

Attachment 4

6.19.6 Attachment 1 – Rate Mechanism for the Recovery of CLCPA Eligible Projects for New York State Electric and Gas Corporation

6.19.6.1 Applicability

This Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT establishes the CFC Charge of New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (“NYSEG”). NYSEG is an Eligible Transmission Owner and may recover eligible costs for its CLCPA Eligible Projects in accordance with the requirements of Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT.

6.19.6.2 Revenue Requirement

For purposes of Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT, the revenue requirement for the Eligible Transmission Owner’s CLCPA Eligible Projects shall be determined in accordance with the formula rate protocols set forth in Section 6.19.6.2.1 and the formula rate template set forth in Section 6.19.6.2.2.

6.19.6.2.1 Formula Rate Protocols

Section 1 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply for purposes of this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT:

- a. **Accounting Change:** any change in accounting by NYSEG or its affiliates that affects inputs to the Formula Rate or the resulting charges billed under the Formula Rate.
- b. **Annual Review Procedures:** the procedures described in this Section 6.19.6.2.1 of Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT that provide for review and challenge by Interested Parties of the Annual True-up Adjustment and the Annual Update.

c. **Annual Stakeholder Meeting:** an annual meeting for Interested Parties with the intention that NYSEG present, explain and answer questions related to the Annual True-up Adjustment and Annual Update.

d. **Actual Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement (“Actual ATRR”):** the actual annual revenue requirement of NYSEG’s CLCPA Eligible Projects for a Rate Year calculated in accordance with the Formula Rate and posted on the ISO website no later than June 15 following the end of such Rate Year.

e. **Annual True-up Adjustment:** the difference between the revenues collected for that Rate Year under the Formula Rate based upon the Projected ATRR (not including the True-up Adjustment or Corrections) and the Actual ATRR for the same Rate Year. The Annual True-up Adjustment is included in the Annual Update for the next Rate Year.

f. **Annual Update:** the Projected ATRR for the upcoming Rate Year, including any Annual True-up Adjustment for the prior Rate Year or any Corrections for prior years.

g. **CLCPA Eligible Projects:** the transmission projects (or any portion thereof) owned by NYSEG that qualify as a “CLCPA Eligible Project” as such term is defined in Section 6.19.1.1 of Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT. For the purposes of this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT, such transmission projects may also be referred to as “Schedule 19 Projects.”

h. **Corrections:** changes due to errors or otherwise to prior Actual ATRRs that occur after that Actual ATRR is used to determine that Rate Year’s Annual True-up Adjustment and included in the applicable Annual Update.

i. **Formal Challenge:** a written challenge, filed with FERC, to the Annual True-up Adjustment submitted to the Commission or to the Annual Update posted to

the ISO website.

j. **Formula Rate:** the Formula Rate Template (as set forth in Section 6.19.6.2.2 of this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT) and the Formula Rate Protocols (as set forth in this Section 6.19.6.2.1 of this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT).

k. **Formula Rate Template:** the collection of formulas and worksheets, unpopulated with any data, included as set forth in Section 6.19.6.2.2 of this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT.

l. **Informal Challenge:** a process by which Interested Parties may challenge certain aspects of the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update. Informal Challenges are presented to NYSEG directly.

m. **Informational Filing:** the filing of the Annual Update and the results of the Review Period with FERC on or before February 1 of each year commencing with the completion of the initial Rate Year for which this Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT is effective. This is filed at FERC for informational purposes only and does not require any action by the Commission.

n. **Interested Parties:** any transmission customer under the ISO OATT, the New York State Department of Public Service, the New York State Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection Utility Intervention Unit, consumer advocacy agencies, the New York Attorney General or any party that has standing in a NYSEG Formula Rate proceeding under sections 205 or 206 of the FPA.

o. **Posting Date:** the date on which NYSEG causes to be posted to the ISO website its Annual Update, which is October 15 of each year; provided, however, that if

such date falls on a weekend or holiday recognized by the Commission, the Posting Date shall be the next business day.

p. **Projected Annual Transmission Revenue Requirement (“Projected ATRR”)**: the projected annual revenue requirement of NYSEG’s CLCPA Eligible Projects for the upcoming Rate Year calculated in accordance with the Formula Rate and posted on the ISO website no later than the Posting Date.

