



*January*  
*2025*

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## MEUA Mission Statement

*To foster and advance the efficient operation of publicly owned and operated electric systems, including the production, distribution, conservation and prudent use of electric power and energy for public service for the mutual benefit of all members.*

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# Municipal Electric Utilities Association of NYS

## News and Views



## Municipal Members

Akron-Andover-Angelica-Arcade-Bath-Bergen-Boonville  
-Brocton-Castile-Churchville-Endicott-Fairport-  
Frankfort-Greene-Groton-Hamilton-Holley-Ilion-Lake  
Placid-Little Valley-Marathon-Massena-Mayville-  
Mohawk-Penn Yan-Philadelphia-Plattsburgh-  
Richmondville-Rouses Point-Salamanca-Silver Springs-  
Skaneateles-Solvay-Spencerport-Springville-Theresa-  
Tupper Lake-Watkins Glen-Wellsville-Westfield



## Executive Director's Report

Each year we hear more people saying, "We just don't get winters like we used to." Well, so far this year, Mother Nature has given upstate New York a white Christmas, copious amounts of January snowfall, and seasonably

cold temperatures, giving our systems a much-needed revenue shot in the arm compared to last year.

Mike Lyons and Chris Wentlent, with valuable assistance from Lindsay Holle and Kate Shackford and others from NYPA, are continuing to lead a strong effort to assist our member systems seeking available funding for grid resiliency projects under NYSERDA PON's 5896 and 5737, both of which were discussed in last month's New and Views.

As noted in Mike Lyon's article later in this newsletter, PON 5896 is different from PON 5737 in a number of notable respects. Most significantly, applications under 5896 are competitive and there is a 1/3 local cost share requirement. Applications under 5737 are not competitive (as long as the program criteria are met) and there is no local cost share requirement.

For those of you that have not applied for a technical assistance or implementation grant under PON 5737, it's not too late. We expect the opening of a second round of funding soon. And at this point, we are also anticipating a second round of funding under PON 5896 this Fall. If you're currently not ready to submit an application under 5896, I urge you to complete your analysis and studies now so you can be ready to apply for funding in a subsequent round. Give Mike Lyons or me a call if you have any questions.

Last month, I reported to you that a proposal to increase the "all-in" rate of \$12.88 per megawatt hour for hydro preference power to \$33.05 over the

next four years was unveiled at the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the NYPA Board of Trustees. On Christmas Eve, the NYPA rate proposal was published in the NYS Register, which started a 60-day formal comment period on the proposed rate increase. Two public hearings are scheduled, one in Lewiston (Niagara Falls) on January 29<sup>th</sup> and one in Albany on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

For your reference and information, full copies of the NYS Administrative Procedures Act Notice and the NYPA Preliminary Staff Report are included in their entirety at the end of this newsletter. At page 5 of the Staff Report, there is a chart showing the year-over-year rate increases NYPA is proposing.

Over the last few weeks, we have made significant progress in the preparation of our formal comments and testimony in opposition to the magnitude of NYPA's planned rate increases. We are also continuing to engage with non-MEUA Munis and Co-ops, as well as NYPA, to work toward the best achievable outcome from this process. If there are any significant developments prior to next month's newsletter, I will keep you advised via email.



If you haven't been to the MEUA offices in East Syracuse recently, there has been a lot happening on

the adjoining property. Open meadows since our building was constructed in 2008, TTM Technologies has been transforming the land into a new \$100M facility to manufacture tech products under a U.S. Department of Defense contract. The new facility is projected to create 400 new jobs.

I know I speak for all of you in saying that our hearts and prayers go out to everyone in California affected by the recent wildfires. Upstate New York can be cold and gray in the winter, but we are truly blessed with our abundant water resources.

*Take care,  
Jim*





## **NYISO Update Chris Wentlent**

### **NYISO Installed Capacity Working Group (ICAP) - 2025-2029 Demand Curve Reset Process**

The NYISO Board of Directors conducted a hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024. On November 29, the NYISO submitted their filing at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The NYISO Board supported the recommendations of the NYISO staff, and final consultant report with minor revisions included in the filing. If the filing is approved at FERC; the new capacity market demand curves go into effect beginning May 1, 2025.

### **New York Power Authority – New York Build Public Renewable Process**

The New York Power Authority completed its draft NY Build Public Renewables Strategic Plan public outreach process. The next steps in the process include final approval of the plan by the NYPA Board of Directors and presenting the final Strategic Plan to the New York State Legislature by the end of January 2025. Once approved, NYPA will have the final strategic planning tool to move forward with the intent of the legislation to incent NYPA to exercise a more prominent role in the commercial buildout of wind, solar and energy storage resources to support New York State’s CLCPA mandate.

### **NYSERDA Releases Results of the 2023 Tier 1 Renewable Energy Solicitation**

On December 3, 2024, NYSERDA announced the results of their 2023 Tier 1 Renewable Energy Solicitation. NYSERDA executed contracts with twenty-three new large-scale renewable energy projects located throughout New York State. In total, these projects, once commercial, will add 2,341 megawatts of new renewable capacity. As a reminder, while the nameplate capacity is 2,341 megawatts, wind and solar have lower capacity

factors due to their dependence on wind and sun. As a rule of thumb, onshore wind assets average about 25-27% capacity factors, and solar assets average between 14-16%. The performance of the asset type varies seasonally depending on wind and sun availability. Wind resources have higher availability in the winter, spring and fall, while solar resources are more likely to produce in the spring, summer, and fall with minimal production in the winter.

### **NYS PSC – Clean Path NY HVDC Transmission**

**Case 22-T-0558/Case 15-E-0302** – On November 27, 2024, NYSERDA sent a letter to the NYSDPS proving notification that the Tier 4 Renewable Energy Certificate Purchase and Sale Agreement between Clean Path NY LLC and NYSERDA has been terminated by mutual consent. NYPA, energyRe and Invenergy had collaborated on the Clean Path project and the REC agreement was necessary for Clean Path LLC to proceed with a planned 175-mile, underground HVDC transmission line from Delaware County to New York City. The project was expected to be one of the critical initiatives to assist downstate, particularly New York City, with its decarbonization efforts. On January 6, 2025, the New York Power Authority filed a petition with the Public Service Commission asking it to designate Clean Path NY as a Priority Transmission Project, which would allow NYPA to move forward with the planned transmission construction. Even if NYPA takes over the project, or another entity resurrects it in the future under different terms and conditions, there will be, at a minimum, a delay in construction that further threatens New York’s ability to meet the 2030 CLCPA goal.

