

# **DATA SECURITY AGREEMENT**

This Data Security Agreement ("Agreement") effective \_\_\_\_\_, is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ by and between New York State Electric & Gas Corporation with offices at James A Carrigg Center, 18 Link Dr., PO Box 5224 Binghamton, NY 13902 ("Utility") and \_\_\_\_\_, an Energy Service Entity ("ESE") with offices at \_\_\_\_\_; and together with Utility the ("Parties") and each, individually, a "Party").

## **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, ESE desires to have access to Confidential Customer Utility Information, or the New York State Public Commission ("Commission") has ordered Utility to provide to ESE customer information; and

WHEREAS, ESE has obtained consent<sup>1</sup> from all customers from whom the ESE intends to obtain information from Utility; and

WHEREAS, ESE may utilize a third party to fulfill its Service obligations, including but not limited to, Electronic Data Interchange ("EDI") communications with Utility, data collection or analysis, or billing; and

WHEREAS, ESE utilization of a third-party provider does not relieve ESE of their transactional obligation; and

WHEREAS, Utility and ESE also desire to enter into this Agreement to establish, among other things, the full scope of ESE's obligations of security and confidentiality with respect to the Confidential Customer Utility Information in a manner consistent with the orders, rules and regulations of the Commission and requirements of Utility, as well as the obligations of the Utility under this Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the covenants herein contained, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

### **1. Definitions.**

- a. "Confidential ESE Information" means information that ESE is: (A) required by the Uniform Business Practices ("UBP"), DERS UB ("UBP DERS") or Commission order or rule to receive from the end use customer and provide to Utility to enroll the customer or (B) any other information provided by ESE to Utility and marked confidential by the ESE, but excludes (i) information which is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of a disclosure by Receiving Party or its Representatives; (ii) information which was already known to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis prior to being furnished to Receiving Party by Disclosing Party; (iii) information which becomes available to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a source other than Disclosing Party or a representative of Disclosing Party if such

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<sup>1</sup> Customer consent is not obtained by the ESE when Green Button Connect (GBC) is utilized as the data sharing mechanism.

source was not subject to any prohibition against transmitting the information to Receiving Party and was not bound by a confidentiality agreement with Disclosing Party; (iv) information which was independently developed by the Receiving Party or its Representatives without reference to, or consideration of, the Confidential Information; or (v) information provided by the customer with customer consent where the customer expressly agrees that the information is public.

- b. "Confidential Customer Utility Information" means information that Utility is: (A) required by the UBP at Section 4: Customer information (C)(2), (3) or UBP DERS at Section 2C: Customer Data (C)(2), to provide to ESE or (B) any other information provided to ESE by Utility and marked confidential by the Utility at the time of disclosure, but excludes (i) information which is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of a disclosure by Receiving Party or its Representatives; (ii) information which was already known to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis prior to being furnished to Receiving Party by Disclosing Party; (iii) information which becomes available to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a source other than Disclosing Party or a representative of Disclosing Party if such source was not subject to any prohibition against transmitting the information to Receiving Party and was not bound by a confidentiality agreement with Disclosing Party; (iv) information which was independently developed by the Receiving Party or its Representatives without reference to, or consideration of, the Confidential Information; or (v) information provided by the customer with customer consent where the customer expressly agrees that the information is public.
- c. "Confidential Information" means, collectively, Confidential Customer Utility Information or Confidential ESE Information.
- d. "Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections" refer to controls addressing the risk to IT systems and data. These cybersecurity requirements are applicable to ESE or its Third-Party Representative that electronically exchange Confidential Customer Utility Information, not including by email, with Utility. These controls also implement and address the risk of improper access, or misuse, of Confidential Customer Utility Information. The data privacy protections are required of any ESE that process Confidential Customer Utility Information
- e. "Data Protection Requirements" means, collectively, (A) all national, state, and local laws, regulations, or other government standards relating to the protection of information that identifies or can be used to identify an individual that apply with respect to ESE or its Representative's Processing of Confidential Customer Utility Information; (B) industry best practices or frameworks to secure information, computer systems, network, and devices using a defense-in-depth approach, such as and including, but not limited to, NIST SP 800-53, ISO 27001 / 27002, COBIT, CIS Security Benchmarks, Top 20 Critical Controls as best industry practices and frameworks may evolve over time; and (C) the Commission rules, regulations, and guidelines relating

to data access, Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protection, including the Commission-approved UBP and UBP DERS. Subject to the above, The ESE will determine and implement the necessary Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections to be in compliance with the Commission's Order Establishing Minimum Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections and Making Other Findings in Cases 18-M-0376, 15-M-0180 and 98-M-1343 at page49 issued and effective October 17, 2019.

