general information on New York's competitive energy market.

In New York State, ESCOs can compete with local utilities in providing energy supply to customers and several do in the NFG service territory. Regardless of the supply sources chosen by a customer, NFG will continue to deliver the energy to customers over the local delivery system.

Commercial and industrial sales customers interested in attending the Market Expo are asked to contact Lisa Maltie of NFG at 716-857-7776. Customers unable to attend the Market Expo can obtain information about competitive choices for natural gas supply in New York State, including a Power to Choose Comparison Chart reflecting prices and supply and service offerings from the utility and energy service companies (ESCOs), by accessing the Commission's www.AskPSC.com consumer Web site. The comparison charts and energy competition information also can be obtained by mail or by calling the Commission's toll-free consumer information line at 1-888-ASK-PSC1 (1-888-275-7721).