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***“We must learn to live together  
as brothers or perish together as  
fools.”***

***“Forgiveness is not an  
occasional act. It is a permanent  
attitude.”***

*Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.*



## **IEEP UPDATE**

### **Mike Lyons**

The Independent Energy Efficiency Program (IEEP) is on track to achieve our 2024 spending plan and has paid out over \$3.2 million in

incentives for energy efficiency work completed. IEEP members are reminded to submit project documentation on work completed in 2024 so that we may close our books timely. Development of the IEEP’s 2024 Environmental Sustainability Report has begun, as well as an annual audit on the IEEP’s 2024 finances.

## **NYSERDA Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 5896 Grid Resiliency**

PON 5896 provides New York Municipal Electric Utilities with a unique funding opportunity of \$22,000,000 being made available to assist with projects related to outage prevention and enhanced resilience of the electric grid. Highlights of this PON are:

- Proposals are due **February 12th, 2025**, by 3:00 p.m.
- Proposers must provide a cost share that is 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the amount of the NYSERDA subaward value.
- NYSERDA anticipates releasing multiple rounds of funding through this PON.
- Proposers may submit a proposal for PON 5896 without having applied for or received funding from an earlier PON 5737 - [Technical Assistance Funding to Develop Grid Modernization Projects](#)

Project Types for PON 5896 include:

- Adaptive protection technology

- Advanced modeling technology
- Monitoring and control technologies
- Relocation of power lines or reconductoring of power lines with low sag advanced conductors
- Replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables
- Use or construction of DERs for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including microgrids and battery-storage subcomponents
- Weatherization technologies and equipment

The IEEP, together with MEUA and NYPA staff, began hosting multiple webinars in December and January to provide information and proposal support options for municipal systems interested in pursuing NYSERDA’s PON 5896. Please contact the IEEP for more information.



## **Albany Update**

### **John Jennings**

On Tuesday, January 14, 2025, Governor Kathy Hochul delivered her fourth State of the State message from the Hart Theater at the

Egg in Albany. During the address, the Governor mainly focused on making New York a more affordable place to live. The speech contained numerous policy proposals, and the Governor also released a briefing book containing over 200 distinct proposals organized in fifteen main topics areas, including: supporting families, helping children thrive, public safety, economic development, housing, health, and sustainability.

In the weeks preceding the State of the State, the Governor made a series of announcements previewing some of her proposals. In late December, the Governor announced that her budget



will include an “Inflation Refund,” which would provide direct payments to New York taxpayers by using excess sales tax revenue. The payment would be \$500 for families making less than \$300,000 and \$300 for individual taxpayers making less than \$150,000. Last week, the Governor announced a proposal to expand the Child Tax Credit from the current \$330 per child. The expansion would provide families with a tax credit of up to \$1,000 per child under age four and up to \$500 per child aged between four and sixteen.

On the energy front, the Governor proposed spending \$1 billion on clean energy transition efforts. She also announced that state agencies will need to use 100% renewable energy by 2030. Her State of the State briefing book addressed the state's Cap and Invest program and set a target for new reporting regulations by the end of the year. This will delay the implementation of the program by at least a year, during which time the state can gather more information and provide additional opportunities for comment.

We will have much more to report when the Governor releases her executive budget proposal. Until then, feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

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## **Are new sources of nuclear energy in New York’s future?**

In a January 15, 2025 press release, Constellation Energy, operator of four utility scale nuclear reactors in New York State (Nine Mile Point I and II, James A. FitzPatrick and R.E. Ginna) announced that it is applying for federal funding as it evaluates whether to put one or more small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) at its Nine Mile Point location. New York Governor Kathy Hochul acknowledged the project in her State of the State speech, saying her administration supports the request.

## **2025 MEUA EVENT CALENDAR**

### **NYPA RATES PUBLIC HEARING**

January 29, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m. at  
New York Power Authority’s Niagara  
Power Project, Visitor’s Center, 5777  
Lewiston Road, Lewiston, NY

### **NYPA RATES PUBLIC HEARING**

February 4, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m. at New  
York Power Authority’s Albany Office, 30  
S. Pearl St., 10th Floor, Albany, NY

### **SPRING ACCOUNTING & FINANCE WORKSHOP**

March 18-19, 2025  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA,  
Syracuse

### **SPRING ENGINEERING WORKSHOP**

March 18-19, 2025  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA,  
Syracuse

### **MEUA SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

May 21-22, 2025  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA,  
Syracuse

### **MEUA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

October 1-3, 2025  
Turning Stone Resort, Verona

### **FALL ACCOUNTING & FINANCE WORKSHOP**

November 5-6, 2025  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA,  
Syracuse

### **FALL ENGINEERING WORKSHOP**

November 5-6, 2025  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Destiny USA,  
Syracuse

and owners impacted by this amendment will require the professional services of county or municipal staff and/or Lead Risk Assessors as well as certified Lead Abatement Contractors certified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition, there will be a need for increased capacity at Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP) certified laboratories to support lead dust wipe sampling that is required as part of the inspection process.

Public Health Law (PHL) § 1377 requires that the Department of Health (Department) shall, as directed by law, develop a State rental registry and promulgate regulations to administer, coordinate, and enforce lead safety inspections and remediation of conditions conducive to lead poisoning in residential dwellings built prior to nineteen eighty (1980) with two or more units located in communities of concern.

All rental properties will have to acquire a lead safety certificate, and the inspection report must be reported to the Local Health Department. Inspections will include, at minimum, visual inspections for deteriorated paint and dust wipe sampling if no visible hazards are identified. Hazards identified through visual inspection will require remediation and re-inspection. Dust wipe failures will require proper cleaning, re-inspection, and resampling. Inspections and remediation must be conducted by individuals with appropriate training and certifications.

