Executive Director Report

Pic

Executive Director’s Report

Well, I hope everyone is keeping warm as we get through this stretch of cold and wintry weather.

This morning, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow indicating we are in for at least 6 more weeks of winter. Oh Joy!!

**A picture containing mammal, rodent, close, staring

Description automatically generated**

**NYSERDA**

NYSERDA announces the following rates:

2022 CES ACP Price and 2022-23 LSE Initial ZEC Rate.

NYSERDA has filed the 2022 CES ACP Price on January 31, 2022 with the Public Service Commission (PSC). As stated previously in the 2022 ACP Extension Filing, Compliance Year 2022 is the first year that Indexed RECs will be included in the determination of the ACP Price. The Tier 1 Indexed REC Price Forecast is a complex and entirely new component of New York’s clean energy strategy, and the methodology for arriving at an effective ACP price involves the consideration and analysis of multiple factors, including potential REC price volatility and its potential effects on cashflow, ratepayers and the Tier 1 program itself. The 2022 ACP Price is set at $35.00.

Additionally, NYSERDA and the Department of Public Service (DPS) Staff have determined the 2022-23 LSE Initial ZEC Rate. NYSERDA will use $3.99/MWh when calculating invoices for the 2022-23 ZEC Compliance Year, starting with the April 2022 V1 load.

**New York State Budget Update**

Though it is early in the process, and the Assembly & Senate Budget versions have not been released yet, here are some excerpts from the Governor’s Budget Proposal.

Part Q deals with new ethics rules for local officials. Part X claims to be a restoration of AIM related payments to Towns & Villages.

From the Transportation Economic Development bill:

* Authorizes NYPA to create a captive insurance company
* Continued authorization for NYSERDA special assessment
* Continued authorization re use of utility assessment
* Policy to discourage the use of natural gas by eliminating the “100-foot rule”
* Authorizes NYPA to manage energy services for hospitals
* Changes building codes to meet CLCPA goals – this one is pretty involved and has pages and pages to read.

We will be submitting comments on our members behalf concerning the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (“NYSERDA”) and Staff of the New York State Department of Public Service (“DPS Staff”) petition seeking approval of two contracts for the purchase of Tier 4 Renewable Energy Credits (“RECs”) by NYSERDA from Clean Path New York (“CPNY”) and Champlain Hudson Power Express (“CHPE”)/Hydro Quebec US (“HQUS”). In particular, these Comments address the Notice of the City of New York (“the City”) Regarding Renewable Resource Procurements submitted concurrently with the Petition informing the Commission that the City intends to stop complying with Tiers 1–3 of the Clean Energy Standard (“CES”), thereby increasing those compliance obligations on all other State Load Serving Entities (“LSEs”) (“City Notice”).

On October 15, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Adopting Modifications to the CES (“Modification Order”), to incorporate new requirements contained in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (“CLCPA”), as codified in Section 66-p of the Public Service Law (“PSL”). The CLCPA directs the Commission to establish a program whereby:

1. jurisdictional LSEs secure adequate amounts of renewable energy resources to serve at least 70% of load in 2030 (referred to as the “2030 Target” or the “70 by 30 Target”), and
2. there are zero emissions in 2040 associated with electrical demand (referred to as the “2040 Zero Emission Target”). The Modification Order, among other things, added a new Tier 4 to the CES to incentivize the delivery of renewable energy directly into New York City (Load Zone J) to address the fact that the city currently
3. receives nearly all of its energy from fossil-fuel-fired generation. Importantly, in adopting Tier 4, the Commission already considered and decided that voluntary purchases of Tier 4 RECs will not reduce any aspect of an LSE’s compliance obligations.

The city now seeks to overturn this decision. Having made a commitment to purchase Tier 4 RECs in excess of its load share obligation, the city intends to stop complying with the other Tiers of the CES. As this develops, we will keep you posted.

