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By Electronic Mail

Hon. Kathleen A. Burgess
Secretary
NYS Public Service Commission
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

Matter 15-02754 – In the Matter of Examining the Potential Benefits of Retail Competition for Long Island Electric Customers.

Dear Secretary Burgess:

On December 31, 2015, the New York State Department of Public Service (“DPS”) issued the *Notice Requesting Comments and Establishing Participatory Process* (“Notice”) in this matter inviting interested parties to submit comments on the potential benefits to customers of retail competition in the Long Island electricity market. Pursuant to the Notice initial comments are due by April 1, 2016 and reply comments by May 1, 2016.

The Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA) ¹through its counsel respectfully requests that the due date for initial comments be extended until the later of June 1, 2016 or thirty (30) days following the final resolution of the matters raised in the *Order Resetting Retail Energy Markets and Establishing Further Process* (“Order”) issued in Cases 15-M-0127, 12-M-0476 and 98-M-1343.²

¹The comments expressed in this filing represent the position of the Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA) as an organization but may not represent the views of any particular member of the Association. Founded in 1990, RESA is a broad and diverse group of more than twenty retail energy suppliers dedicated to promoting efficient, sustainable and customer-oriented competitive retail energy markets. RESA members operate throughout the United States delivering value-added electricity and natural gas service at retail to residential, commercial and industrial energy customers. More information on RESA can be found at www.resausa.org.

² The reply comments would be due 30 days following the revised date for submission of initial comments

In the Order, the Commission has documented significant and wide ranging changes to the key aspects governing the provision and implementation of retail access supply service by all ESCOs operating in the State. As recognized in the Order, the potential changes presented therein for the first time constitute a material “restructuring” of the “ESCO market”.³ The Order is now subject to a 60 day collaborative period.⁴

The Notice seeking the submission of comments in this matter by April 1, 2016, was issued *prior* to the issuance of the Order and contemplated analysis of the retail access market and its applicability to Long Island based on the market structure as it existed as of December 31, 2015. With the issuance of the Order it is clear that the potential structure of the statewide retail access market and the rules governing how ESCOs provide service may in the near future undergo a complete restructuring and create an entirely different retail market. Therefore, consideration of the application of retail access principles and practices and their applicability to Long Island, require a complete and accurate assessment of the “restructuring” outlined in the Order which has yet to be fully resolved.

It would thus be premature to initiate the comment phase concerning the Long Island electric market without first understanding to what level and degree the restructuring contemplated in the Order achieves fruition or is actually implemented. It would therefore be prudent and efficient to allow for a reasonable extension of the comment due date to allow parties to assimilate the final standards and practices codified in the Order that are actually adopted and implemented.

Accordingly, RESA requests that the due date for initial comments be extended until the later of June 1, 2016 or thirty (30) days following the final resolution of the matters rose in the Order.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Retail Energy Supply Association

By: *Usher Fogel, Counsel*
Usher Fogel, Counsel

Cc: Julia Bovey (by electronic mail)

³ Order, p.12.

⁴ Order, p.2