**Categories and Numbers Affected:**

The Department anticipates no negative impact on jobs or employment opportunities as a result of the proposed regulations. In fact, this Program and associated regulations will likely increase demand for home inspectors and contractors, specifically Lead Risk Assessors and Lead Abatement Contractors certified by the EPA as well as Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP) certified laboratories.

**Regions of Adverse Impact:**

PHL § 1377 and this amendment will be implemented across the State in 25 communities of concern across 20 counties. However, the Department anticipates no negative impact on jobs or employment opportunities in any particular region of the State.

**Minimizing Adverse Impact:**

The Department will support education and outreach to affected sectors and will also support capacity building in the necessary areas to support enhancing the certified work force that will be necessary to achieve compliance with a focus on Lead Risk Assessors, Lead Abatement Contractors, and Laboratory Specialists.

**Self-Employment Opportunities:**

The Department anticipates that many of the sectors impacted by this amendment have an opportunity to support self-employment as a certified Lead Risk Assessor or Lead Abatement Contractor.

supplied from its Niagara and St. Lawrence Hydroelectric Projects. Under the proposal, the Authority plans to implement a phase-in to the Cost-of-Service rates to mitigate annual customer bill impacts. In addition, the rate modification will recover capital investments in the Hydro Projects and increased operation and maintenance expenses. The new rates will become effective July 1, 2025.

**Text of proposed rule and any required statements and analyses may be obtained from:** Karen Delince, Power Authority of the State of New York, 123 Main Street, White Plains, New York 10601, (914) 390-8085, email: karen.delince@nypa.gov

**Data, views or arguments may be submitted to:** Same as above.

**Public comment will be received until:** 60 days after publication of this notice.

**Regulatory Impact Statement, Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, Rural Area Flexibility Analysis and Job Impact Statement**

Statements and analyses are not submitted with this notice because the proposed rule is within the definition contained in section 102(2)(a)(ii) of the State Administrative Procedure Act.

**Public Service Commission**

**PROPOSED RULE MAKING  
NO HEARING(S) SCHEDULED**

**Distribution-Level Demand Response Programs**

**I.D. No.** PSC-52-24-00011-P

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE State Administrative Procedure Act, NOTICE is hereby given of the following proposed rule:

**Proposed Action:** The Commission is considering Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation’s d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) annual report detailing demand response programs and a tariff filing to effectuate revisions to its Dynamic Load Management Program tariffs.

**Statutory authority:** Public Service Law, sections 5(1), (2), 65(1), (5), 66(1), (12), (14) and 74

**Subject:** Distribution-level demand response programs.

**Purpose:** More efficient demand response programs to gain operational efficiency and shave peak demand.

**Substance of proposed rule:** The Public Service Commission (Commission) is considering an annual reported filed on November 15, 2024 by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid (National Grid). The annual report details the Company’s five demand response programs: (1) Rule 61 – Distribution Load Relief Program (DLRP); (2) Rule 62 – Commercial System Relief Program (CSR); (3) Rule 63 – Direct Load Control Program (DLC) through the Bring Your Own Thermostat (ConnectedSolutions) program; (4) Rule 65 – Direct Load Management (DLM) Program –Term-DLM, and; (5) Rule 65 – Direct Load Management (DLM) Program – Auto-DLM.

The Commission is also considering National Grid’s November 15, 2024 proposal to modify its Schedule for Electric Service, P.S.C. No. 220 – Electricity. The tariff identifies four tariff updates, to be effective starting with the 2025 Capability Period. First, National Grid proposes a clarification to the CSR tariff language to state that if the monthly Performance Factor is less than or equal to 0.25, then it will be set to zero. The proposed tariff changes are outlined in the annual report and involve Leaf 263.24. Second, National Grid is proposing a clarification that customers participating in the New York Independent System Operator Distributed Energy Resource Aggregation Program will not receive Performance Payments under the CSR. The proposed tariff changes are outlined in the annual report and involve Leaf 263.23. Third, National Grid is proposing to add language to the DLC Program tariff language to accommodate the inclusion of the Company’s proposed “Bring Your Own Battery” program. The proposed tariff changes are outlined in the annual report and involve Leaf numbers 263.26.1 and 263.27.1. Fourth, National Grid proposes to increase the one-time enrollment incentive for the DLC Heating, Ventilation, and Air Control Devices and to the annual performance incentive for DLC Energy Storage Systems. The proposed tariff changes are outlined in the annual report.

The full text of the annual report and the full record of the proceed-

**Power Authority of the State of  
New York**

**PROPOSED RULE MAKING  
HEARING(S) SCHEDULED**

**Rates for the Sale of Power and Energy**

**I.D. No.** PAS-52-24-00004-P

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE State Administrative Procedure Act, NOTICE is hereby given of the following proposed rule:

**Proposed Action:** Adjustment to cost of Service

**Statutory authority:** Public Authorities Law, section 1005

**Subject:** Rates for the Sale of Power and Energy.

**Purpose:** To align rates and cost.

**Public hearing(s) will be held at:** 11:00 a.m., Jan. 29, 2025 at New York Power Authority’s Niagara Power Project, Visitor’s Center, 5777 Lewiston Rd., Lewiston, NY; 11:00 a.m., Feb. 4, 2025 at New York Power Authority, Albany Office, 30 S. Pearl St., 10th Fl., Albany, NY.

**Interpreter Service:** Interpreter services will be made available to hearing impaired persons, at no charge, upon written request submitted within reasonable time prior to the scheduled public hearing. The written request must be addressed to the agency representative designated in the paragraph below.

**Accessibility:** All public hearings have been scheduled at places reasonably accessible to persons with a mobility impairment.

