



# New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **NJ BPU APPROVES PSE&G PROPOSAL FOR SUSQUEHANNA-ROSELAND TRANSMISSION LINE**

*Board Finds Line Necessary to Improve Reliability and Meet State's Electricity Needs*

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) today approved the proposal by PSE&G for a major upgrade to the Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line in northwest New Jersey. In approving the project, the Board concurred with the assessment of PJM, the federally-designated regional transmission organization for New Jersey, that the line was needed to improve the reliability of supply and to avoid anticipated violations of the reliability standards of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC).

The Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line project is a 500 kilovolt (kV) line that will run through Pennsylvania and New Jersey. PSE&G is responsible for construction of the New Jersey portion of the line, which will run from Hardwick Township in Warren County to the PSE&G substation in Roseland in Essex County. The proposed route follows the right-of-way for an existing power line through 16 municipalities. The line is expected to be in service by the summer of 2012.

“New Jersey’s energy infrastructure is as critical to our economy as our roads and bridges,” said Acting Board President Elizabeth Randall. “The existing transmission line was built in the 1920’s when New Jersey’s population was less than half what it is today and a refrigerator in the home was considered modern technology. This new line is an essential upgrade that will serve us for decades to come.”

“After more than a year of hearings and a careful assessment of the proposal, the Commissioners and staff of the Board of Public Utilities agreed that this transmission line was needed,” said Commissioner Joseph Fiordaliso, who chaired the hearings for the proposal. “It will help ensure that homes and businesses in large areas of the northern part of our state have an adequate and reliable supply of energy for the foreseeable future.”

The total cost for both the Pennsylvania and New Jersey portions of the line is anticipated to be between \$900 million and \$1.3 billion. Those costs, under PJM’s current rules, will be spread across all ratepayers in the PJM region, and BPU staff estimates that New Jersey residents will pay an additional \$3.50 - \$4.00 annually to fund the project.

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PJM is a federally-designated regional transmission organization responsible for coordinating the movement of electricity among more than 51 million customers in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. It manages and conducts long-term planning to ensure the reliability of the transmission grid for the region.

NERC is designated by the federal government to set and enforce reliability standards for the bulk power system in the United States. It has similar authority in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick.

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**About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBP):**

*The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBP include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBP, visit our web site at [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu).*