**MEUA Event Calendar**

www.meua.org/meua-events-calendar

The following dates have been confirmed for the events below. All scheduled for the Embassy Suites, Destiny Mall location. Mark your calendars, registration material will be sent as event dates get closer.

* Engineering Workshop

March 8-9, 2022

* MEUA Semi-Annual Meeting

April 12-13

* Accounting & Finance Workshop May 10-11, 2022
* Engineering Workshop November 15-16, 2022

Thank You.



**Chris Wentlent: MEUA Advisor**

**February 2022**

NYISO and Policy Update – the following is my February 2022 Summary:

**New York Independent System Operator (NYISO)**

* Capacity Locational Reserve Requirements - Based on the NYSRC’s final Internal Reserve Margin (IRM) base case Year of 19.6% established in December 2022 for the 2022–2023 Capability, the Loss of Load Expected (LOLE) criterion of 0.1 days/year is met with an LCR of 81.2% for the New York City Locality, an LCR of 99.5% for the Long Island Locality, and an LCR of 89.2% for the G-J Locality. This compares to NYC LCR of 80.3%, Long Island LCR of 102.9% and G-J LCR of 87.6% in 2021-2022.
* Generation Unit Retirement Notices – Eastern Generation Astoria GTs and Alliance Energy (3 units) submitted unit retirement notices to the NYSDPS and NYISO. Ravenswood GT study has commenced.

Highlights of Governor Hochul’s January 5, 2022, State of State Address - Energy & Climate Change

Strengthen New York’s Offshore Wind Leadership and Make a Nation-Leading $500 Million Investment in Offshore Wind Manufacturing and Supply Chain

* Procure Enough Wind Energy to Power at Least 1.5 million Homes: The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will launch its next offshore wind procurement in 2022, which is expected to result in at least 2 gigawatts of new projects
* Initiate Planning for an Offshore Wind Transmission Network to Power 4 million New York City Homes
* Power One-Third of New York City with Wind, Solar, and Hydro

**Double Energy Storage Deployment to at Least 6 Gigawatts by 2030**

* Governor Hochul will direct the Department of Public Service (DPS) and NYSERDA to update New York State’s Energy Storage Roadmap to double deployment, reaching at least six gigawatts of energy storage by 2030

**Make New York State a Green Hydrogen Hub**

* Governor Hochul will direct NYSERDA, the New York Power Authority (NYPA), and Empire State Development to make New York State a Green Hydrogen Hub, advancing the adoption of this promising technology and competing for nearly $10 billion in federal funding for green hydrogen research and development under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).
* A Hydrogen Hub proposal that brings together multiple New York Regional Hubs, targeted to include New York City, Long Island, Buffalo, Central New York, Northern New York, Albany, and Auburn into one overall proposal.

**Phase Out New York City’s Most-Polluting Fossil-Fuel Facilities**

* Governor Hochul is directing NYSERDA in its 2022 offshore wind procurement to provide additional scoring credit for projects that propose to repurpose existing downstate fossil-based electric generation infrastructure and utilize energy storage to enhance future system reliability
* DPS and NYSERDA are directed to focus storage deployments in a manner that furthers the state’s efforts in eliminating the most polluting fossil fuel facilities and coordinates with existing utility and New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) planning processes.
* Governor Hochul will further direct NYSERDA, DPS, and DEC to develop a blueprint to guide the retirement and redevelopment of New York’s oldest and most-polluting fossil fuel facilities and their sites by 2030.

