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#### Environmental Update

We're pleased to report that the electricity we purchased for our supply customers ranks considerably better than the New York State average for air emissions.

- >> If you receive your electricity supply from NYSEG, your environmental disclosure information is provided here. It is also available at **nyseg.com**.
- >> If you receive your electricity supply from a supplier other than NYSEG <u>and</u> your supplier's charges are included in your NYSEG bill, your supplier's most recent environmental disclosure was included in an earlier bill.
- If you buy electricity from a supplier other than NYSEG, and are billed directly by your supplier, you should receive environmental disclosure information from your supplier.
- For more information on environmental disclosure, contact the New York Public Service Commission at 1.888.Ask.PSC1 (1.888.275.7721) or visit dps.state.ny.us



NYSEG's sources of electricity supply are cleaner than the New York State average.

# In the spirit of Earth Day, we share in a commitment to the environment

### **Energy East Joins In Climate Change Fight**

Energy East, NYSEG's parent company, has joined an unprecedented group of more

than 85 companies and organizations from around the world to endorse *The Path to Climate Sustainability: A Joint Statement by the Global Roundtable on Climate Change*, a bold framework for protecting the



environment while creating the sustainable energy systems necessary for achieving economic growth.

"With energy consumption continuing to increase, it is incumbent on our industry to partner with others to identify and implement aggressive energy efficiency measures and work toward reducing emissions of greenhouse gases," said Wes von Schack, chairman and CEO. "At our initiative, we are already making considerable progress by adding to our capacity to **generate environmentally-friendly hydroelectricity**, planning to implement a system of **smart meters that will enable us to work with our customers to reduce demand** – particularly during on-peak times – and **improving the efficiency of our energy distribution system**."

The joint statement calls on governments to set scientifically-informed targets for greenhouse gas and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. The statement also urges governments to place a price on carbon emissions and to set forth policies aimed at addressing energy efficiency and de-carbonization in all sectors.

#### >> You can take a step toward combating climate change

by adding your name to a growing global call for action at www.NextGenerationEarth.org.

For more information about the Global Roundtable on Climate Change: www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/grocc/

## **Hydroelectricity Production Up**

Mother Nature often showed her nasty side last year, but there was a plus to the record precipitation some parts of the state received: The increase in the volume of water in rivers combined with strategic investments by NYSEG and sister company, RG&E, has resulted in higher-than-expected amounts of environmentally-friendly electricity from the companies' hydroelectric generating plants.

NYSEG's hydroelectric generating plants at High Falls, Cadyville, Mill C and Kents Falls on the Saranac River; Rainbow Falls on the Ausable River; and Mechanicville on the Hudson River produced more than 360,000 megawatt-hours (mwh) of electricity in 2006, a 10% increase over 2005 and the most electricity produced at those plants in more than 20 years.

RG&E's three hydroelectric generating plants on the Genesee River produced 260,000 mwh of electricity in 2006, a 21% increase over 2005 and the most electricity produced in nearly 15 years.

Assuming that a typical home uses 7,200 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year, these plants together produced enough electricity in 2006 for nearly 90,000 homes.

Because NYSEG's and RG&E's hydroelectric generation reduces the need for electricity from traditional fossil-fuel sources, there is a direct benefit to the environment from the optimization of these plants. In 2006, the electricity generated at these hydroelectric plants avoided 408,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), 2,100 tons of sulfur dioxide and 570 tons of nitrogen oxides emissions. The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided are the equivalent of planting 55 million trees or avoiding more than 700 million miles of automobile use.

In order to ensure optimal performance, NYSEG and RG&E will continue to invest in equipment upgrades at the plants.





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#### Wind-Generated Electricity

More and more NYSEG customers are finding that the source of electricity they prefer is blowin' in the wind.

As of the end of 2006, 9,300 NYSEG customers have signed up to purchase wind-generated electricity through a program the company began offering in August 2002 in partnership with Community Energy Inc., a leading marketer of wind energy. The number of customers participating in the NYSEG program increased more than 200% from 2005 to 2006. These NYSEG customers are expected to use 33.3 million kilowatt-hours (kwh) of wind energy in 2007.

Customer purchases of wind energy directly benefit the environment because they offset the need for electricity from fossil-fueled generation. **Every 100 megawatts of fossil-fueled generation displaced by renewable energy sources lowers carbon dioxide (CO**<sub>2</sub>) emissions by more than 500,000 tons, a reduction equivalent to planting 21 million trees or taking 82,000 cars off the road. Renewable energy sources also help avoid sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions.

>> For more information on NYSEG's wind energy program or to sign up, call 1.800.35.NYSEG (1.800.356.9734) or visit nyseg.com and click on "Products and Services."



# *Hydroelectric Plants* NYSEG

- High Falls
- Cadyville
- 3 Mill C
- 4 Kent Falls
- **5** Rainbow Falls
- 6 Mechanicville

#### RG&E

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- 7 Station 5
- 8 Station 2
  - Station 26





Whether you're a contractor or a homeowner doing an outdoor project, having underground utilities marked is essential to protect yourself from injury and prevent damage to underground utility lines.

Now having underground utilities marked is even easier simply call **811** at least two days but not more than 10 days before you plan to start your project. (If you choose, you can still call *Dig Safely.New York* directly at 1.800.962.7962.)



#### Look Up. Look Out!

When working outside, remember to watch over head. Aluminum siding, gutters and ladders can all conduct electricity. If any of these items touch an overhead power line, the results could be deadly.

>> To learn more about safety, visit **nyseg.com**.





### **NYSEG Economic Development Grant** Helps National Pipe Expand Production

NYSEG has provided a \$150,000 economic development grant to National Pipe & Plastics to help offset the cost of a \$3 million expansion of production capacity at its Vestal facility (near Binghamton). National Pipe & Plastics is the largest producer of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe in the Northeast and one of the largest in the country.

"We have worked very closely with NYSEG in the last several years to gain new efficiencies in our manufacturing operations," said David Culbertson, National Pipe & Plastic's president and CEO. "The electrical systems that we have installed during this period have helped us to achieve a cleaner, safer working environment as well as increased production at lower cost. Thanks to NYSEG's input we have also been able to improve the reliability of electrical service inside our plant, which is a significant contribution to a 24/7 operation. We are very pleased that NYSEG has partnered with us to achieve the progress we have made in the continuing development of our business."



>> To learn more about NYSEG's economic development programs, visit lookupstateny.com or call 1.800.456.5153.



## **Plant the Right Tree**

Trees are valuable additions to our neighborhoods. However, trees that come in contact with power lines are the leading cause of power interruptions. If you're thinking about planting a tree near power lines, check with the National Arbor Day Foundation for low-growing varieties that will add beauty to your property without interfering with power lines. Learn more at www.arborday.org or call 1.888.448.7337.

Never attempt to trim trees near power lines. Leave that task to professionals.



*Part of NYSEG's commitment to the environment* ... printed with soy ink on recycled paper.