q. **Publication Date**: the date on which NYSEG causes the Annual True-up Adjustment to be posted to the ISO website, which is June 15 of each year; provided, however, that if such date falls on a weekend or holiday recognized by the Commission, the Publication Date shall be the next business day.

r. **Rate Year**: a twelve consecutive month period that begins on January 1 and continues through December 31.

s. **Review Period**: the period during which Interested Parties may request information or make Informal Challenges to the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update. The Review Period extends from the Publication Date to January 31 of the following calendar year. Information requests can be submitted from the Publication Date through December 1 of the current year. The deadlines for information requests and for the Review Period shall be extended for any delays in the Publication Date, including if the Publication Date falls on a holiday recognized by FERC or a weekend. In addition, the deadline for information requests or for the Review Period shall be extended to the next business day if such dates fall on a holiday recognized by FERC or a weekend.

Section 2 Applicability

These Formula Rate Protocols shall apply to NYSEG’s calculation of its Projected

ATRR and Actual ATRR, and related Annual True-up Adjustment(s). A timeline of the annual protocol process is contained in Section 10 of this Section 6.19.6.2.1 of Attachment 1 to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT.

Section 3 Projected ATRR, Actual ATRR, Annual True-up Adjustment and Annual Update

a. The Projected ATRR calculated pursuant to the Formula Rate shall be applicable on and after January 1 of the Rate Year in which the revenue requirement of Schedule 19 Projects is to be included in transmission rates.

b. On or before June 15 of each succeeding Rate Year (the Publication Date), NYSEG shall calculate its Actual ATRR and resulting Annual True-up Adjustment according to the Formula Rate and cause the results to be posted on the ISO website. Within five (5) days of such posting, NYSEG shall provide (or caused to be provided) notice of such posting to Interested Parties. The ISO shall provide notice of such posting via email to Transmission Customers. NYSEG shall provide notice via email to all other Interested Parties utilizing the most recent email address provided to NYSEG.

c. On or before October 15 of each year (the Posting Date) beginning when the revenue requirement of Schedule 19 Projects is to be included in transmission rates in the subsequent Rate Year, NYSEG shall calculate its Annual Update for the upcoming Rate Year and cause the results to be posted on the ISO website. As part of the Annual Update, NYSEG shall determine its Projected ATRR, calculated according to the Formula Rate. The Annual Update will also include the results of the Annual True-up Adjustment for the prior Rate Year and any Corrections for prior years, when applicable. Within five (5) days of such posting, NYSEG shall provide (or caused to be provided) notice of such posting to Interested Parties. The ISO shall provide notice of such posting via email to Transmission Customers. NYSEG

shall provide notice via email to all other Interested Parties utilizing the most recent email address provided to NYSEG.

d. If the Publication Date or the Posting Date falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by FERC, then the Publication Date or Posting Date, as applicable, shall be the next business day.

e. Within thirty (30) days after the Posting Date (October 15), NYSEG shall hold the Annual Stakeholder Meeting to present, explain and answer questions concerning the Annual True-up Adjustment for the prior Rate Year and the Annual Update for the upcoming Rate Year. NYSEG will provide the opportunity for remote participation at Annual Stakeholder Meetings. To ensure that Interested Parties receive sufficient advance notice of Stakeholder Meetings, NYSEG shall schedule each Annual Stakeholder Meeting at least one (1) month in advance and cause notice thereof to be posted on the ISO website. Within five (5) days of such posting, NYSEG shall provide (or caused to be provided) notice of such posting to Interested Parties. The ISO shall provide notice of such posting via email to Transmission Customers. NYSEG shall provide notice via email to all other Interested Parties utilizing the most recent email address provided to NYSEG.

f. NYSEG shall modify the Annual Update to reflect any changes that it and the Interested Parties agree upon by no later than December 1 and shall cause the revised Annual Update to be posted on the ISO website no later than December 15. Any change agreed to or required after November 30 will be implemented as part of the subsequent Annual True-up Adjustment to be effective in the next following Rate Year. Within five (5) days of such posting, NYSEG shall provide (or caused to be provided) notice of such posting to Interested Parties. The ISO shall provide notice of such posting via email to Transmission Customers.