**Buildings & Electrification**

* Achieve two million Electrified or Electrification-Ready Homes by 2030
* Plan to electrify one million homes and make another one million electrification-ready
* Requiring zero on-site greenhouse gas emissions for new construction no later than 2027
* Upgrading New York’s appliance efficiency standards, reducing energy use while saving New Yorkers billions of dollars in utility costs.
* Mandating energy benchmarking for large buildings, making it easier to track energy-efficiency improvements over time.
* Proposing legislation to level the playing field for clean energy alternatives and end the obligation to serve customers with natural gas that currently exists in state law, tailored to maintain affordability for New York’s most vulnerable customers.
* Directing NYSERDA, Housing and Community Renewal (HCR), DPS, and DOS to deliver an executable plan in 2022
* Governor Hochul will also direct DPS to ensure that gas utilities minimize investments in costly new gas infrastructure, analyze the most equitable and cost-effective strategy for retirement or repurposing of existing infrastructure, promote alternatives to minimize gas demand, and engage members of disadvantaged communities fully and fairly in the gas transition.
* Commit to Zero On-Site Greenhouse Gas Emissions for New Construction No Later Than 2027 and Enact Nation-Leading Building Codes Legislation
* Require new construction statewide to have zero on-site greenhouse gas emissions no later than 2027, consistent with the Climate Act.
* Update building code cost-effectiveness criteria to account for the full lifetime of installed equipment
* New York State will adopt an energy code at the forefront of climate change mitigation, building efficiency, and energy savings.

**Create Three Virtual Power Plants Using State**

* Governor Hochul is directing NYPA and the Office of General Services to design at least three virtual power plants in 2022 using state government assets.

**Transportation**

* Invest $1 Billion to Support EV Adoption and Infrastructure
* New York will deploy $175 million over five years for EV charging stations through federal formula funds, with a focus on fast charging for light-duty vehicles along highway corridors.
* This $1 billion-plus in funding will enable New York to put forward winning proposals to capture its share of $2.5 billion in additional competitive federal funding for EVs.
* Electrify the State Fleet by 2035
* Achieve 100% Electric School Buses by 2035
* Governor Hochul will propose legislation to require that, by 2027, all new school bus purchases will be zero-emissions, and by 2035, all school buses on the road will be zero-emissions.
* Increase Funding for the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act to $4 Billion
* Improve the Brownfield Cleanup Program and Promote Redevelopment
* Governor Hochul will grow the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) program to allow for funds to be used for more pre-development activities, including demolition, asbestos removal, site preparation, legal and financial services, renewable energy feasibility studies, and impact analyses.

**Climate Action Council Update**

* The New York State Climate Action Council released its Draft Scoping Plan for a 120-day public comment period. The State also will announce at least six public hearings.
* The draft Plan primarily relies on a significant expansion of renewable energy facilities and energy storage, and it acknowledges the ongoing need for the State’s nuclear facilities, at least through 2029.
* The draft Plan contains provisions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from each sector of the economy, and it also addresses proposals for buildings and transportation that rely upon electrification and the transition away from emitting fuels.
* Even though the draft Plan discusses need for zero-emission dispatchable resources to maintain reliability, it stops short of having it be an actual recommendation.
* The draft Plan mentions moratoriums on the permitting of new fossil fuel plants and natural gas infrastructure, but they are not a Council-wide recommendation.
* The Economy-Wide Strategies Chapter of the draft Plan provides a detailed discussion of carbon pricing options for public comment, especially the NYISO’s carbon pricing proposal; more specifically, these options are:
  + a tax or fee establishing a carbon price, referred to as a carbon pricing
  + a program that caps emissions across the economy, or within sectors, and allocates emissions primarily through an auction mechanism that provide revenues for investment, known as cap-and-invest
  + a clean energy supply standard, which would require providers of liquid and gaseous fuels across the economy to reduce the carbon intensity of fuels they introduce into commerce
* The draft Plan includes provisions for a macro-economic examination of the societal costs and benefits of the draft Plan and concludes that more benefits will result in a way that far outweigh the costs.
* The Council will decide which provisions will be included in the finalized Scoping Plan, which is due to be completed by January 1, 2023.
* After the Council finalizes the Plan, the DEC will promulgate its regulations in 2024 on compliance with the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit as required by the CLCPA.