- f. "Data Security Incident" means a situation when Utility or ESE reasonably believes that there has been: (A) the loss or misuse (by any means) of Confidential Information; (B) the unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of Confidential Information, or Private Information as defined by GBL § 899-aa, computer systems, network and devices used by a business; (C) any other act or omission that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of Confidential Information, or (D) any material breach of any Data Protection Requirements in relation to the Processing of Confidential Information, including by any current or former Representatives.
- g. "DER Supplier" or "DERS" has the meaning set forth in the UBP DERS approved by the Commission and as it may be amended from time to time, which is "[a] supplier of one or more DERs that participates in a Commission authorized and/or utility or DSP-operated program or market. DERS may choose to provide DERs as standalone products or services or may choose to bundle them with energy commodity. CDG Providers and On-Site Mass Market DG Providers are included within the definition of DERS. Entities which sell both DERs and energy commodity are both DERS and ESCOs."
- h. "Direct Customer" has the meaning set forth in the UBP approved by the Commission and as it may be amended from time to time, which is "An entity that purchases and schedules delivery of electricity or natural gas for its own consumption and not for resale. A customer with an aggregated minimum peak connected load of 1 MW to a designated zonal service point qualifies for direct purchase and scheduling of electricity provided the customer complies with NYISO requirements. A customer with annual usage of a minimum of 3,500 dekatherms of natural gas at a single service point qualifies for direct purchase and scheduling of natural gas."
- i. "ESCO" has the meaning set forth in the UBP approved by the Commission and as it may be amended from time to time, which is "An entity eligible to sell electricity and/or natural gas to end-use customers using the transmission or distribution system of a utility. ESCOs may perform other retail service functions."
- j. "ESE" means any entity (including, but not limited to, ESCOs, Direct Customers, DERS, and contractors of such entities with an electronic connection to the Utility other than by email) that provides energy or performs

an energy related service and is seeking access to Confidential Customer Utility Information.

- k. "Green Button Connect" or "GBC" provides a set of standards for allowing interoperable communications of energy usage and billing information between utilities and ESEs.
- l. "PSC" or "Commission" shall have the meaning attributed to it in the Recitals.
- m. "Processing" (including its cognate, "process") means any operation, action, error, omission, negligent act, or set of operations, actions, errors, omissions, or negligent acts that is performed using or upon Confidential Information or Utility Data, whether it be by physical, automatic or electronic means, including, without limitation, collection, recording, organization, storage, access, adaptation, alteration, retrieval, use, transfer, hosting, maintenance, handling, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure, dissemination, exfiltration, taking, removing, copying, processing, making available, alignment, combination, blocking, deletion, erasure, or destruction.
- n. "Third-Party Representatives" or "Representatives" means those agents acting on behalf of ESEs that are contractors or subcontractors and that store, transmit or process Confidential Customer Utility Information. For the avoidance of doubt, Third-Party Representatives do not include ESEs and their members, directors, officers or employees who need to know Confidential Customer Utility Information for the purposes of providing Services.
- o. "Services" mean any assistance in the competitive markets provided by ESEs to end use customers or ESCOs, Direct Customers or DERS that also require interaction with a Utility, including but not limited to the electronic exchange of information with a Utility, and must be provided in accordance with Commission Orders, the UBP or UBP DERS, where applicable. Commission Orders, the UBP or the UBP DERS may not apply to Third Party Representatives that are not electronically interconnected with a utility other than by email.
- p. "Utility Data" means data held by Utility, whether produced in the normal course of business or at the request of ESE.

2. **Scope of the Agreement.** This Agreement shall govern the Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections of ESEs that electronically receive or exchange customer information, other than email, from a direct connection with the Utility IT systems and the privacy protections that apply to Confidential Information disclosed to ESE or to which ESE is given access by Utility, including all archival or back-up copies of the Confidential Information held or maintained by ESE (or its Representatives) and Confidential ESE Information. No financial information, other than billing information, will be provided pursuant to this Agreement. If any information is inadvertently sent to ESE or Utility, ESE or Utility will immediately notify the Utility/ESE and destroy any such information in the appropriate manner.

