

NEWS RELEASE



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NYISO Board Chairman Announces That He Will Pass The Baton of Leadership

With the NYISO on the “right track” after four years of his stewardship, Richard Grossi says he will not stand for re-election as Chairman in April

(Guilderland, New York – December 17, 2002) – Richard J. Grossi, the Chairman of the New York Independent System Operator, Inc. (“NYISO”), announced today that he will not seek re-election in April as chairman of the NYISO Board of Directors. Mr. Grossi said that he intends to remain on the Board after that time.

“With the New York ISO moving in the right direction, I feel it is an appropriate time for a rotation in leadership,” said Grossi. “I am very pleased with how well the Board is functioning in carrying out a cutting edge vision for the development of modern wholesale electricity markets. With so many strongly qualified professionals on this board, and after four years in this post, I think it is time for someone else to take the tiller.”

Grossi is the former Chairman and CEO of United Illuminating (UI), an investor-owned electric utility in New Haven, Ct. He was selected in 1999 by market participants, along with the other nine Board members to chair the organization developed to oversee New York’s high voltage electric system and wholesale electricity markets. Subsequently, Mr. Grossi was elected by his Board peers to serve as Chairman for four straight years.

Under his leadership, the NYISO made a smooth and prompt transition from the New York Power Pool to fully-functioning competitive wholesale electricity and ancillary service markets. Today, the NYISO is widely viewed as one of the top wholesale markets in North America today and a model for FERC’s Standard Market Design.

The Board will elect a successor to Mr. Grossi at its annual meeting in April.

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The New York Independent System Operator (“ NYISO”)—www.nyiso.com-- is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1999 to facilitate the restructuring of New York State’s electric industry. Based in New York’s Capital Region, 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 exceeded \$5.6 billion.