



**New York State Electric & Gas/Rochester Gas & Electric
Proposed Electric and Gas Rate Increase
Cases 15-E-0283, 15-G-0286, 15-E-0285 & 15-G-0284**

In May 2015, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) and Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation (RGE) requested the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission or PSC) to approve proposed increases to electric and gas delivery rates.

The parties to the proceeding entered into negotiations in October 2015 and on February 19, 2016, a Joint Proposal (JP) was filed by NYSEG and RGE (the Companies) that proposed to resolve all matters relating to their rate requests. In addition to the Companies, the JP was signed by seven parties representing different interests, including Staff of the Department of Public Service (DPS). The JP, if adopted, would apply to the Companies' electric and gas rates and services through April 30, 2019 and would result in a revenue increase for the Companies.

PSC Seeking Public Comment

The Commission is seeking comment on the JP. Assigned Administrative Law Judges will preside over the gathering of public comments and all evidence relating to the proposal. The JP and formal record, including public comments, will be presented to the Commission for consideration. The Commission may adopt or reject the JP in whole or in part.

Interested members of the public are invited to attend a series of public statement hearings and provide comments regarding the proposal. The hearings are being held as follows:

Date	Location	Time
Tuesday, March 29	Binghamton City Hall Council Chambers 38 Hawley St. Binghamton, NY	Afternoon Hearing: 3:00 PM Evening Hearing: 7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 30	City of Rochester Council Chambers 30 Church St., Room 300A Rochester, NY	Afternoon Hearing: 3:00 PM Evening Hearing: 7:00 PM
Thursday, March 31	Town of Plattsburgh Town Hall 151 Banker Road Plattsburgh, NY	Afternoon Hearing: 3:00 PM Evening Hearing: 7:00 PM
Wednesday, April 13	Town of Southeast Town Hall 1360 Route 22 Brewster, NY	Afternoon Hearing: 3:00 PM Evening Hearing: 7:00 PM

It is not necessary to make an appointment in advance or present written material in order to speak at the hearings. All comments given at the hearings will be transcribed and become part of the Commission's formal record. The hearings will remain open until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the DPS Human Resources Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this factsheet.

Summary of the Joint Proposal

Under the JP, a set of terms and conditions were developed for a three-year rate plan for the Companies electric and gas service. The three-year plan is proposed to become effective May 1, 2016 with the Rate Year 1 ending on April 30, 2017, Rate Year 2 ending on April 30, 2018 and Rate Year 3 ending April 30, 2019.

Proposed Rates:

NYSEG:

For NYSEG, the JP proposes phased in rate increases for both electric and gas delivery service to levelize the rate impact over the three-year period. The proposal would produce annual delivery rate increases of 4.1% for electric customers and 7.3% for gas customers. These increases would result in an average overall (i.e. both commodity and delivery) bill increases for customers of approximately 2.7% for electric and 4.1% for gas.

	NYSEG Electric			NYSEG Gas		
	Rate Increase (\$000)	Delivery Rate Increase (%)	Average Bill Increase (%)	Rate Increase (\$000)	Delivery Rate Increase (%)	Average Bill Increase (%)
RY 1	\$29,601	4.1%	2.7%	\$13,068	7.3%	4.1%
RY 2	\$29,889	4.1%	2.7%	\$13,880	7.3%	4.1%
RY 3	\$30,297	4.1%	2.7%	\$14,796	7.3%	4.1%

RGE:

For RGE, the JP proposes rate increases that vary by rate year for both electric and gas delivery service. The chart below shows the proposed increases to delivery rates as well as the average overall bill impact for each rate year.

	RGE Electric			RGE Gas		
	Rate Increase (\$000)	Delivery Rate Increase (%)	Average Bill Increase (%)	Rate Increase (\$000)	Delivery Rate Increase (%)	Average Bill Increase (%)
RY 1	\$3,000	0.7%	.5%	\$8,819	5.2%	2.8%
RY 2	\$21,600	5.0%	3.4%	\$7,661	4.4%	2.4%
RY 3	\$25,856	5.7%	3.9%	\$9,455	5.2%	2.9%

The actual bill impacts for NYSEG and RGE customers will vary by customer class based upon revenue allocations and rate design.

Additional JP Components:

The JP includes other terms that may affect customers, including:

- acceleration of the Companies' natural gas leak prone main replacement programs;
- electric vegetation management practices to provide continued safe and reliable service;
- implementation of an Energy Smart Community Project in the Ithaca region to test Reforming the Energy Vision initiatives;
- neighborhood and community gas expansion programs; and
- an expansion of the Companies' Low Income Programs.

The full text of the JP, including a breakdown of expected bill impacts by customer class, may be viewed online at DPS's www.dps.ny.gov website. From the homepage, click on "Search," and enter any of the case numbers (NYSEG electric: 15-E-0283, NYSEG gas: 15-G-0284, RGE electric: 15-E-0285 or RGE gas: 15-G-0286) in the "Search by Case Number" field.

Additional Methods for Commenting on the Case

In addition to providing comments at public statement hearings, members of the public may also provide comments for the Commission's consideration as follows:

- **Via Mail/E-Mail:** Submit comments electronically to Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, at secretary@dps.ny.gov or by mail or delivery to Secretary Burgess at the Department of Public Service, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Comments delivered in these manners should reference the associated case number (NYSEG electric: 15-E-0283, NYSEG gas: 15-G-0284, RG&E electric: 15-E-0285 or RG&E gas: 15-G-0286).
- **Via the Department's Website:** Comments may also be entered directly into the case by locating the case via the home page of the Commission's website, www.dps.ny.gov, by clicking on "Search," and entering the associated case number (noted above) in the "Search by Case Number" field. After clicking to open the case, enter comments in the "Post Comments" section located at the top of the page.
- **Via Toll-Free Opinion Line:** Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's toll-free Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This line is set up to receive in-state calls 24-hours a day. Callers should press "1" to leave comments about Case 15-E-0283, 15-G-0284, 15-E-0285 or 15-G-0286 "Joint Petition of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation and Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation". Comments received via the Opinion Line are not transcribed, but a summary is provided to the Commission for their consideration.

All comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission. Comments will be accepted at any point while this proceeding is pending, but are requested by April 20, 2016 to ensure full consideration.

