



ANGELO SANTABARBARA
Assemblyman 111th District

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August 14, 2017

John Rhodes, Diane X. Burman, Gregg Sayre & James Alesi
Commissioners, New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza
Agency Building #3
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Commissioners,

I again write to you regarding National Grid's application to the Public Service Commission requesting rate increases for business and residential customers.

It has become clear from the Commission's public statement hearings recently held in upstate New York that National Grid's current proposal, although modified from its original application submitted earlier this year, has not only received overwhelming opposition, but has also prompted harsh criticism of the company itself.

Under National Grid's modified proposal, rate increases on upstate families and businesses would occur over a three year period, however, the end result will be the same; about **\$210** more each year that households, already struggling to get by, would have to come up with. Residential electric customers could see their monthly bill increase by **\$8.93 – an 11 percent hike** – and gas customers would see a monthly increase of **\$8.70 – a 12.5 percent increase**. This is simply unacceptable.

As a member of the Assembly Committee on Energy, I'm deeply concerned by the impact such a rate hike would have on families and seniors who are already struggling to balance their budgets. I again urge members of the Public Service Commission to reject this proposal and any subsequent modifications to the application from National Grid that includes increasing rates, a move that will negatively impact upstate New York.

Sincerely,

Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara
Representing Albany, Montgomery & Schenectady Counties