**Transmission**

* Long Island OSW Submittals https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/22968753/LI-PPTN-Project-Summary-Public-20211018.pdf/1b36c8b6-6df5-510e-44bc-a2c970d04390. NYISO is in the process of evaluating submittals for viability and sufficiency per the RFP solicitation requirements. NYISO reported at the recent NYSRC meeting that they will come back with additional project details at the January or February 2022 TPAS meeting.

**Other Transmission**

* The WNY Empire Transmission upgrade will be completed by May/June 2022 which will help reduce Zone A congestion.
* The Segment A & B AC Transmission Public Policy Projects and the first phase of NYPA North Country MA1 and MA2 are not expected to be completed until the end of 2023.
* NYPA/NGRID Second Phase Accelerated Transmission Project is a 2025 expected completion date. Together, this grouping of projects will reduce upstate transmission congestion and allow more renewable generated megawatts to flow to the high-density population areas downstate.

**Regional OSW Planning**

* All three regional members (New England RTO, NYISO, and PJM RTO) are participating on the Technical Review Committee of the DOE Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study.
* The three regional members discussing if additional interregional study work should be performed to complement the DOE study. Each region will inform stakeholders of the next steps in early 2022.

**NYSPSC Regulatory Update**

* CASE 21-E-0629 - In the Matter of the Advancement of Distributed Solar. NYSERDA released its expected whitepaper on Friday, December 17. It is subject to a comment period and reply comment period before any NYSPSC decision. A 2Q of 2022 decision period is expected.
* Energy Storage Proceeding – 18-e-0130. Per the State of the State Address – NYSDPS will initiate a process to create the roadmap to move from 3GW of Energy Storage to 6GW of Energy Storage by 2030.
* PSC’s Transmission Planning Proceeding – 20-E-0197 – the allocation mechanism as directed by Ordering Clause 3 of the Order was filed in early January by the Joint Utilities.

**NYSERDA**

* November 30, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has finalized contracts with Clean Path New York LLC for its Clean Path NY (CPNY) project and H.Q. Energy Services (U.S.) Inc. (HQUS) for its Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) project to deliver clean, renewable solar, wind and hydroelectric power from upstate New York and Canada to New York City. The contracts are subject to public comment at the NYSDPS.

**MEUA MUNICIPAL MEMBER EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISEMENTS:**

Full descriptions listed on our website —[**www.meua.org**](http://www.meua.org)

**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. The Village of Angelica is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

**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.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Five (5) years of professional supervisory level work experience, or its part-time equivalent, in business management which must have included operations planning and job cost analysis, while working or contracting for a municipal or private electric power company.

NOTE: Electrical contracting work must have been with a municipal or private electric power company.   
Home, building construction or industrial contracting does not qualify.

**Please email resume and references to** [**hdecarlo@villageofsolvay.com**](mailto:hdecarlo@villageofsolvay.com) **for consideration.**

**Skaneateles: Electric Line Leader**

The Village of Skaneateles is seeking a full-time line leader for our electric department. This is a non-competitive civil service position involving overhead and underground work on our distribution system. Work will also involve other Village duties as necessary.

Qualifications include 4 years of Journeyman level work, with all certifications. Knowledge of distribution electric systems and substations. Ability to plan, develop strategies and implement ideas for crew leadership while performing line construction duties. Must have the ability to direct subordinate employees.

This is a Union position with the benefits commensurate with negotiated contracts. Salary commensurate with contract.

Mail resume to Laurie Walter, Village Clerk, 26 Fennell St., Skaneateles, NY 13152.

**Penn Yan: Electric Lineworker**

The Village of Penn Yan Municipal Electric Department is seeking candidates for the full-time position of an experienced Electric Lineworker.

