

Mark De Chiro, Customer of Record - National Grid

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October 14, 2005

Ms. Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary
New York State Public Service Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350
Dear Secretary Brillling:

In response to the New York State Department of Public Service staffs recommendations

The proposed SBC funding extension
of \$150 million annually for a five year term lacks the necessary foresight to
to balance consumer needs, fuel demands and precedence addressing New
Yorker's energy efficiency needs.

One of the United States of America's priorities is to improve energy
efficiency and conserve energy.

Energy Efficiency is a vital part of a national security function

Furthermore, the DPS staff comments are not in sync with the current
policies put fourth by President Bush, Congress and State Law Makers to
curb high energy costs impacting consumer confidence, spending
and intrinsic economic loss due to the extremely high cost of energy

SBC funding levels should be at least \$200 million annually and be extended
to a ten year term in order to further commit New Yorker's in doing their
part to aggressively save even more energy than in SBC I and SBCII.

Hard working Americans deserve increased opportunities encouraging more
consumers to save energy while reducing costs.

Increasing the SBC funding may be paid for by reducing the gross receipt tax portion of utility bills.

A few points to consider:

1. The Gross Receipt Tax paid by rate payers should be reduced and then be added to increase the SBC funding level.
2. Increasing energy efficiency benefits for low-income households will lessen taxpayer costs for financial assistance to those households.
3. Increasing the SBC funded energy efficiency benefits to the residential rate payer class would help align any inequities in SBC allocation to the residential rate payers. The DPS staff has never released the total itemized ratepayer "payout" for SBC funds by separate ratepayer class versus the benefits received by ratepayer class.
4. increase energy efficiency benefits to the Small Commercial rate payers which pay just under a \$100k in annual electric costs will help protect jobs.

The current annual funding level and the term of SBC programs must be increased and extended for the long-Term.

Consumers as well as retail and commercial business are at the mercy of higher energy prices and operating costs and are increasing wholesale and retail prices impacting economic security.

Personally speaking, Americans should not have to sit in their homes and turn-off heating, cooling, lighting and sit around in the dark in order to save energy.

I'm currently paying more than the balance on my utility bill to hedge higher prices this coming winter