3. **ESE Compliance with all Applicable Commission Uniform Business Practices.** The Parties agree that the Commission's UBP and UBP DERS set forth rules governing the protection of Confidential Customer Utility Information and electronic exchange of information between the Parties, including but not limited to EDI.
4. **Customer Consent.** The Parties agree that the UBP, UBP DERS, Federal, State and local laws, and the orders, rules and regulations of the Commission govern an ESE's obligation to obtain informed consent from all customers before ESE requests Confidential Customer Utility Information from Utility. The ESE agrees to comply with the UBP, UBP DERS (when applicable), Federal, State and local laws, the orders, rules and regulations of the Commission, and the Utility's tariffs regarding customer consent.
5. **Provision of Information.** Utility agrees to provide to ESE or its Third-Party Representatives, certain Confidential Customer Utility Information, as requested, provided that: (A) if the utility has identified a potential Cybersecurity or Data Privacy Protection issue ESE (and its Third-Party Representatives with an electronic connection to the utility other than by email) are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement in all material respects; (B) if required by Utility due to the identification of a potential or actual Data Security Incident, ESE shall undergo an audit, at the ESE's expense<sup>3</sup>; (C) ESE (and its Third-Party Representatives with an electronic connection to the utility other than by email) shall have and maintain throughout the term, systems and processes in place and as detailed in the Self-Assessment to protect utility IT systems, Data Privacy Protections and Confidential Customer Utility Information. Provided the foregoing prerequisites have been satisfied, ESE shall be permitted access to Confidential Customer Utility Information and/or Utility shall provide such Confidential Customer Utility Information to ESE. Nothing in this Agreement will be interpreted or construed as granting either Party any license or other right under any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or other proprietary right or any right to assert any lien over or right to withhold from the other Party any Data and/or Confidential Information of the other Party. Utility will comply with the security requirements set forth in its Assessment.
6. **Confidentiality.** ESE shall: (A) hold all Confidential Customer Utility Information in strict confidence pursuant to the UBP or UBP DERS and Commission's orders and rules; except as otherwise expressly permitted by Section 7 herein; (B) not disclose Confidential Customer Utility Information to any Third-Party Representatives, or affiliates, except as set forth in Section 7(a) of this Agreement; (C) not Process Confidential Customer Utility Information other than for the Services defined in the Recitals as authorized by this Agreement; (D) limit

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<sup>3</sup> An audit related to a Data Security Incident is used to verify that the necessary Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections are in place for the utility to provide certain Confidential Customer Utility Information to the ESE or its Third-Party Representatives with an electronic connection to the utility, other than by email. The same audit requirements will apply as in Section 9. However, the ESE will be responsible for the cost of the audit in order to be re-authorized to receive data from the utility.

reproduction of Confidential Customer Utility Information; (E) store Confidential Customer Utility Information in a secure fashion at a secure location that is not accessible to any person or entity not authorized to receive the Confidential Customer Utility Information under the provisions hereof; and (F) otherwise use at least the same degree of care to avoid publication or dissemination of the Confidential Customer Utility Information as ESE employs (or would employ) with respect to its own confidential information that it does not (or would not) desire to have published or disseminated, but in no event less than reasonable care. At all times, Utility shall have the right for cause to request reasonable further assurances that the foregoing restrictions and protections concerning Confidential Customer Utility Information are being observed and ESE shall be obligated to promptly provide Utility with the requested assurances. An ESE may provide Confidential Customer Utility Information to a Third-Party representative without a direct electronic connection with the Utility, to assist the ESE in providing permitted Services, but an ESE utilizing such Third-Party Representative shall be solely responsible and fully liable for the actions of the Third Party Representative.

Utility shall: (A) hold all Confidential ESE Information in strict confidence; except as otherwise expressly permitted by Section 7 herein; (B) not disclose Confidential ESE Information to any other person or entity except as set forth in Section 7(a) of this Agreement; (C) not Process Confidential ESE Information other than for the Services defined in the Recitals as authorized by this Agreement; (D) limit reproduction of Confidential ESE Information; (E) store Confidential ESE Information in a secure fashion at a secure location that is not accessible to any person or entity not authorized to receive the Confidential ESE Information under the provisions hereof; (F) otherwise use at least the same degree of care to avoid publication or dissemination of the Confidential ESE Information as Utility employs (or would employ) with respect to its own confidential information that it does not (or would not) desire to have published or disseminated, but in no event less than reasonable care; and (G) to the extent required by ESE, each Third Party Representative with a need to know the Confidential ESE Information shall sign the Third-Party Representative Agreement set forth as Exhibit B to this Agreement. At all times, ESE shall have the right for cause to request reasonable further assurances that the foregoing restrictions and protections concerning Confidential ESE Information are being observed and Utility shall be obligated to promptly provide ESE with the requested assurances.

This Section 6 supersedes prior data security agreements between the Parties pertaining to Confidential Information.

## **7. Exceptions Allowing ESE to Disclose Confidential Customer Utility Information.**

- a. **Disclosure to Representatives.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6 herein, the Parties may disclose Confidential Information to their Third-Party Representatives who have a legitimate need to know or use such Confidential Customer Utility Information for the purposes of providing Services in accordance with the UBP, UBP DERS and Commission orders and rules,

provided that each such Third-Party Representative first is advised by the disclosing Party of the sensitive and confidential nature of such Confidential Customer Utility Information. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the ESE shall be liable for any act or omission of its Third-Party Representative, including without limitation, those acts or omissions that would constitute a breach of this Agreement.

