

January 31, 2020

Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess Secretary to the Commission New York State Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223 secretary@dps.ny.gov

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Re: Case 19-T-0684: Application of New York Transco LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need

Dear Secretary Burgess:

On behalf of The Business Council of New York State, Inc., I am writing in support of the New York Energy Solution project, an electric transmission upgrade project current under review by the Department. This project is important to the state's business community as it will help alleviate electric transmission bottlenecks and help clean energy resources flow to customers. This project will also support good-paying jobs during the construction phase of the project.

The Business Council is the leading business organization in New York State representing interests of several thousand private sector businesses statewide. Our membership is composed primarily of electric power consumers, including manufacturing firms and other energy-intensive operations. Energy availability and costs are a significant factor that businesses consider when deciding whether to locate or expand their operations in New York State. Congestion in the existing transmission system has led to higher energy costs – a disadvantage to current and future business opportunities that drive our economy. This project will help relieve this congestion, boost system reliability, and advance clean energy supply -- all of which are important to the state's businesses, workers and communities.

It has taken many years, significant resources and much evaluation for the New York Energy Solution project to advance to this point in the decision-making process. The Business Council urges the Commission to act without delay in the Article VII process. We offer our full support for the New York Energy Solution project.

Sincerely,

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