



ANGELO SANTABARBARA, PE  
Assemblyman 111th District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIR  
Committee on  
People with Disabilities  
COMMITTEES  
Energy  
Governmental Employees  
Mental Health  
Racing and Wagering

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Hon. Thomas P. DiNapoli  
New York State Comptroller  
Office of the State Comptroller  
110 State Street  
Albany, New York 12236

Dear Comptroller DiNapoli,

I am writing to formally request that your office undertake an independent investigation or special study into electric and gas delivery charges imposed on New Yorkers by investor-owned utilities, including National Grid, with particular focus on winter heating bills and cost-recovery practices in upstate New York.

Constituents across my district are experiencing sharply rising heating bills during this winter season. A consistent and troubling pattern has emerged: delivery charges are increasing significantly faster than actual energy usage, leaving families unable to understand, anticipate, or manage their monthly bills. These increases raise serious red flags about how costs are being calculated, allocated, and passed on to ratepayers.

What we know is clear:

- National Grid has reported high-profit years
- Delivery charges continue to rise faster than usage
- Executive compensation and shareholder returns remain protected
- During cold winters, rising costs are shifted almost entirely onto ratepayers

In a regulated monopoly environment, where customers cannot choose another provider, this combination of factors warrants independent scrutiny. While these facts do not, by themselves, establish waste in the traditional sense, they raise the same fundamental concerns about accountability, transparency, and cost discipline that have prompted your office to investigate other entities whose financial decisions significantly impact the public.

This request is driven by serious concerns that existing regulatory decisions have not adequately protected ratepayers from escalating delivery charges. The purpose of this investigation is to determine whether current oversight and cost-recovery practices are functioning as intended—or whether they are allowing rising costs to be passed onto families without sufficient transparency, accountability, or discipline.

I respectfully request that your office examine:

- How delivery charges are calculated and justified
- How rising delivery costs relate to utility profits and cost-recovery practices
- Whether incentives exist that insulate utilities from financial risk while exposing consumers to escalating bills
- Whether current oversight mechanisms provide sufficient transparency and accountability for ratepayers

Families in upstate New York are being asked to absorb higher and higher costs simply to heat their homes. An independent investigation by the State Comptroller would provide the public with clear, credible answers and establish a factual record that can inform necessary policy action.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued commitment to protecting New Yorkers and ensuring fiscal accountability.

Respectfully,



Angelo Santabarbara, PE  
Member of the New York State Assembly  
111th District | Representing areas of Montgomery & Schenectady Counties