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December 17, 2019

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

Re: New York Transco's Article VII

Dear Secretary Burgess:

The Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce supports The New York Energy Solution (NYES) transmission modernization project proposed by New York Transco.

The Chamber understands that a robust, efficient, cost-conscious and reliable energy transmission system is critical to the success and growth of New York's business community and improves the quality of life for all of our current and prospective residents. With the Commission's approval of New York Transco's Article VII, this modernization will deliver on those benefits.

By replacing outdated technology, NYES will relieve congestion on the transmission system, allowing for a greater flow of electricity, particularly the renewable energy that is needed to fulfill Governor Cuomo's call for 70% renewable energy sources by 2030.

Projects like NYES that modernize infrastructure are vital to keeping New York competitive and will help attract and maintain employers and job opportunities to keep our economy strong. The project will also provide direct and indirect jobs during the design and construction phases, and generate increased local tax revenue by replacing aging, fully depreciated assets with modern transmission infrastructure.

Equally important from a quality-of-life aspect: all of the work on the project will take place within existing utility corridors and on utility-owned lands, thus minimizing disruption to nearby residents and the environment, and maximizing project efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness.

The time to upgrade our transmission infrastructure is now, and the Chamber encourages the Commission to support this effort to upgrade New York's transmission infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Kate Manley  
President  
Rensselaer County Regional Chamber of Commerce