- b. **Disclosure if Legally Compelled.** Notwithstanding anything herein, in the event that a Party or any of its Third-Party Representatives receives notice that it has, will, or may become compelled, pursuant to applicable law or regulation or legal process to disclose any Confidential Information (whether by receipt of oral questions, interrogatories, requests for information or documents in legal proceedings, subpoenas, civil investigative demands, other similar processes, or otherwise), that Party shall, except to the extent prohibited by law, within one (1) business day, notify the other Party, orally and in writing, of the pending or threatened compulsion. To the extent lawfully allowable, the Parties shall have the right to consult and the Parties will cooperate, in advance of any disclosure, to undertake any lawfully permissible steps to reduce and/or minimize the extent of Confidential Information that must be disclosed. The Parties shall also have the right to seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy reducing and/or minimizing the extent of Confidential Information that must be disclosed. In any event, the Party and its Third-Party Representatives shall disclose only such Confidential Information which they are advised by legal counsel that they are legally required to disclose in order to comply with such applicable law or regulation or legal process (as such may be affected by any protective order or other remedy obtained by the Party) and the Party and its Third-Party Representatives shall use all reasonable efforts to ensure that all Confidential Information that is so disclosed will be accorded confidential treatment.

- 8. **Return/Destruction of Information.** Within thirty (30) days after Utility's written demand, ESE shall (and shall cause its Third-Party Representatives to) cease to access and Process Confidential Customer Utility Information and shall at the Utility's option: (A) return such Confidential Customer Utility Information to Utility in such manner, format, and timeframe as reasonably requested by Utility or, if not so directed by Utility, (B) shred, permanently erase and delete, degauss or otherwise modify so as to make unreadable, unreconstructible and indecipherable ("Destroy") all copies of all Confidential Customer Utility Information (including any and all extracts, compilations, studies, or other documents based upon, derived from, or containing Confidential Customer Utility Information) that has come into ESE's or its Third-Party Representatives' possession, including Destroying Confidential Customer Utility Information from all systems, records, archives, and backups of ESE and its Third-Party Representatives, and all subsequent access, use, and Processing of the Confidential Customer Utility Information by ESE and its Third-Party Representatives shall cease, provided any items required to be maintained by governmental administrative rule or law or necessary for legitimate business or legal needs will not be destroyed until permitted and will remain subject

to confidentiality during the retention period. A Utility making a written demand of an ESE for the return or destruction of Confidential Customer Utility Information will specify the reason for the demand. ESE agrees that upon a customer revocation of consent, ESE warrants that it will no longer access through Utility Confidential Customer Utility Information and that it will Destroy any Confidential Customer Utility Information in its or its Third-Party Representative's possession. Notwithstanding the foregoing, ESE and its Third-Party Representatives shall not be obligated to erase Confidential Customer Utility Information contained in an archived computer system backup maintained in accordance with their respective security or disaster recovery procedures, provided that ESE and its Third-Party Representatives shall: (1) not have experienced an actual Data Security Incident; (2) maintain Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections to limit access to or recovery of Confidential Customer Utility Information from such computer backup system and; (3) keep all such Confidential Customer Utility Information confidential in accordance with this Agreement. ESE shall, upon request, certify to Utility that the destruction by ESE and its Third-Party Representatives required by this Section has occurred by (A) having a duly authorized officer of ESE complete, execute, and deliver to Utility a certification and (B) obtaining substantially similar certifications from its Third-Party Representatives and maintaining them on file. Compliance with this Section 8 shall not relieve ESE from compliance with the other provisions of this Agreement. The written demand to Destroy or return Confidential Customer Utility Information pursuant to this Section may occur if the ESE has been decertified pursuant to the UBP or UBP DERS, the Utility has been notified of a potential or actual Data Security Incident and Utility has a reasonable belief of potential ongoing harm or the Confidential Customer Utility Information has been held for a period in excess of its retention period. The obligations under this Section shall survive any expiration or termination of this Agreement. Subject to applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and orders, at ESE's written demand and termination of electronic exchange of data with Utility, Utility will Destroy or return, at ESE's option, Confidential ESE Information.

9. **Audit.** Upon thirty (30) days' notice to ESE, ESE shall permit an auditor selected by the Utility through a competitive solicitation and agreed ("CSA") to by the ESE to audit and inspect, at Utility's sole expense (except as otherwise provided in this Agreement), and provided that the audit may occur no more often than once per twelve (12) month period (unless otherwise required by Utility's regulators). The audit may include (A) the facilities of ESE and ESE's Third-Party Representatives where Confidential Customer Utility Information is Processed by or on behalf of ESE; (B) any computerized or paper systems used to Process Confidential Customer Utility Information; and (C) ESE's security practices and procedures, facilities, resources, plans, procedures, and books and records relating to the privacy and security of Confidential Customer Utility Information. Such audit rights shall be limited to verifying ESE's compliance with this Agreement, including all applicable Data Protection Requirements. If the ESE provides a SOC II report or its equivalent to the Utility, or commits to complete an independent third-party audit of ESE's compliance with this Agreement acceptable to the Utility at ESE's sole expense, within one hundred eighty (180) days, no audit by an auditor selected by

