

For Immediate Release:

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Power Fully Restored in New York State *NYISO Begins Review of Outage, Solutions*

Guilderland, N.Y. – Power in New York State was restored to all customers Friday night after the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) and New York’s utilities worked quickly and efficiently to return to normal operation following a widespread outage in the Northeast.

New York City, which had been the most severely impacted region, was restored to power at about 9:00 p.m., Friday, and remaining pockets of affected areas had power at about 10:45 p.m.

The NYISO continues to ask residents to conserve energy and avoid all non-essential use of electricity until 8 p.m. today.

William J. Museler, NYISO President and CEO, praised NYISO employees, and workers from transmission owners and generators across the state, who labored diligently around the clock until the power was back on in New York.

“All of you demonstrated your commitment, experience and professionalism by your calm handling of this serious event. You have worked tirelessly for nearly three days to ensure New York State’s residents have power again, and the NYISO thanks you for your prompt response,” he said.

New York State lost power at about 4:11 p.m.; August 14, 2003 following power swings in the Midwest, which cascaded into Ontario and then New York. The NYISO immediately began its restoration efforts, and service to all New York customers has been restored.

Now the NYISO’s focus will be to collect and scrutinize information about the outage, which affected parts of Ohio, Michigan, Canada, and the Northeast. The NYISO will work closely with the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC), Gov. George E. Pataki’s Energy Task Force, Transmission Owners and utilities, and neighboring states and provinces to determine the nature of the disruption and its impact on the system.

Museler said the NYISO’s first priority had been to restore power to all consumers. Now that the system is again operating fully, the NYISO will turn its attention to investigating data and searching for a solution to ensure the same problem will not recur.

“Under NERC reliability criteria, a successful energy grid would have one day of outage in 10 years. Until Thursday, New York State had 26 years with no widespread, severe power disruption. The NYISO is committed to ensuring reliability, and we will find ways to modify our system so it is less susceptible to disturbances,” he said.

Data review has begun already, and the NYISO remains in close contact with federal and state officials, as well as executives from PJM Interconnection, New England ISO, Midwest ISO, Ontario Independent Market Operator (IMO), and Hydro Quebec.

For more information about how the outage began, please visit the NERC Web site at: www.nerc.com.

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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 \$5.2 billion.