

Executive Director Report

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Hopefully, everyone is enjoying the spring type weather we have been witnessing lately. Wouldn't it be nice to see it continue with no late season snowstorms that have plagued us in past years? The Semi-Annual Conference will once again be a virtual event set for April 21st scheduled from 9am to noon. Meeting agenda and materials will be sent out next week. Please join us as we will have several interesting presentations to be presented.

As of today April 6th, no State budget has been approved yet. I understand the budget is basically done, but lawmakers continue to work on the spending plan's final details.

The state budget this year was complicated by a large revenue shortfall caused by COVID-19 and the associated economic downturn. The Governor had asked the federal government for \$15 billion in funds to make up the gap — a figure many thought was beyond what was needed — and the state was given about \$12.5 billion as part of the COVID-19 stimulus package passed recently by Congress. Several key areas were marked as priorities for the Legislature and the governor to haggle over — two major ones were marijuana legalization and tax increase on the wealthy.

The Governor has attempted since 2018 to legalize recreational marijuana in New York, but the effort had previously fallen short each year over differences in how revenue would be distributed.

Cuomo made some significant concessions this year as the policy was negotiated separately from the state budget and passed last week. Cuomo signed the adult-use marijuana law into law.

The governor has long opposed tax raises on the wealthy, saying it risks compelling wealthy New Yorkers to leave the state to avoid the high tax

rates. He ultimately supported a slight tax increase, but the Legislature pushed for a larger one, and the Wall Street Journal reported on Sunday that Cuomo — who is reeling publicly from sexual harassment allegations and an FBI investigation of his administration's handling of New York's nursing home deaths — had agreed to the higher tax rate numbers.

Although Cuomo on Monday declared his office had reached an agreement with the Legislature, it remained unclear how legalization of mobile sports betting would work. The Legislature has supported a model where casinos would operate the servers on behalf of mobile sports betting apps such as DraftKings and FanDuel, while Cuomo has supported a model similar to the lottery where the state would control it and take more of the tax revenue. Cuomo's Budget Director Robert Mujica said the state's preferred model is likely to be adopted in the budget.

Sen. Joseph Addabbo, the leading Senate advocate for mobile sports betting, said in a text message that the details of legalizing mobile sports betting are still being discussed.

Supporters of a \$2 billion fund for "excluded workers" to receive stimulus checks rallied at the Capitol on Monday to push for the policy. The goal would be to provide money to undocumented immigrants who did not receive federal unemployment or stimulus checks, but the issue has divided the Democratic caucus. Progressive members, primarily from New York City, are pushing hard for the policy, while moderates from upstate districts are more hesitant. It was not immediately clear whether the fund will be included in the budget.

A proposal for an Environmental Bond Act was also included in the final budget. The act would authorize borrowing up to \$3 billion for environmental projects. The original version of the Environmental Bond Act was passed in the 2019 budget and was slated to appear on the ballot in 2020 for voter approval. However, it was pulled from the ballot because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This new version will be similar to the original proposal, and it will appear on the ballot for a vote in 2022, when there will be a full slate of state and federal elections.

Chris Wentlent: NYISO Advisor

April 2021

Capacity Market Strip Auction – the NYISO recently conducted its six-month strip auction for the May 2021 – October 2021 capability period. The results are listed below:

<u>2021 vs 2020</u>	<u>2021 vs 2020</u>
NYCA - \$4.09 vs \$2.71	IRM – 20.7% vs 18.8%
Zone J - \$5.54 vs \$18.36	LCR – 80.3% vs 86.6%
Zone G-J - \$4.56 vs \$3.07	LCR - 87.6% vs 90%
Zone K - \$5.84 vs \$4.50	LCR – 102.9% vs 103.4

New York Control Area IRM increase was driven by Indian Point 3 retirement, greater load forecast uncertainty, and more precise modeling of capabilities of Energy Limited Duration Resources.

FERC Capacity Market Technical Conference – The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) held a technical conference on March 23. NYISO communicated the following position statements:

- The NYISO’s Capacity market, the buyer-side Capacity market power mitigation measures (the “BSM Rules”), and the Energy and Ancillary Services markets must evolve and adapt to account for the clean energy transition taking place in New York. But the Capacity market is compatible with that transition and remains vitally important to support resource adequacy.
- Professionally designed market structures are more efficient than non-market-based alternatives. They protect consumers by shifting investment risks to investors. They are more adaptive and better suited than non-market-based alternatives to manage the current clean energy transition.
- Market mechanisms will also be the better approach after the transition is complete. Even in a 100% clean energy future, harnessing market forces will be the best way to send efficient price signals, protect consumers from investment risks, and support reliability.