the Utility through a CSA and conducted at Utility's sole expense is necessary absent a Data Security Incident. Any audit must be subject to confidentiality and non-disclosure requirements set forth in Section 6 of this Agreement. The auditor will audit the ESE's compliance with the required Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Protections and provide those results to the utility and ESE. The audit report sent to the utility shall not include any ESE confidential information, it will simply provide an assessment as to the ESE's compliance with the terms of this agreement. In the event of a "failed" audit dispute, the dispute resolution processes outlined in the UBP can be utilized or a complaint can be brought to the Department of Public Service's Office of Consumer Services Staff. Utility shall provide ESE with a report of the findings as a result of any audit carried out by an auditor selected by a CSA. ESE shall, within thirty (30) days, or within a reasonable time period agreed upon in writing between the ESE and Utility, correct any deficiencies identified in the audit, and provide the SOC II audit report or its equivalent or the report produced by the independent auditor at ESE expense to the Utility and provide a report regarding the timing and correction of identified deficiencies to the Utility.

10. **Investigation.** Upon notice to ESE, ESE shall assist and support Utility in the event of an investigation by any regulator or similar authority, if and to the extent that such investigation relates to Confidential Customer Utility Information Processed by ESE on behalf of Utility. Such assistance shall be at Utility's sole expense, except where such investigation was required due to the acts or omissions of ESE or its Representatives, in which case such assistance shall be at ESE's sole expense.
11. **Data Security Incidents.** ESE is responsible for any and all Data Security Incidents involving Confidential Customer Utility Information that is Processed by, or on behalf of, ESE. ESE shall notify Utility in writing immediately (and in any event within forty-eight (48) hours) whenever ESE reasonably believes that there has been a Data Security Incident. After providing such notice, ESE will investigate the Data Security Incident, and immediately take all necessary steps to eliminate or contain any exposure of Confidential Customer Utility Information and keep Utility advised of the status of such Data Security Incident and all matters related thereto. ESE further agrees to provide, at ESE's sole cost: (1) reasonable assistance and cooperation requested by Utility and/or Utility's designated representatives, in the furtherance of any correction, remediation, or investigation of any such Data Security Incident; (2) and/or the mitigation of any damage, including any notification required by law or that Utility may determine appropriate to send to individuals impacted or potentially impacted by the Data Security Incident; and (3) and/or the provision of any credit reporting service required by law or that Utility deems appropriate to provide to such individuals. In addition, within thirty (30) days of confirmation of a Data Security Incident, ESE shall develop and execute a plan, subject to Utility's approval, which approval will not be unreasonably withheld, that reduces the likelihood of a recurrence of such Data Security Incident. ESE agrees that Utility may at its discretion and without penalty immediately suspend performance hereunder and/or terminate the Agreement if a Data Security Incident occurs and it has a reasonable belief of potential ongoing

harm. Any suspension made by Utility pursuant to this paragraph 11 will be temporary, lasting until the Data Security Incident has ended, the ESE security has been restored to the reasonable satisfaction of the Utility so that Utility IT systems and Confidential Customer Utility Information are safe, and the ESE is capable of maintaining adequate security once electronic communication resumes. Actions made pursuant to this paragraph, including a suspension will be made, or subject to dispute resolution and appeal as applicable, pursuant to the UBP or UBP DERS processes as approved by the Commission.

- 12. No Intellectual Property Rights Granted.** Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as granting or conferring any rights, by license, or otherwise, expressly, implicitly, or otherwise, under any patents, copyrights, trade secrets, or other intellectual property rights of Utility, and ESE shall acquire no ownership interest in the Confidential Customer Utility Information. No rights or obligations other than those expressly stated herein shall be implied from this Agreement.

**13. Additional Obligations.**

- a. ESE shall not create or maintain data which are derivative of Confidential Customer Utility Information except for the purpose of performing its obligations under this Agreement, as authorized by the UBP or UBP DERS, or as expressly authorized by the customer, unless that use violates Federal, State, and local laws, tariffs, rules, and regulations. For purposes of this Agreement, the following shall not be considered Confidential Customer Utility Information or a derivative thereof: (i) any customer contracts, customer invoices, or any other documents created by ESE that reference estimated or actual measured customer usage information, which ESE needs to maintain for any tax, financial reporting or other legitimate business purposes consistent with the UBP or UBP DERS; and (ii) Data collected by ESE from customers through its website or other interactions based on those customers' interest in receiving information from or otherwise engaging with ESE or its partners.
- b. ESE shall comply with all applicable privacy and security laws to which it is subject, including without limitation all applicable Data Protection Requirements and not, by act or omission, place Utility in violation of any privacy or security law known by ESE to be applicable to Utility.
- c. ESE shall have in place appropriate and reasonable processes and systems, including an Information Security Program, defined as having completed an accepted Attestation as reasonably determined by the Utility in its discretion, to protect the security of Confidential Customer Utility Information and protect against a Data Security Incident, including, without limitation, a breach resulting from or arising out of ESE's internal use, processing, or other transmission of Confidential Customer Utility Information, whether between or among ESE's Third-Party Representatives, subsidiaries and affiliates or any other person or entity acting on behalf of ESE, including without limitation Third-Party Representatives. The Utility's determination is subject to the dispute resolution process under the UBP or UBP DERS.

