

Case: 06-M-0878

**National Grid/KeySpan Merger**

Interrogatory/Document Request

Response of National Grid/KeySpan

Re: Niagara Mohawk

Request #: SRMT-4

Response Date: September 22, 2006

Respondent: J. Ash

Q: 1. Will there be any change to the number of NMPC operating personnel who have direct responsibility for electric system maintenance and emergency restoration as a result of the merger? Does NMPC consider existing staffing levels sufficient to meet the Commission SAIFI and CAIDI standards?

2. Does NMPC have a hiring policy that favors job offers and/or entry level positions to the local community it serves? If not, why not. If so, please describe.

A:

1. National Grid does not expect that there will be a change as a result of the merger to the number of electric field operations personnel in New York. As the combined company will seek continuously to improve all of its operations, including the areas of electric system maintenance and emergency restoration, there could be changes in the future. However, as outlined in our Petition, we believe that the merged company will be able to provide better service to customers overall because the combined company will have greater resources available to address customer needs. (See Petition at 20).

National Grid considers existing staffing levels consisting of the internal National Grid workforce as well as additional contract field support sufficient to meet the Commissions SAIFI and CAIDI standards.

2. NMPC does not have a hiring policy that favors job offers and/or entry level positions to the local communities it serves. We believe that the company and its various stakeholders are best served by hiring the top available talent, regardless of where the person resides at the time he or she applies for employment.