**Substance of proposed rule:** The Power Authority of the State of New York (the “Authority”) proposes to increase the rates for preference power



# NY Power Authority

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor

JOHN R. KOELMEL  
Chairman

JUSTIN E. DRISCOLL  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## New York Power Authority

December 2024 Preliminary Staff Report

Hydroelectric Preference Power Rates

Rate Modification Plan July 2025 through June 2029

### Including:

Exhibit A – Hydro Cost of Service

Exhibit B – Preference Power Rate Plan Bill Impacts

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## New York Power Authority 2024 Preliminary Staff Report

### Executive Summary

Preference Power is supplied by NYPA from the Niagara and St. Lawrence/FDR Hydroelectric Projects (individually, “Niagara Project” and “St. Lawrence Project,” and collectively, the “Hydro Projects”). The rates in Table 1 apply to forty-seven municipal electric systems and four rural electric cooperative customers located in-state, the neighboring states customers, three upstate investor-owned utilities (for the benefit of their residential customers), two transportation authorities, and the Niagara Project relicensing customers. Under the 2011 Rate Modification Plan, new rates commenced December 1, 2011, with subsequent increases on May 1, 2012, May 1, 2013, and May 1, 2014.

The NYPA Board of Trustees approved this Plan on November 15, 2011. The 2011 Plan rates, which accomplished a phase-in to fully cost-based rates in 2014, are noted below in Table 1:

**Table 1  
2011 Rate Modification Plan  
2011-2014**

Rate Year Beginning	Demand Rate (\$/kW-Month)	Energy Rate (\$/MWh)	RSR-Related Surcharge (\$/MWh)	Effective Rate (\$/MWh)
12/1/2011	3.26	4.92		11.30
5/1/2012	3.57	4.92		11.91
5/1/2013	3.91	4.92		12.57
5/1/2014	4.07	4.92	Up to 0.40 (not implemented)	12.88

The 2014 rates have remained in effect through today.<sup>1</sup> Based on the above rates, electric bills for a typical municipal system residential customer increased each year 2011 through 2014 by less than 60 cents per month, and by less than five cents per month for a typical residential customer of the investor-owned utilities, which is below 1% of their total electric bills, respectively.

<sup>1</sup> NYPA has not billed any amounts pursuant to the RSR-Related Surcharge provision.

The above rates, effective since May 2014, have remained in place and will remain in place through June 30, 2025, when, on July 1, 2025, NYPA is expected to effectuate rates resulting from this 2025 Rate Modification Plan covering the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029 ("2025 Rate Modification Plan"). Since the 2011 Plan and through 2022, NYPA has invested over \$800 million in plant and equipment in the Hydro Projects. NYPA has also initiated its Next Generation Niagara Modernization and Digitization Project ("NextGen Niagara"), a capital investment program to replace end of life assets with new and modern plant and equipment, with an expected cost of \$1.1 billion over the 2017 through 2039 period. Additionally, by 2025, NYPA's hydroelectric operation and maintenance expenses and allocated administrative and general expenses will have increased by \$85 million since 2014. As a result of these items, NYPA's Hydroelectric Cost of Service ("Hydro COS") has increased significantly. In addition, cost increases since the last rate change, along with projected NextGen Niagara investments and expected future cost increases, necessitate this 2025 Rate Modification Plan.

The Rate Stabilization Reserve ("RSR") is a mechanism NYPA uses to ensure rate stability and cost recovery, which evaluates the difference between actual costs and revenues collected through effective base rates. The RSR had a cumulative balance at December 31, 2023, of \$(42) million, and the balance is expected to be \$(64) million at December 31, 2024, (a negative balance represents an under recovery by NYPA's of its Hydro COS). There are two corrections NYPA included in its RSR ending balance as of December 31, 2023. First, NYPA discovered that it used an incorrect 2003 asset value in its Gross Plant in Service model that overstated the RSR under recovery from 2004 to 2022 by \$5 million. Second, NYPA discovered that it overstated its UCAP revenue from 2011 to 2022, which understated its RSR under recovery by \$14 million. The net of these adjustments is \$9 million added to the RSR under recovery balance. With these two adjustments, the RSR balance at the end of 2023 was \$(42) million.

For illustrative purposes, the projected Hydro COS for the period 2025 through 2028 and the resulting rates are shown in Table 2:

**Table 2**  
**Projected Hydro COS and Resulting Cost-Based Rates (Illustrative)**  
**2025-2028 1/**

Year	Hydro COS (In \$ Millions)	Cost-based Rates – Demand (\$/kw-Month)	Cost- based Rates – Energy (\$/MWh)	2024 RSR Balance adder (\$/MWh)	All-in Rate (\$/MWh)
Current Rates		4.07	4.92	-	12.88
2025	\$366M	8.43	4.92	6.05	27.47
2026	\$398M	9.23	4.92	-	22.99
2027	\$423M	9.82	4.92	-	24.14
2028	\$422M	9.70	4.92	-	23.89

1/ Assumes recovery of the December 31, 2024 RSR Balance that exceeds \$(25.0) million through the Flow Adjustment Charge (“FAC”) in 2025.

NYPA does not, however, propose Preference Power rates equal to the rates shown above in Table 2 due to the significant rate impacts that would occur by immediately moving to cost-based rates. Rather, NYPA proposes a rate plan that smooths the increases in the cost-of-service rates over the period from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029 with the Preference Power Rates included in the rate plan recovering 1) NYPA’s cost-of-service (including rate smoothing impacts); and 2) prior period RSR balances that exceeded \$(25) million (Rate Plan Adjustment). Due to a two-month delay in the implementation of the rate plan (moving implementation from May 1 to July 1), the RSR balance at December 31, 2029, is expected to be close to \$(35) million. The Preference Power Rates proposed under NYPA’s 2025 Rate Modification Plan would be as follows:



