



**JENNIFER DESENA**  
Supervisor



**JOHN FERRETTI**  
Supervisor



**JOSEPH SALADINO**  
Supervisor



April 28, 2026

Hon. Rory M. Christian, Chair  
Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary  
New York State Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12223-1350

RE: MATTER NO. 23-01358 - APPLICATION OF PROPEL NY ENERGY LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII.

Dear Chair Christian and Secretary Phillips:

As the Supervisors of the Towns of Hempstead, North Hempstead, and Oyster Bay, we write collectively to address the proposed **Propel NY Energy** electric transmission project. This letter has become necessary as serious concerns continue to be raised and questions remain unanswered regarding the proposed project. Area residents, fire district professionals, environmental interests and others demand transparency as **Propel NY Energy** is embarking on the final stages of the permitting process. Our jurisdictions represent the vast majority of Nassau County's population. While we acknowledge the state's energy goals, our primary mandate is to protect the safety, financial interests, and quality of life of the residents we serve.

This correspondence concerns several very serious issues that must be addressed before this application proceeds. Financial Impact and Ratepayer Burden Infrastructure projects of this magnitude carry significant costs. We formally request a transparent breakdown of the total costs that will be borne by Long Island ratepayers, as well as the projected impact on average ratepayer bills. Our residents already shoulder some of the highest utility rates in the country. What's more, it is essential that the specific source of the energy carried by these new lines and, more importantly, which communities are the intended consumers be disclosed in a transparent and forthright manner. We will not support a project that places the financial burden on Nassau County residents to serve interests elsewhere without clear, direct local benefit.

**Public Health and EMF Emissions**

The health of our residents is non-negotiable. There is significant community concern regarding the prospective health impacts of electromagnetic field (EMF) emissions from high-voltage 345kV lines. We ask for rigorous, independent modeling of EMF levels along the entire proposed route, particularly where lines pass near homes, schools, and parks, to ensure they meet the strictest safety standards.

**Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) and Fire Safety**

We must inquire whether the need for these cables is directly linked to proposed Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) on the North and South Shores. Local fire departments have expressed serious concerns over the dangers associated with these facilities. Recent events have demonstrated that fires at BESS facilities are extremely difficult to extinguish and contain, often resulting in "thermal runaway" and the release of toxic

emissions. The safety of our first responders and the well-being of residents living near these potential sites are of paramount concern.

### **Roadway Integrity and Traffic Disruption**

The construction phase poses a threat to our local quality of life through traffic disruption. Furthermore, the history of utility companies in our region is marked by substandard roadway restoration. Patchwork repairs lead to premature deterioration and "pothole seasons" that ultimately require taxpayer-funded repaving projects. We insist that any road opened for this project be restored to a high standard—ideally curb-to-curb—to ensure longevity and safety.

### **Labor and Local Economy**

Finally, we strongly urge that all work associated with the Propel Project be performed by union labor under Project Labor Agreements (PLAs). It is imperative that local labor be employed to ensure that the economic benefits of this project remain within our communities, rather than being sourced to out-of-state workers.

We look forward to your response and a formal briefing on these matters.

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