

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release:

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ATTENTION: TIME SENSITIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

New York ISO Announces Two Consecutive Days of All-Time Record Electricity Demand, And Projects Third For Tomorrow (Thursday)

- Consumers Urged To Do Everything Possible To Continue To Conserve -

(Guilderland, New York – August 8, 2001) – The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) announced today that electricity demand in New York State hit an all-time record high of 30,665 MW between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. this afternoon. This, only a day after a new peak of 30,509 MW was established between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. yesterday (Tuesday). The previous record of 30,311 MW was established on July 6, 1999.

“The system was pushed to its limit yesterday and today,” said William J. Museler, President and CEO of the NYISO. “However, thanks to the successful implementation of our Emergency Demand Reduction Program (EDRP) and the extraordinary conservation efforts of New York residents and businesses, the electric system was able to handle these record demand days without a major disruption. We estimate that the combination of these two conservation efforts—the EDRP and voluntary consumer and business conservation—reduced overall demand on the system today by almost 1,000 MW. Given the fact that we dipped below our 1,800 MW operating reserve requirement today, and went into a state of *Major Emergency*, this reduction in demand was critical.”

With even hotter temperatures forecast for tomorrow, the NYISO is requesting that New York State residents and businesses continue to take action to reduce their electricity consumption to help support the State's electric grid. Among the steps consumers and businesses can take to reduce electricity demand include:

- Set air conditioning to a higher temperature than normal;
- Postpone the use of major appliances like washing machines, electric stoves, clothes dryers and dishwashers until the cooler evening hours;
- Draw curtains and blinds during the sunny part of the day to prevent solar heating and keep the cooler air inside;
- Turn off lights when not needed;
- Go to an area mall or swimming location where you can cool off while giving your air conditioner a break; and
- Open attic vents to relieve strain on cooling systems.

In addition to asking consumers to conserve, the NYISO will also be taking a number of other steps to reduce electricity consumption.

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The NYISO is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1999 to facilitate the restructuring of New York State's electric industry. In addition to administering the State's wholesale energy markets, the NYISO operates the State's high voltage electric transmission system. Last year, the NYISO's market volume (including energy, ancillary services, ICAP and TCC auctions) exceeded \$5.2 billion, more than all of the other Northeast markets combined.