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John B. Rhodes, Chair

Contact:

James Denn | James.Denn@dps.ny.gov | (518) 474-7080

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<http://twitter.com/NYSDPS>

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PSC Expands Safe and Fair Access to Data Needed to Meet State's Clean Energy Goals

Comprehensive Data Initiative Supports New York's Clean Energy Strategy and Nation-Leading Mandate to Achieve Economy-Wide Carbon Neutrality

ALBANY — The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today adopted recommendations designed to address the strategic and safe use of energy-related data, and to develop the policies necessary to appropriately balance privacy and system security concerns with a rapidly changing marketplace. Ready access to customer energy usage and system data is a central theme of the State's strategy to animate markets and to promote innovation and customer choice.

“Strategic use of energy-related data, including both system and customer usage data, is critical to enable the achievement of the State's energy policy goals,” **said Commission Chair John B. Rhodes.** “Useful access to useful data will unlock smart deployment of distributed resources required for our energy future.”

Collecting, integrating, analyzing and managing energy-related information from the State's electric and gas utilities and other sources will enable energy companies, consumers and others to more readily and equitably develop valuable technical and business insights by using queries and other functions to filter, aggregate, analyze, and generate useful information. Those insights will, in turn, lead to faster and better policy, investment, and utility operational decisions that will accelerate the realization of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) goals.

The Commission has recognized the need to address data related issues through many of its prior proceedings and has continued to take necessary steps to increase access to, and the appropriate use of, customer and system data in order to further New York State's clean energy goals and continue support of the Department's mission. Achieving the State's clean energy goals requires the continued development and maintenance of system data and customer energy-related data. The benefits in doing so are numerous and encompass all levels of the market from the customer up, and also support New York State's energy efficiency goals.

On May 29, 2020, Department of Public Service staff filed a whitepaper recommending creation of an integrated energy data resource (IEDR) that would provide a centralized platform for collecting, integrating, managing, and accessing customer and system data from New York State's energy utilities.

The Commission's decision today established a statewide IEDR and adopted the detailed path as described in the whitepaper.

New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Plan

Governor Cuomo's nation-leading climate agenda is the most aggressive climate and clean energy initiative in the nation, calling for an orderly and just transition to clean energy that creates jobs and continues fostering a green economy as New York State recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Enshrined into law through the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, New York is on a path to achieving its mandated goal of a zero-emissions electricity sector by 2040, including 70 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, and to reach economy-wide carbon neutrality. It builds on New York's unprecedented ramp-up of clean energy including over \$4 billion invested in 91 large-scale renewable projects across the state, the creation of more than 150,000 jobs in New York's clean energy sector, a commitment to develop 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind by 2035, and 1,800 percent growth in the distributed solar sector since 2011. Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, New York will build on this progress and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 85 percent from 1990 levels by 2050, while meeting a goal to deliver 40 percent of the benefits of clean energy investments to disadvantaged communities and advancing progress towards the state's 2025 energy efficiency target of reducing on-site energy consumption by 185 trillion BTUs in end-use savings.

Today's decision may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission's Web site at www.dps.ny.gov and entering Case Number 20-M-0082 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number." Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission documents 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.