**Table 3**  
**2025 Rate Modification Plan Preference Power Rate Plan Proposal**  
**2025-2029 2/**

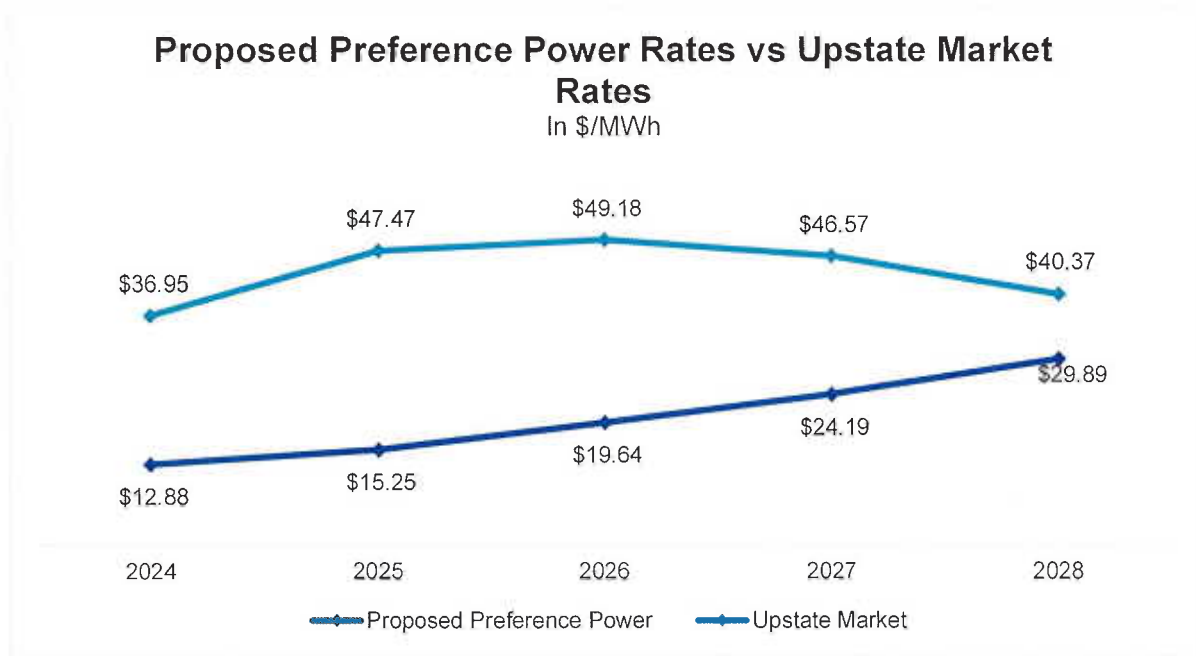
Rate Year (Beginning July)	Demand (\$/kw-Month)	Energy (\$/MWh)	Rate Plan Adjustment (\$/MWh)	Total Effective Rate (\$/MWh)
Current Rates	4.07	4.92	-	12.88
2025	5.72	4.92	1.50	17.61
2026	7.79	4.92	1.50	21.66
2027	10.37	4.92	1.50	26.72
2028	13.61	4.92	1.50	33.05
2029	9.88	4.92	-	24.26

2/ Includes recovery of the RSR Balance at December 31, 2024 that exceeds \$(25.0) million.

The proposed Rate Plan in Table 3 above concludes on June 30, 2029. The rate on July 1, 2029 would be lowered to a rate that reflects cost of service without any past cost recoveries owed to NYPA through the RSR. At the end of the 2025 Rate Modification Plan, NYPA may implement a FAC surcharge to recover any RSR balances exceeding the \$(25) million or may request a new rate to recover the full RSR balance.

Shown below in Chart 1, are the proposed Preference Power rates as compared to the projected upstate market electricity prices. The rates under the 2025 Rate Modification Plan are expected to remain competitive and be significantly below the projected upstate market prices during the entire four-year rate plan.

Chart 1



Note: Rates shown in Chart 1 represent effective calendar year rates, considering a July 1 Preference Power rate change.

## **Discussion of 2025 Rate Modification Plan**

The attached Exhibit A - Hydro COS sets forth in detail the estimated costs required to serve the Preference Power customers from NYPA's St. Lawrence and Niagara Projects. As stated above, the Preference Power rates apply to hydroelectric sales to 47 municipal electric systems and four rural electric cooperatives, residential customers of three upstate investor-owned utilities, the Neighboring State customers (municipal utilities located in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont), two transportation authorities, and the Niagara Project relicensing host communities.

NYPA incorporated ratemaking methodologies in this Hydro COS that have been adopted previously with some changes described herein for the 2025 Rate Modification Plan. Many of the methodologies stem from the April 2003 final rate action approved by the Trustees and agreed to by Preference Power customers who were active parties to the 2003 rate proceeding as part of the Global Settlement Agreement, continued in NYPA's 2007 Preference Power rate action, and used again (with modifications) in the development of the 2011 Rate Plan. These ratemaking methodologies and principles include:

1. The "labor/labor" method (*i.e.*, labor ratios) adopted by NYPA's Trustees on December 18, 2001 and incorporated into the January 2003 Report on Hydroelectric Production Rates ("January 2003 Report") for the allocation of administrative and general costs.
2. Capital cost recovery method, which was described in the January 2003 Report reflecting the equity investment in and new debt issued related to the Hydro Projects, to be modified as described herein. NYPA is proposing changes as it no longer has asset-by-asset vintage data in its accounting system due to the change to group depreciation. NYPA will be transitioning from the modified Trended Original Cost-Original Cost ("TOC-OC") ratemaking methodology used in previous rate plans to a rate base times weighted average cost of capital ("WACC"). NYPA describes the changes to capital cost recovery in a separate section below in this Report.
3. Combining St. Lawrence Project and Niagara Project costs for ratemaking purposes into one energy rate and one demand rate.
4. Recovery in rates of all prudent Hydro Project relicensing and life extension and modernization costs, including the NextGen Niagara investments, incurred or expected to be incurred, by NYPA in the exercise of its broad discretion.



5. Use of the RSR to track any under-collection or over-collection of NYPA's Preference Power Hydro COS. NYPA will perform the RSR calculations in a manner consistent with the Hydro COS study contained in the January 2003 Report, with revisions to help with understandability, as described below in a separate section of this Report.
6. NYPA will continue to credit the sales of capacity above the Preference Power level of capacity sales (merchant unforced capacity sales - UCAP) in the Hydro COS. The crediting of UCAP sales was introduced in the January 2003 Report as a post-rate year credit to the RSR and was modified in the 2011 Rate Plan to incorporate projected UCAP sales into the Preference Rate, subject to an annual true-up to actual UCAP sales in the RSR calculation.
7. Depreciation expense includes cost of removal and is based upon the latest depreciation study done by Alliance Consulting using December 2019 data.
8. Deducting ancillary services revenues from Niagara and St. Lawrence from the Hydro COS. In past Hydro COS, NYPA deducted its estimated ancillary service costs of service from the Hydro cost of service. NYPA explains the reason for this change in a separate section of this Report.
9. NYPA no longer needs to normalize for the ReCharge New York Power Program as it is nearly fully subscribed.