Primary Responsibilities

* Engaged in any type of construction, operation or maintenance on distribution lines and associated equipment.
* Apply safety rules and regulations as they apply to line substation and service work.
* Installs, inspect and repair poles, conductor, transformers, meters, hardware and other equipment on or near energized and de-energized lines in keeping with the appropriate specifications.
* Respond to outages to investigate, locate, analyze, correct faults and restore service on distribution equipment.
* Perform line switching, including switching at a transformer or automatic air-switch station.
* Reviews plans and specifications.
* Inform supervisors of equipment and materials required to complete jobs.
* Trains other crew members in construction of electrical distribution systems.
* Performs basic maintenance on equipment.
* Other responsibilities as assigned.

Benefits:

* Compensation rate is $39.87 to $43.97 hourly rate, dependent on years of experience, Penn Yan also offers a competitive benefits package. (Details shown below)
* Competitive insurance that includes health and dental
* Vacation Time: After 1 year of continuous employment earn 2 weeks (80 hours) paid vacation - Graduated scale thereafter based on longevity
* Earn 8 hours of sick time each month to accumulate to 240 days that may be used for a retirement cash benefit or health insurance premiums
* Receive 40 hours personal time June 1st of each year. Unused personal hours will rollover to sick hours annually on June 1st.
* Step Pay Scale: Advance 1 Step upon each anniversary of hire date current pay increases for Steps:1-4, 9, 13, 18, 22,25,27
* New York State Disability Insurance
* 12.5 paid holidays on top of time earned
* NYS Employees Retirement System
* Flexible shifts Monday-Friday with on-call availability

Keys to success include working effectively with a team, following safety protocol, being respectful to others, and having integrity and pride in your work.

Minimum qualifications include graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma; AND four (4) years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid work experience as an Apprentice Lineworker on electric distribution systems; OR one (1) year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid work experience as an Electric Utility Lineworker. (Must possess Qualified Electric Person (QEP)). This is a competitive NYS Civil Service position that is full time, 40 hours per week and subject to Civil Service rules for eligibility.

Interested applicants should apply by Friday 2/21/2022 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.

**Penn Yan: Apprentice Lineworker**

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

The Village of Penn Yan Municipal Electric Department is seeking candidates for the full-time position of Apprentice Lineworker.

This is a trainee position over the course of 4 years. The applicant must be able to perform manual work in support of the Penn Yan Municipal Electric Line Crew as they complete the 4- year training program. The work requires working in all kinds of weather conditions and rigid observance of safety precautions to protect the lives of themselves and others and is performed under the direct supervision of the Line Crew Chief or Senior Lineworker. Compensation rate is $27.10 - $31.31, dependent on years of experience. Penn Yan also offers a competitive benefits package.

Keys to success include working effectively with a team, following safety protocol, being respectful to others, and having integrity and pride in your work.

Minimum qualifications include two years of experience as a laborer or helper in general construction trades. This is a Civil Service position that is full time, 40 hours per week and subject to Civil Service rules for eligibility.

Interested applicants should apply by Friday 1/21/2022 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.

**Village of Churchville: Electric Dept. Bookkeeper**

The Village of Churchville is hiring a full-time Electric Bookkeeper to undertake a wide variety of electric booking duties, general ledger reconciliation, monthly utility billing, and various office duties.

An Electric bookkeeper is well organized and professional with excellent communication skills. The successful candidate will be a self-starter who is highly motivated and exhibits a demonstrated ability to learn. Two years’ experience in a fast-paced office environment using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, and Outlook) is required, along with a background in accounting. The ability to multi-task and prioritize work is a must. The candidate will also have a strong attention to detail, possess excellent time management and problem-solving skills, and be reliable and patient. Experience in a municipal office environment is preferred.

The Village of Churchville offers a comprehensive benefits package including health, dental, and vision coverage, paid vacation and sick time, and New York State Retirement. Starting pay will be based on experience.

Applications are being accepted until February 18, 2022 or until the position is filled. Applications and resumes may be brought to the Village Office or mailed to:

Mayor John Hartman

Village of Churchville

23 E Buffalo St

PO Box 613

Churchville, NY 14428