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New York Independent System Operator Announces Record Winter Peak Electric Demand

(ALBANY, NY) - January 24, 2003 - Continued frigid temperatures throughout New York State have driven consumer demand for electricity to record winter levels.

The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) announced all-time winter peak electric loads of 24,438 and 24,453 Megawatts (MW) on Wednesday, January 22, and Thursday, January 23, 2003, respectively. The previous winter peak was set on December 9, 2002, when the load was 23,943 MW. Peaks are measurements of total electric demand by consumers for a one-hour period.

New York State reaches its highest electric loads during the summer peaking period. The State's all-time record electric load of 30,983 MW was recorded on August 9, 2001.

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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, more than all of the other Northeast markets combined.