## **Cost of Service Components**

Though NYPA is proposing a rate plan spanning 2025 to 2028, projections for the Hydro COS were developed from 2025 to 2039. The purpose of the long-term cost projections was to recognize the time period of the NextGen Project and to accommodate a transition from the current capital cost recovery approach to a rate base times weighted average cost of capital approach (explained below). The major categories and significant drivers of the proposed 2025 Rate Modification Plan are summarized in this section. The Hydro COS is detailed in the attached Exhibit A.

### **Operations & Maintenance**

Operations & Maintenance (“O&M”) (Exhibit A, Line 1) expenses consist of the site and direct O&M, which include the day-to-day operations of the projects and ongoing expenses associated with major maintenance programs and non-capital modifications, as well as Niagara and St. Lawrence relicensing expenses which the Trustees have previously authorized for inclusion in rates.

### **Administrative & General Expenses**

Administrative & General (“A&G”) expenses (Exhibit A, Lines 2) consists of 1) the 38.84% allocated share of headquarters costs associated with providing support for the Hydro Projects, based on labor ratios consistent with the methodology adopted in the April 2003 final rate action, 2) the allocated cost of research & development (“R&D”) initiatives, and 3) direct A&G expenses for the Hydro Projects.

### **Depreciation Expense**

NYPA includes depreciation expense using group (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or “FERC” account) depreciation rates developed by Alliance Consulting based upon December 31, 2019 asset data. These depreciation rates, based upon the average life, group depreciation methodology<sup>2</sup>, were designed to recover the remaining life of assets in service at the end of 2019 and include estimated removal costs and salvage credits. In addition, NYPA adopted general plant amortization for several high volume, low value general plant accounts. Under general plant amortization, NYPA depreciates the assets over the predicted life and retires all assets at the end of the depreciation period.

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<sup>2</sup> The broad group, average life, remaining life depreciation system is the most common used by utilities (referred to as group depreciation). With this method, the depreciation expert determines a straight-line depreciation rate for each group (FERC account by facility) across all vintages within the group by dividing the undepreciated investment by the remaining life and then dividing that result by the gross investment while adding in estimates for net salvage (cost of removal less salvage). The resultant depreciation rate for each group is designed to recover the investment plus all net salvage when the last property amount retires. The average life, group depreciation procedure recovers remaining life net book costs over the life of each account by averaging many components.

## Capital Costs

In past rate modification plans, and as agreed to in various customer contracts, NYPA has utilized the modified TOC-OC ratemaking methodology for establishing capital cost recovery. The modified TOC-OC methodology required identifying how each asset addition has been funded. For equity funded assets, NYPA has used the modified Trended Original Cost (“MTOC”) methodology to determine its cost of equity. Under the MTOC, NYPA calculates an inflation adjustment on the depreciation expense related to an asset based on inflation over the period from the original in-service date to the year in question using the Handy Whitman Index. For debt financed assets, NYPA determines the debt return by multiplying the gross investment less accumulated depreciation by the specific debt instrument rate (Original Cost (“OC”) methodology). The sum of the inflation adjusted depreciation expense on equity funded investments plus the debt return on debt funded assets equals the total capital-related costs included in the Hydro COS (not including depreciation). In addition, and as discussed above, NYPA includes depreciation expense on these assets to recover the investment and cost of removal less salvage.

In the future, NYPA can no longer perform MTOC and OC calculations as it no longer has asset-by-asset, vintage data in its plant accounting records due to moving to group depreciation by facility and by FERC account. As a result, NYPA must transition from the current MTOC equity and OC debt methodologies to a traditional rate base times WACC approach. In order not to disadvantage customers in this transition, NYPA calculated a cash flow that is equivalent to the MTOC methodology as forecasted during the study period (2025 through 2039). To keep customer rates equivalent under both rate methodologies, NYPA performed the following steps:

1. Determined the cost of equity to include in the WACC by estimating the cost of capital from 2025 to 2039 using the MTOC for equity funded assets and OC for debt funded assets. NYPA determined the cash flow using MTOC and OC methodologies.
2. Next, NYPA calculated the present value of this annual cash flow as of January 1, 2025.
3. NYPA then determined the equivalent WACC based upon projected net plant and other items (rate base) and, given a projection of NYPA's cost of debt and using its FERC approved capital structure (50% debt, 50% equity)<sup>3</sup>, determined the equivalent cost of equity, which, when levelized, equaled 8.26%.
4. NYPA then determined the cost of capital portion of its Hydro COS by multiplying the calculated WACC by the projected rate base.

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<sup>3</sup> As established in NYISO OATT Section 14.2.3.1, Schedule D1.

Having followed these steps, the annual amount included in the Hydro COS represents a levelized value of the MTOC and OC methodologies over the 2025 through 2039 period. By determining an equivalent cost of equity, customer rates under the rate base times WACC approach would be equivalent to those under the MTOC methodology.

An additional aspect of the capital cost methodology change eliminates the one-year lag in capital cost recovery because the current year capital investment will be used to determine the capital cost recovery.

### **Ancillary Services**

The Hydro COS credits the revenue NYPA estimates to receive from the provision of certain ancillary services from the Hydro Projects, namely Reactive Power (Schedule 2), Regulation Service (Schedule 3), Operating Reserves (Schedule 5), and Black Start Service (Schedule 6) (see Exhibit A). These services used to be provided by NYPA to Preference Power customers prior to the NYISO establishing them as separate rate schedules. These services are provided by the NYISO, but in-state municipal and cooperative customers have paid NYPA's cost of service for these products in the past, continuing the arrangement that existed prior to the NYISO formation, as per the arrangement reflected in the 2003 Global Settlement Agreement. As a result, NYPA credited ancillary services costs to its Hydro COS. In this 2025 Rate Modification Plan process, NYPA determined the cost of service of these ancillary services using methodologies accepted by the FERC. The resulting cost of service exceeds and is expected to continue to exceed the rate for these services under the NYISO tariff. It will be beneficial for applicable Preference Power customers to pay for these services at the NYISO tariff rates. Accordingly, NYPA deducted the revenue it expects to receive from the Hydro Projects' provision of these ancillary services to the NYISO rather than deducting the costs of such ancillary services (as NYPA proposes to charge applicable Preference Power customers the rate NYPA is charged by the NYISO for these services). The treatment of ancillary services will now be the same as the treatment of Merchant UCAP revenues, wherein projected revenues from both are credited to the Hydro COS and the actual revenue from both will be reconciled to actual results in the RSR.