- Market-based resource adequacy mechanisms should evolve, not be discarded.

2020-2021 NYISO Winter Operations Report –

The NYISO hosted their Management Committee meeting on March 31, 2021. The winter peak was 22,542 megawatts (MW). Weather and temperatures were above normal during December and January. February was a colder than the previous year. The NYISO experienced three temporary cold weather events. For the winter 2020 and 2021 period, the NYISO met operating criteria and all systems worked well. Throughout the winter, demand response, and emergency purchases were not needed.

NYSPSC: Energy Storage

The Department of Public Service (Department) issued the second ‘State of Storage’ annual report announcing progress in reaching New York State’s statewide energy storage goal of 3,000 megawatts (MW) by 2030, with an interim objective of deploying 1,500 MW by 2025.

The Commission’s energy storage deployment policy has effectively strengthened the market for developing and installing qualified energy storage systems in New York State.

Total deployed or awarded/contracted projects at the end of 2020 equals 1,186 MW in capacity, or about 79 percent of the 2025 target of 1,500 MW and 40 percent of the 2030 target of 3,000 MW.

The number of energy storage projects in various interconnection queues, which reflects some of the awarded/contracted projects noted above as well as potential projects in the pipeline, also indicates robust activity in the industry.

Over 8,000 MW of energy storage projects are presently in New York utility interconnection queues and the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) interconnection queue, though it is possible that not all these projects would get built by 2030.

Danskammer Public Hearing

- The NYSDPS and Administrative Law Judge conducted a public hearing to invite

comments about the repowering of the Danskammer Generating Facility. The feedback reviewed was overwhelming in opposition for the project.

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Full descriptions listed on our website —
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Angelica: Electric Lineworker

Electrical Lineworker – The Village of Angelica, Electric Department is presently accepting applications to fill a vacancy in the Municipal Electric Department. This position will require climbing skills, working with high voltage electric and will encounter working at considerable heights in possible adverse conditions. The position will also require completion of a 4-year apprentice Lineworker program as set forth by the Municipal Electric Utilities Association.

Applications will be accepted at the Village of Angelica, Village Office, 21 Peacock Hill Rd, Angelica, NY 14709 through 03/31/21. The Village of Angelica is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Penn Yan: Electric Lineworker

The applicant must be able to perform skilled work in the construction and maintenance of electrical overhead and underground distribution systems, including the rebuilding and maintenance of electrical substations. The work requires climbing poles, working in all kinds of weather conditions and rigid observance of safety precautions to protect the lives of themselves and others. **Compensation rate is \$38.71 to \$42.69 hourly rate**, dependent on years of experience, Penn Yan also offers a competitive benefits package.

Interested applicants should apply by Monday 4/19/2021 by submitting an application to the Yates County Personnel Office at 417 Liberty St, Penn Yan, NY 14527 or online at <https://mycivilservice.yatescounty.org/jobopps>.

The Village of Penn Yan is an equal opportunity employer and a drug free workplace.

Marathon: Linemen

The **Village of Marathon**, an equal opportunity employer, is accepting resumes for an Electric Utility Worker (Lineman). Minimum qualifications are high school graduation and journeyman lineman certification. This work consists of erection, installation and maintenance of overhead and underground electric distribution systems. Work requires rigid observance of safety protocol, working during inclement weather conditions, climbing utility poles and handling high voltage. Supervision and inspection may be exercised over work while in progress and upon completion.

Resumes must be submitted to Village of Marathon, P.O. Box 519, Marathon, NY 13803 or may be dropped off at the Village Office, 18 Tannery Street, Marathon, NY. Please contact Eric Leet at 607-849-6795 or email marathonpower@stny.rr.com with any questions.

Solvay: Assistant Electric Department Superintendent

Salary Range: \$75,000-85,000 Annually

Job Description:

The work involves responsibility for assisting in the daily management and supervision of the Village of Solvay Electric Department. An employee in this class is responsible for scheduling and directing the day-to-day and long-term activities of various departments and the crews. Under general supervision of the Electric Department Superintendent, an employee in this class carries out work in accordance with general policies of the Village Board of Trustees and its Electrical Committee with wide leeway for the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out technical duties of the work. General supervision is exercised over a large number of technical and clerical subordinates. An employee in this class is required to be on call at all times in order to direct staff during emergencies. Does related work as required.

Please email resume and references to hdecarlo@villageofsolvay.com for consideration.