- d. ESE and Utility shall safely secure or encrypt during storage and encrypt during transmission all Confidential Information, except that no encryption in transit is required for email communications.
  - e. ESE shall establish policies and procedures to provide reasonable and prompt assistance to Utility in responding to any and all requests, complaints, or other communications received from any individual who is or may be the subject of a Data Security Incident involving Confidential Customer Utility Information Processed by ESE to the extent such request, complaint or other communication relates to ESE's Processing of such individual's Confidential Customer Utility Information.
  - f. ESE shall establish policies and procedures to provide all reasonable and prompt assistance to Utility in responding to any and all requests, complaints, or other communications received from any individual, government, government agency, regulatory authority, or other entity that is or may have an interest in the Confidential Customer Utility Information, data theft, or other unauthorized release of Confidential Customer Utility Information, disclosure of Confidential Customer Utility Information, or misuse of Confidential Customer Utility Information to the extent such request, complaint or other communication relates to ESE's accessing or Processing of such Confidential Customer Utility Information.
  - g. ESE will not process Confidential Customer Utility Information outside of the United States or Canada absent a written agreement with Utility. For the avoidance of doubt, Confidential Customer Utility Information stored in the United States or Canada, or other countries as agreed upon in writing will be maintained in a secure fashion at a secure location pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
14. **Specific Performance.** The Parties acknowledge that disclosure or misuse of Confidential Customer Utility Information in violation of this Agreement may result in irreparable harm to Utility, the amount of which may be difficult to ascertain, and which may not be adequately compensated by monetary damages, and that therefore Utility shall be entitled to specific performance and/or injunctive relief to enforce compliance with the provisions of this Agreement. Utility's right to such relief shall be in addition to and not to the exclusion of any remedies otherwise available under this Agreement, at law or in equity, including monetary damages, the right to terminate this Agreement for breach and the right to suspend in accordance with the UBP, UBP DERS and the Commission's rules and orders the provision or Processing of Confidential Customer Utility Information hereunder. ESE agrees to waive any requirement for the securing or posting of any bond or other security in connection with Utility obtaining any such injunctive or other equitable relief.
15. **Indemnification.** To the fullest extent permitted by law, ESE shall indemnify and hold Utility, its affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, trustees, shareholders, employees, and agents, harmless from and against any and all loss,

cost, damage, or expense of every kind and nature (including, without limitation, penalties imposed by the Commission or other regulatory authority or under any Data Protection Requirements, court costs, expenses, and reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of, relating to, or resulting from, in whole or in part, the breach or non-compliance with this Agreement by ESE or any of its Third-Party Representatives except to the extent that the loss, cost, damage or expense is caused by the negligence, gross negligence or willful misconduct of Utility.

- 16. Notices.** With the exception of notices or correspondence relating to potential or pending disclosure under legal compulsion, all notices and other correspondence hereunder shall be sent by first class mail, by personal delivery, or by a nationally recognized courier service. Notices or correspondences relating to potential or pending disclosure under legal compulsion shall be sent by means of Express Mail through the U.S. Postal Service or other nationally recognized courier service which provides for scheduled delivery no later than the business day following the transmittal of the notice or correspondence and which provides for confirmation of delivery. All notices and correspondence shall be in writing and addressed as follows:

If to ESE, to:

ESE Name:  
Name of Contact:  
Address:  
Phone:  
Email:

If to Utility, to:

Utility Name:	New York State Electric & Gas Corporation
Name of Contact:	Supplier Relations
Address:	James A Carrigg Center, 18 Link Dr.; PO Box 5224 Binghamton NY 13902
Email:	supplier_relations@rge.com

A Party may change the address or addressee for notices and other correspondence to it hereunder by notifying the other Party by written notice given pursuant hereto.

- 17. Term and Termination.** This Agreement shall be effective as of the date first set forth above and shall remain in effect until terminated in accordance with the provisions of the service agreement, if any, between the Parties or the UBP or UBP DERS and upon not less than thirty (30) days' prior written notice specifying the effective date of termination, provided, however, that any expiration or termination shall not affect the respective obligations or rights of the Parties arising under this Agreement prior to the effective date of termination. Utility may terminate this Agreement if the ESE is decertified under Commission Orders, the UBP or DER UBP, where applicable, has not served customers for two (2) years, or has not had

electronic communication, other than by email, with Utility for one (1) year. Further, Utility may terminate this Agreement immediately upon notice to ESE in the event of a material breach hereof by ESE or its Third-Party Representatives. For the purpose of clarity, a breach of Sections 3-4, 6-11, 12, 13, 15, and 23 shall be a material breach hereof. The Breaching Party will provide the non-breaching Party with a written description and notice of material breach. Upon the expiration or termination hereof, neither ESE nor its Third-Party Representatives shall have any further right to Process Confidential Customer Utility Information or Customer Information, unless the customer has given written or electronic consent to do so, and shall immediately comply with its obligations under Section 8 and the Utility shall not have the right to process Confidential ESE Information and shall immediately comply with its obligations under Section 8.