### **Merchant UCAP sales**

Consistent with the 2011 Rate Plan, NYPA credits projected Merchant UCAP revenue to the Hydro COS to recognize that the Preference Power rates are based upon the total cost of service of the Hydro Projects and that NYPA does not include the Merchant UCAP sales in the demand rate denominator in computing the Preference Power demand rate. In the RSR, NYPA will reconcile the actual Merchant UCAP revenues with that included in the Hydro COS. NYPA has consistently reflected in its actual Hydro



COS used in its RSR calculations the revenues received from the sale of Merchant UCAP to the NYISO from capacity auctions or from bilateral arrangements with other parties.

### **Treatment of ReCharge New York Program**

NYPA no longer normalizes the 455 MWs withdrawn from Preference Power customers for the Recharge New York Power Program as the Program is nearly fully subscribed.

### **Rate Design and Phase-in Proposal**

NYPA recognizes the burden it would place on Preference Power customers by immediately moving to a cost-based rate in July 2025. Therefore, NYPA proposes phasing in or smoothing rates over the period July 2025 through June 2029, a four-year period. NYPA proposes to fix the energy rate at the current level of \$4.92/MWh and proposes to set the demand charge equal to what is needed with the given energy rate and RSR recovery rate to recover the smoothed in cost of service each year. Because the majority of the costs identified in the Hydro COS are fixed and do not vary with the energy production from the Hydro Projects, the increased revenue requirement should be collected in the hydroelectric demand (or "fixed") charge, consistent with the Trustees' determination in 2003. The Preference Power Rates included in the rate plan would recover 1) NYPA's cost-of-service (including rate smoothing impacts); and 2) prior period RSR balances that exceeded \$(25) million. To recover the prior period RSR balances that exceeded \$(25) million, NYPA proposes to add an additional energy rate element which it calls the Rate Plan Adjustment. The Rate Plan Adjustment would cease after the four-year 2025 Rate Modification Plan. Due to a two-month delay in the implementation of the rate plan, the RSR balance would be close to \$(35) million at the end of the 2025 Rate Modification Plan. The Preference Power Rates proposed under NYPA's 2025 Rate Modification Plan would be as follows (same as Table 3):

**Table 4**  
**2025 Rate Modification Plan**  
**Preference Power Rate Plan Proposal**  
**July 2025 through June 2029**

<b>Rate Year (Beginning July)</b>	<b>Demand (\$/kw-Month)</b>	<b>Energy (\$/MWh)</b>	<b>Rate Plan Adjustment (\$/MWh)</b>	<b>Total Effective Rate (\$/MWh)</b>
Current Rates	4.07	4.92	-	12.88
2025	5.72	4.92	1.50	17.61
2026	7.79	4.92	1.50	21.66
2027	10.37	4.92	1.50	26.72
2028	13.61	4.92	1.50	33.05
2029	9.88	4.92	-	24.26

The proposed Rate Plan in Table 4 above concludes on June 30, 2029. The rate on July 1, 2029 would be lowered to a rate that reflects cost of service without any past cost under recoveries owed to NYPA through the RSR. At the end of the 2025 Rate Modification Plan, NYPA may implement a FAC surcharge to recover any RSR balances exceeding the \$(25) million or may request a new rate to recover the full RSR balance.

Based on the proposed rates, electric bills for a typical municipal system residential customer will increase each year starting in July 2025 through July 2028 by approximately \$3 per month, which is approximately 8% of their total electric bill, and by approximately \$16 per month for a typical residential customer of the investor-owned utilities, which is also approximately 7% of their total electric bill. These bill impacts are presented in further detail in Exhibit B.

### **Rate Stabilization Reserve**

The RSR, established by the Trustees in the 1987 Rate Plan and later incorporated into customers' contracts, is designed to track the under-recovery or over-recovery of costs collected in the fixed demand and energy charges, due to differences in net generation and actual cost incurrence. By design, if the RSR balance exceeds a range of \$(25) million (under-recovery) to \$25 million (over-recovery), a FAC surcharge or credit may be assessed to Preference Power customers over the ensuing 12-month period. NYPA projects the RSR balance as of December 31, 2024 to be \$(64) million, indicating a \$(39) million RSR shortfall beyond the \$(25) million threshold. Most of this \$(64) million estimated shortfall is attributable to the actual Hydro COS exceeding the level collected in rates in more recent years. NYPA proposes to address recovery of the \$(39) million RSR shortfall through its 2025 Rate Modification Plan, as described above.

NYPA proposes some simplification changes to the RSR calculation. The changes would not impact the end result of the RSR calculations but would make the RSR calculations easier to understand.

NYPA projects its total RSR balance to be as shown in Table 5 below. Currently, a balance exceeding \$(25) million is expected at the end of the Rate Plan due to a two-month implementation delay. To the extent necessary, NYPA may implement the FAC to recover RSR balances that exceed \$(25) million or may request a new rate to recover the full RSR balance at the end of the Rate Plan.

**Table 5**  
**RSR Balances Rate Smoothing**  
**2025-2029**

Year Ending	Projected RSR Balance of December 2024 Balance	Projected RSR Balance from Rate Smoothing	Total RSR Balance
December 31, 2025	\$59M	\$30M	\$89M
December 31, 2026	\$49M	\$51M	\$100M
December 31, 2027	\$40M	\$55M	\$95M
December 31, 2028	\$30M	\$30M	\$60M
December 31, 2029	\$25M	~\$10M	~\$35M

**Discussions/Negotiations with Customers to Date and Results**

Consistent with the 2011 Rate Plan, NYPA has continued to meet with the in-state Municipal and Cooperative systems regarding the actual Hydro COS and RSR calculations. During the past few years, NYPA has communicated the need to implement a rate change to address capital improvement projects and increasing costs. NYPA notified its Preference Power customers of the impending 2025 Rate Modification Plan via meetings held in February through April 2024 and engaged in a series of informal in-person and virtual meetings with those customers. NYPA presented its draft 2025 Rate Modification Plan on a confidential basis to the municipal and cooperative customers in Albany on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, and to the Host Communities and Neighboring States customers at the Niagara Power Vista on Wednesday, July 10, 2024. NYPA then held a virtual technical conference for the municipal and cooperative customers on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, and for the Host Community and Neighboring States customers on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. NYPA also virtually presented its draft plan to Tuscarora Nation, National Grid and NYSEG/RG&E on Thursday, August 8, 2024.

