



December 5, 2019

Hon. Kathleen H. Burgess
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Secretary Burgess:

Few things are as important to a thriving business community as a plentiful and reliable supply of energy.

The Columbia County Chamber of Commerce respectfully asks the New York State Public Service Commission to strengthen the availability and reliability of energy in our state by approving the Article VII application for The New York Energy Solution transmission system upgrade project in the Hudson Valley (Case No. 19-T-0684).

The New York Energy Solution will:

- Help relieve congestion in the transmission system and allow for greater use of renewable energy.
- Modernize the infrastructure by replacing 80-year-old transmission structures with significantly fewer new structures with smaller footprints.
- Minimize disturbance to local communities by staying entirely within the existing right-of-way and on utility-owned property.

What's more, project developer New York Transco has shown itself to be especially cognizant of our county's agricultural interests, and is working closely with farmers and others to plan their project in a way that is least disruptive to this important part of our regional economy.

The Columbia County Chamber is committed to doing all we can to maintain a high quality of life for county residents, business owners and the many people who visit each year. We believe The New York Energy Solution will contribute to that quality, and we hope the PSC agrees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Hunt". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeffrey C. Hunt, CCE
President & CEO