18. **Consent to Jurisdiction; Selection of Forum.** ESE irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of the Commission and courts located within the State of New York with regard to any dispute or controversy arising out of or relating to this Agreement. ESE agrees that service of process on it in relation to such jurisdiction may be made by certified or registered mail addressed to ESE at the address for ESE pursuant to Section 11 hereof and that such service shall be deemed sufficient even under circumstances where, apart from this Section, there would be no jurisdictional basis for such service. ESE agrees that service of process on it may also be made in any manner permitted by law. ESE consents to the selection of the New York State and United States courts within Monroe County, New York as the exclusive forums for any legal or equitable action or proceeding arising out of or relating to this Agreement. If the event involves all of the Utilities jurisdiction will be in Albany County, New York.
19. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be interpreted, and the rights and obligations of the Parties determined in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, without recourse to such state's choice of law rules.
20. **Survival.** The obligations of ESE under this Agreement shall continue for so long as ESE and/or ESE's Third-Party Representatives continue to have access to, are in possession of or acquire Confidential Customer Utility Information even if all Agreements between ESE and Utility have expired or been terminated.
21. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall together constitute one and the same instrument. Copies of this Agreement and copies of signatures on this Agreement, including any such copies delivered electronically as a .pdf file, shall be treated for all purposes as originals.
22. **Amendments; Waivers.** Except as directed by the Commission, this Agreement may not be amended or modified except if set forth in writing signed by the Party against whom enforcement is sought to be effective. No forbearance by any Party to require performance of any provisions of this Agreement shall constitute or be deemed a waiver of such provision or the right thereafter to enforce it. Any waiver shall be effective only if in writing and signed by an authorized representative of

the Party making such waiver and only with respect to the particular event to which it specifically refers.

23. **Assignment.** This Agreement (and the Utility's or ESE's obligations hereunder) may not be assigned by Utility, ESE or Third-Party Representatives without the prior written consent of the non-assigning Party, and any purported assignment without such consent shall be void. Consent will not be unreasonably withheld.
24. **Severability.** Any provision of this Agreement which is determined by any court or regulatory body having jurisdiction over this Agreement to be invalid or unenforceable will be ineffective to the extent of such determination without invalidating the remaining provisions of this Agreement or affecting the validity or enforceability of such remaining provisions.
25. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement (including any Exhibits hereto) constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and any prior or contemporaneous oral or written Agreements or understandings with respect to such subject matter are merged herein. This Agreement may not be amended without the written Agreement of the Parties.
26. **No Third-Party Beneficiaries.** This Agreement is solely for the benefit of, and shall be binding solely upon, the Parties and their respective agents, successors, and permitted assigns. This Agreement is not intended to benefit and shall not be for the benefit of any party other than the Parties and the indemnified parties named herein, and no other party shall have any right, claim, or action as a result of this Agreement.
27. **Force Majeure.** No Party shall be liable for any failure to perform its obligations in connection with this Agreement, where such failure results from any act of God or governmental action or order or other cause beyond such Party's reasonable control (including, without limitation, any mechanical, electronic, or communications failure) which prevents such Party from performing under this Agreement and which such Party is unable to prevent or overcome after the exercise of reasonable diligence. For the avoidance of doubt a Data Security Incident is not a force majeure event.
28. **Relationship of the Parties.** Utility and ESE expressly agree they are acting as independent contractors and under no circumstances shall any of the employees of one Party be deemed the employees of the other for any purpose. Except as expressly authorized herein, this Agreement shall not be construed as authority for either Party to act for the other Party in any agency or other capacity, or to make commitments of any kind for the account of or on behalf of the other.
29. **Construction.** This Agreement shall be construed as to its fair meaning and not strictly for or against any party.
30. **Binding Effect.** No portion of this Agreement is binding upon a Party until it is executed on behalf of that Party in the space provided below and delivered to the other Party. The Utility shall execute and deliver a signed original copy of this

Agreement to the ESE within five (5) business days of receiving an executed Agreement with a complete SA, if the ESE has an electronic interconnection with the utility other than by email, from the ESE. Prior to such execution and delivery by the Parties, neither the submission, exchange, return, discussion, nor the negotiation of this document, whether or not this document is then designated as a “draft” document, shall have any binding effect on a Party.

*[signature page follows]*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties have executed and delivered this Agreement as of the date first above written.

