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NYISO Reviews Impact of Electric Vehicles on Grid

Plug-in vehicle and windpower synergy seen

Rensselaer, NY - The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) is looking at how the adoption of electric vehicles might impact the power grid of New York State.

In a briefing paper, *Alternate Route: Electrifying the Transportation Sector*, the NYISO provides a preliminary look at the potential impact of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) on New York State's electricity system.

"PHEVs and other electric-powered vehicles hold the promise of significant environmental and economic benefits. As New York's grid operator, the NYISO is looking ahead to anticipate the needs and maximize the benefits of PHEVs," said Stephen G. Whitley, NYISO President and CEO.

"If New York motorists start plugging-in significant numbers of PHEVs, we will see new demands on the grid. However, if deployed with technology and incentives to encourage favorable charging patterns, PHEVs can offer valuable new ways to store electricity produced in off-peak periods. That energy storage potential could enhance the grid's use of windpower," Whitley explained.

Windpower projects tend to produce more electricity in the early morning hours, a period when current demand for electricity is relatively low.

"The NYISO has found that, in general, the production profile of wind resources in New York correlates very well with off-peak charging of PHEVs, creating the potential for a synergy between wind generation and transportation energy needs," the NYISO paper states.

The NYISO paper notes that off-peak charging would be encouraged by the deployment of Smart Grid/Advanced Metering Initiatives in combination with appropriate rate design.

PHEV prospects have been enhanced by public policy developments encouraging electric-drive vehicles. President Barack Obama has called for new programs to support PHEV development and deployment. In New York State, Governor David Paterson has announced the creation of the New York Battery and Energy Storage Technology Consortium (NY BEST).

A copy of the NYISO briefing paper, *Alternate Route: Electrifying the Transportation Sector*, is available for download from the NYISO website (www.nyiso.com).

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The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) – <u>www.nyiso.com</u> – 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 reliability and resource planning for the state's bulk electricity system.