NYPA has received numerous data requests and responded to them as confidential settlement data responses, in efforts to seek common ground prior to NYPA’s proposed rulemaking proceeding under New York’s State Administrative Procedures Act (SAPA). NYPA’s responses addressed data requests from NYAPP, MEUA, and Neighboring States customers. NYPA has received “issues” lists from Neighboring States and NYAPP to convey concerns. NYPA will consider these concerns throughout the SAPA process.

## **Final Staff Report**

NYPA intends to present a final staff report and recommendations at the July 2025 Trustee meeting and would issue it to the public shortly thereafter. The final report will reflect public comments and staff analysis, as well as Trustee action, on the 2025 Rate Modification Plan.



NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY  
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS  
PRODUCTION COST OF SERVICE  
(\$000)

Line	Description	2014	2025	2026	2027	2028	Difference 2025 vs 2014
<b>Operations &amp; Maintenance/Administrative &amp; General</b>							
1	Operations & Maintenance (O&M)	90,938	126,502	131,554	137,808	138,459	35,564
2	Administrative & General (A&G)	59,163	108,700	108,062	104,142	112,189	49,537
3	Subtotal O&M/A&G (line 1 + line 2)	150,101	235,202	239,616	241,950	250,648	85,101
4	Rate Base	1,668,095	1,678,387	1,759,394	1,759,394	1,930,798	
5	Weighted Cost of Debt*	2.24%	2.24%	2.24%	2.26%	2.25%	
6	Weighted Cost of Equity	4.13%	4.13%	4.13%	4.13%	4.13%	
<b>Capital Costs</b>							
7	Total Depreciation	47,204	96,210	103,702	112,965	115,259	49,006
8	Cost of Debt (multiply line 5 by line 4)	37,623	37,327	37,667	39,726	43,429	(295)
9	Cost of Equity (multiply line 6 by line 4)	34,069	68,890	69,315	72,660	79,739	34,821
10	Subtotal Capital Costs (sum lines 7-9)	118,896	202,427	210,684	225,352	238,427	83,531
11	<b>Total Cost of Service</b> (line 3 + line 10)	<b>268,997</b>	<b>437,629</b>	<b>450,299</b>	<b>467,302</b>	<b>489,076</b>	<b>168,632</b>
<b>Capital Reductions</b>							
12	Ancillary Services Credits	(16,271)	(31,292)	(32,231)	(33,198)	(34,193)	(15,021)
13	UCAP Credit	(6,493)	(40,080)	(20,166)	(11,227)	(32,570)	(33,587)
14	Subtotal Capital Reductions (line 12 + line 13)	(22,764)	(71,372)	(52,397)	(44,425)	(66,763)	(48,608)
15	<b>Total Adjusted Cost of Service</b> (line 11 + line 14)	<b>246,233</b>	<b>366,257</b>	<b>397,903</b>	<b>422,877</b>	<b>422,312</b>	<b>120,023</b>

2014 data is from COS level approved in last rate plan (2011-2014)

\*Assumes 50/50 debt-equity split

**NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY  
PREFERENCE POWER RATE PLAN BILL IMPACTS**  
Prices (\$/MWh) include demand and energy components

	Current	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
PROPOSED HYDRO PRODUCTION RATES		17.62	21.66	26.72	33.05	24.26
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/MWh	4.74	4.04	5.06	6.33	-8.79
<b>MUNIS/COOPS FULL REQUIREMENTS: END USE RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS</b>						
SYSTEM RESIDENTIAL RATE	\$/MWh	62.93	66.97	72.03	78.36	69.57
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/MWh	4.74	4.04	5.06	6.33	-8.79
SYSTEM RESIDENTIAL AVG. BILL <sup>1</sup>	\$/mo	37.76	40.18	43.22	47.02	41.74
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/mo	2.84	2.42	3.04	3.80	-5.27
<b>MUNIS/COOPS PARTIAL REQUIREMENTS: END USE RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS</b>						
SYSTEM RATE	\$/MWh	50.31	54.35	59.41	65.74	56.95
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/MWh	4.74	4.04	5.06	6.33	-8.79
SYSTEM RESIDENTIAL AVG. BILL <sup>1</sup>	\$/mo	30.19	32.61	35.65	39.45	34.17
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/mo	2.84	2.42	3.04	3.80	-5.27
<b>RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS (PEAKING ONLY): END USE RESIDENTIAL IMPACTS</b>						
SYSTEM RATE <sup>2</sup>	\$/MWh	69.10	91.79	120.06	155.57	113.22
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/MWh	19.58	22.68	28.27	35.51	-42.35
SYSTEM RESIDENTIAL AVG. BILL <sup>1</sup>	\$/mo	41.46	55.07	72.04	93.34	67.93
INCREASES FROM CURRENT	\$/mo	11.75	13.61	16.96	21.30	-25.41

<sup>1</sup> Average Residential Bill is assumed at 600KWh per month.

<sup>2</sup> Current is the most recent Energy Information Administration data, which is 2023.

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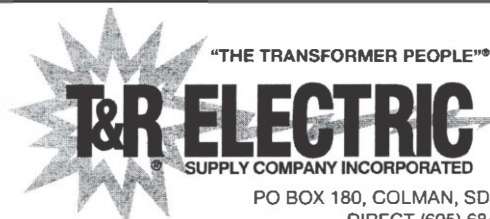
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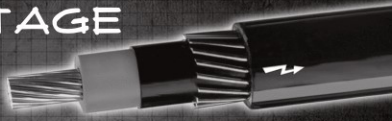
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