**UTILITY**

**ESE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **SELF-ATTESTATION OF Cybersecurity Protections**

Each Utility, for itself only, represents that for all information received from ESE, in response or pursuant to this Self-Attestation, that is marked CONFIDENTIAL by ESE (Confidential Self-Attestation Information) Utility shall: (A) hold such Confidential Self-Attestation Information in strict confidence; (B) not disclose such Confidential Self-Attestation Information to any other person or entity; (C) not Process such Confidential Self-Attestation Information outside of the United States or Canada; (D) not Process such Confidential Self-Attestation Information for any purpose other than to assess the adequate security of ESE pursuant to this Self-Attestation and to work with ESE to permit it to achieve adequate security if it has not already done so; (E) limit reproduction of such Confidential Self-Attestation Information; (F) store such Confidential Self-Attestation Information in a secure fashion at a secure location in the United States or Canada that is not accessible to any person or entity not authorized to receive such Confidential Self-Attestation Information under the provisions hereof; (G) otherwise use at least the same degree of care to avoid publication or dissemination of such Confidential Self-Attestation Information as Utility employs (or would employ) with respect to its own confidential information that it does not (or would not) desire to have published or disseminated, but in no event less than reasonable care.

The Cybersecurity protections listed below are required before ESEs will be allowed access to Utility IT systems or electronically exchange Confidential Customer Utility Information with Utility.

This SELF-ATTESTATION OF INFORMATION SECURITY CONTROLS ("Attestation"), is made as of this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, an ESE to Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc., Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc., Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation, The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a National Grid NY, KeySpan Gas East Corporation d/b/a National Grid, and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (together, the New York State Joint Utilities or "JU").

WHEREAS, ESE desires to obtain or retain access to Utility IT systems and electronically exchange Confidential Customer Utility Information<sup>4</sup> (as defined in this Data Security Agreement) with Utility, ESE must THEREFORE self-attest to ESE's compliance with the Cybersecurity Protections ("Requirements") as listed herein. ESE acknowledges that non-compliance with any of the Requirements may result in the termination of utility data access as per the discretion of any of the JU, individually as a Utility or collectively, in whole or part, for its or their system(s). Any termination process will proceed pursuant to the Uniform Business Practices or Distributed Energy Resources Uniform Business Practices.

- \_\_\_\_\_ An Information Security Policy is implemented across the ESE's corporation which includes officer level approval.
- \_\_\_\_\_ An Incident Response Procedure is implemented that includes notification within 48 hours of knowledge of a potential incident alerting utility when Confidential Customer Utility Information is potentially exposed, or of any other potential security breach.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Role-based access controls are used to restrict system access to authorized users and limited on a need-to-know basis.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Multi-factor authentication is used for all remote administrative access, including, but not limited to, access to production environments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All production systems are properly maintained and updated to include security patches on a periodic basis. Where a critical alert is raised, time is of the essence, and patches will be applied as soon as practicable.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Antivirus software is installed on all servers and workstations and is maintained with up-to-date signatures.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All Confidential Customer Utility Information is encrypted in transit utilizing industry best practice encryption methods, except that Confidential Information does not need to be encrypted during email communications.

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<sup>4</sup> "Confidential Customer Utility Information" means information that Utility is: (A) required by the UBP at Section 4: Customer information (C)(2), (3) or UBP DERS at Section 2C: Customer Data (C)(2), to provide to ESE or (B) any other information provided to ESE by Utility and marked confidential by the Utility at the time of disclosure, but excludes (i) information which is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of a disclosure by Receiving Party or its Representatives; (ii) information which was already known to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis prior to being furnished to Receiving Party by Disclosing Party; (iii) information which becomes available to Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a source other than Disclosing Party or a representative of Disclosing Party if such source was not subject to any prohibition against transmitting the information to Receiving Party and was not bound by a confidentiality agreement with Disclosing Party; (iv) information which was independently developed by the Receiving Party or its Representatives without reference to, or consideration of, the Confidential Information; or (v) information provided by the customer with customer consent where the customer expressly agrees that the information is public.

## EXHIBIT A

- \_\_\_\_\_ All Confidential Customer Utility Information is secured or encrypted at rest utilizing industry best practice encryption methods or is otherwise physically secured.
- \_\_\_\_\_ It is prohibited to store Confidential Customer Utility Information on any mobile forms of storage media, including, but not limited to, laptop PCs, mobile phones, portable backup storage media, and external hard drives, unless the storage media or data is encrypted.
- \_\_\_\_\_ All Confidential Customer Utility Information is stored in the United States or Canada only, including, but not limited to, cloud storage environments and data management services.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ESE monitors and alerts their network for anomalous cyber activity on a 24/7 basis.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Security awareness training is provided to all personnel with access to Confidential Customer Utility Information.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Employee background screening occurs prior to the granting of access to Confidential Customer Utility Information.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Replication of Confidential Customer Utility Information to non-company assets, systems, or locations is prohibited.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Access to Confidential Customer Utility Information is revoked when no longer required, or if employees separate from the ESE or Third-Party Representative.

Additionally, the attestation of the following item is requested, but is NOT part of the Requirements:

- \_\_\_\_\_ ESE maintains an up-to-date SOC II Type 2 Audit Report, or other security controls audit report.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, ESE has delivered accurate information for this Attestation as of the date first above written.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

