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November 19, 2020

Honorable Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary
Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Dear Secretary Phillips,

The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to offer its support to the New York Energy Solution (NYES) project (Case Number 19-T-0684). We encourage the Commission to grant the project all necessary approvals so that the project may begin to achieve its important public policy goals as soon as possible.

Our Chamber is an advocate, champion and valued resource on matters affecting businesses in Dutchess County. The NYES project will upgrade aging energy infrastructure in three Dutchess County communities, improving the backbone of our energy delivery system to better serve local businesses and residents. The benefits of the NYES project to our members and our regional economy are clear:

- NYES will relieve congestion on the electric transmission system, allowing for greater amounts of renewable energy to flow into our region;
- NYES will replace 80-year-old transmission structures with modern structures that improve the reliability and resiliency of the transmission system for homes and businesses, and reduce the total number of structures in the corridor by approximately 230;
- NYES will modernize New York's energy infrastructure, an essential step in keeping New York competitive and attractive to employers;
- NYES will provide direct and indirect jobs during design and construction, generate business for area merchants, and generate increased local tax revenue by replacing aging, fully depreciated assets with modern transmission infrastructure.

Notably, New York Transco will accomplish all of these things while remaining entirely within existing utility corridors and on utility-owned lands, thereby minimizing disruption to neighbors, and maximizing project efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness.

Transco has also demonstrated a willingness to be a good corporate citizen in our region, actively engaging local governments and neighbors in discussions about the project since its start, and significantly modifying a portion of its project in Dutchess County to accommodate concerns raised by community members.

The NYES project will help New York State improve vital electric transmission infrastructure and help propel new economic growth now and into the future. We encourage the Public Service Commission to approve the project as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,


Frank Castella Jr.
President & CEO



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