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NYISO Moves to Paperless Meetings

Rensselaer, NY – The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) is conserving resources and reducing operating costs by curtailing the use of paper documents for its array of governance meetings. The NYISO's paperless meeting initiative began April 1, 2009.

In 2008, the NYISO conducted a total of 245 governance meetings, involving committees, sub-committees, task forces, and working groups. Of that total, 175 meetings were held in face-to-face sessions, with the remainder conducted by telephone and web conference. The meetings routinely involve the review of a large number of documents, resulting in hundreds of pages being printed and distributed for each session.

The NYISO estimated that its governance meeting documents totaled over 208,000 pages – more than one ton of paper – in 2008. It expects to save \$90,000 per year with the move to paperless meetings.

“The environmental and economic impact of the abundance of paper produced for meetings compelled us to review the need for hard copy duplication of agenda items. Given the cost savings and reduced waste, it makes great sense to go paperless,” said Stephen G. Whitley, NYISO President & CEO. He noted that the NYISO otherwise shreds and recycles its waste paper.

Committee meeting notices and materials are distributed via e-mail and posted to the NYISO website (www.nyiso.com). Teleconferencing and web-conferencing are also employed by the NYISO to conduct its governance meetings, allowing material to be heard or viewed electronically as it is presented at the meetings.

The NYISO's governance process includes a ten-member independent Board of Directors and stakeholder committees that play essential roles in the evolution of New York's electric markets and bulk electricity grid operations. Stakeholder committees are comprised of representatives from market sectors that include Public Power & Environmental Parties, End-Use Consumers, Transmission Owners, Generation Owners, and Other Suppliers.

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The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) – www.nyiso.com – is a not-for-profit corporation that began operations in 1999. The NYISO operates New York's bulk electricity grid, administers the state's wholesale electricity markets, and conducts comprehensive reliability and resource planning for the state's bulk electricity system.