RESOLUTION NO. 199

RESOLUTION URGING NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO REJECT NATIONAL GRID'S PROPOSED RATE INCREASES FOR ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS

By Legislator David Holst:

WHEREAS, National Grid has submitted a request to the New York State Public Service Commission (NYS PSC) asking for a rate increase of 15% for electricity and 20% for natural gas to take effect April 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, these rate increases have to go through the NYS PSC for approval; and

WHEREAS, National Grid blames this rate increase on the cost of materials to build and maintain transmission networks, devaluation of the U.S. dollar, and ongoing increases to contractor costs, and

WHEREAS, New York's electricity prices per kilowatt hour are approximately 5.97% higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, said proposed rate increases are a consequence of New York's Climate Act pushing incentives and mandates which ultimately pass the financial burden onto consumers; and

WHEREAS, New York State is responsible for the conditions that have led to the proposed rate increases with its high-cost and price-insensitive energy policies that are detached from the fiscal realities of the ratepayers and consumers; and

WHEREAS, the higher rates will be burdensome on customers at a time when taxpayers are economically strapped through the high cost of inflation; and

WHEREAS, with the high cost of inflation, Oswego County citizens, including retirees, seniors, those on fixed incomes, not-for-profits and people with disabilities, are living paycheck to paycheck struggling to make ends meet; and

WHEREAS, another increase in another necessity will only create a heavier burden to the burden the citizens are already bearing; and

WHEREAS, this is just another reckless, cost insensitive green energy initiative that is being forced on National Grid by irresponsible New York State energy policies, now, therefore; be it

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature hereby further urges the New York State Public Service Commission to reject the excessive rate increases proposed by National Grid for electric and gas; and be it further

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature hereby encourages National Grid to reconsider its electric and gas rate increases; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature urges Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature to protect the citizens of New York State from these proposed excessive rate increases; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each county in New York State, encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Rob Ortt, Assembly Majority Leader Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay, Senator Mark Walczyk, Senator John Mannion, New York State Association of Counties, National Grid, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

ADOPTED BY CONCENT VOTE ON JULY 11, 2024:

YES: 23 NO: 0 ABSENT: 2 ABSTAIN: 0

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF OSWEGO) ss:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I, Betsy Sherman-Saunders, Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature have compared the foregoing copy with the original resolution now on file in my office which was adopted by the Oswego County Legislature on July 11, 2024
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the said Legislature of Oswego County New York, on this 16th day of July 2024

Betsy Sherman-Saunders Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature