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Working Together to Energize the Empire State

NYISO President Addresses Meeting of Large Energy Users

Verona, NY – A top official of the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) told a gathering of the state's largest industrial, commercial, and institutional energy users that the efforts of stakeholders are crucial in helping wholesale electricity markets address the Empire State's array of energy needs.

At the 37th Annual Meeting of Multiple Intervenors (MI), NYISO President and CEO Stephen G. Whitley said, "We are working together to energize the Empire State, reliably and responsibly. With active collaboration among energy users, power suppliers and other stakeholders, the NYISO is striving to enhance the transparency and efficiency of New York's wholesale electricity markets, and address issues and expand opportunities through broader regional markets."

"Multiple Intervenors is an active participant in the NYISO shared governance process, which provides an important forum to address our common interest in ensuring that New York State's energy markets provide access to reliable, affordable energy supplies," said Michael Mager of the Couch White law firm, which serves as MI General Counsel.

Commitment to Collaboration

The NYISO's shared governance structure includes 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 Entities, End-Use Consumers, Transmission Owners, Generation Owners, and Other Suppliers.

"Our commitment to collaboration is illustrated by our total of nearly 250 governance meetings, involving committees, sub-committees, task forces, and working groups throughout the year," Whitley noted. "Our shared governance system is working to make changes in NYISO grid operations, market design, and the planning process based on stakeholder consensus. Since the inception of the NYISO, 95 percent of the tariff revisions filed with federal regulators were submitted with stakeholder consensus."

Markets and Smart Grid

Whitley said that in the decade since the NYISO began operating, "New York State's competitive marketplace for electricity has contributed to building new generation and interstate transmission, improving power plant efficiency and availability, expanding renewable resources, and fostering demand side innovations."

He also noted that the NYISO is engaged in efforts to expand regional markets and seek federal stimulus funding for "smart grid" investments in New York State.

"The effort to achieve broader regional markets will widen our horizons, but we are also looking to go deeper with our focus. That is what smart grid is all about. We are looking at investments in grid technology to enhance the reliability of the bulk electricity grid and provide the foundation for further development of smart grid infrastructure in New York State," Whitley remarked.

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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 reliability and resource planning for the state's bulk electricity system.