NYSEG shall provide notice via email to all other Interested Parties utilizing the most recent email address provided to NYSEG.

g. The Actual ATRR and Annual True-up Adjustment posting shall:

i. Include a workable, data-populated Formula Rate Template and any underlying workpapers in native format with all formulas and links intact and based on NYSEG's FERC Form No. 1 reports for the prior Rate Year;

ii. Provide supporting documentation and workpapers for data that are used in the Annual True-up Adjustment that are not otherwise available directly from the FERC Form No. 1 reports;

iii. Provide sufficient information to enable Interested Parties to replicate the calculation of the Annual True-up Adjustment;

iv. Identify any changes in the Formula Rate references (page and line numbers) to the FERC Form No. 1 report;

v. Identify all material adjustments made to the FERC Form No. 1 data in determining Formula Rate Template inputs, including relevant footnotes to the FERC Form No. 1 and any adjustments not shown in the FERC Form No. 1;

vi. Include, with respect to any Accounting Change that affects inputs to the Formula Rate Template, or the resulting Actual ATRR under the Formula Rate:

A. a description of any changes in an accounting standard or policy;

B. a description of any accounting practices for unusual or unconventional items where FERC has not provided specific accounting direction;

C. any correction of ~~material~~ errors and ~~material~~ prior period adjustments that impact the Annual True-up Adjustment calculation or prior Annual True-up

Adjustments;

D. a description of any new estimation methods or policies that change prior estimates; and

E. changes to income tax elections or rates;

vii. Identify items included in the Annual True-up Adjustment at an amount other than on a historic cost basis (*e.g.*, fair value adjustments);

viii. Identify any reorganization or merger transaction during the previous year and explain the effect of the accounting for such transaction(s) on inputs to the Annual True-up Adjustment;

ix. Include, for each item identified pursuant to 3.g.vi – 3.g.viii of these Formula Rate Protocols, a narrative explanation of the individual effect of such changes on the Actual ATRR under the Formula Rate; and

x. Provide for the ~~prior~~applicable Rate Year the following information related to affiliate cost allocation.

A. a detailed description of the methodologies used to allocate and directly assign costs between NYSEG and its affiliates by service category or function, including any changes to such cost allocation methodologies from the prior Rate Year and the reasons and justifications for those changes; and

B. the magnitude of such costs that have been allocated or directly assigned between NYSEG and each affiliate by service category or function.

h. The Projected ATRR shall:

i. Include a workable, data-populated Formula Rate Template and any underlying workpapers in native format with all formulas and links intact;

ii. Provide supporting documentation and workpapers for all Schedule 19 Projects being added to operating property in the upcoming Rate Year that are used in the Projected ATRR, including projected costs of each project, expected construction schedule and in-service dates;~~and~~

iii. Provide enough information to enable Interested Parties to replicate the calculation of the Projected ATRR;

iv. Include, with respect to any Accounting Change that affects inputs to the Formula Rate Template, or the resulting Projected ATRR under the Formula Rate:

A. a description of any changes in an accounting standard or policy;

B. a description of any accounting practices for unusual or unconventional items where FERC has not provided specific accounting direction;

C. any correction of errors and prior period adjustments that impact an Annual True-up Adjustment calculation or prior Annual True-up Adjustments;

D. a description of any new estimation methods or policies that change prior estimates; and

E. changes to income tax elections or rates;

v. Identify items included in the Projected ATRR at an amount other than on a historic cost basis (e.g., fair value adjustments);

vi. Identify any reorganization or merger transaction during the previous year and explain the effect of the accounting for such transaction(s) on inputs to the Projected ATRR; and

vii. Include, for each item identified pursuant to 3.h.iv – 3.h.vi of these Formula Rate Protocols, a narrative explanation of the individual effect of such changes on the Projected ATRR under the Formula Rate.

~~iii. —~~

i. If NYSEG files any corrections to its FERC Form No. 1 that impacts an Annual True-up Adjustment, such corrections and any resulting refunds or surcharges shall be reflected in the subsequent Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update as a Correction, with interest.

j. Interest on the Annual True-up Adjustment shall be determined based on the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R § 35.19a a(iii)(A). The interest payable shall be calculated using the average of the interest rates used to calculate the time value of money for the twenty-four (24) months during which the over- or under- recovery in the Actual ATRR exists (middle of Rate Year for which Annual True-up Adjustment is being determined to the middle of Rate Year where the Annual True-up Adjustment is included in the Annual Update). The interest during this 24-month period will initially be estimated and then trued-up to actual and included in a subsequent Annual True-up Adjustment.

k. Formula Rate Template inputs for (i) the ceiling rate of return on common equity; (ii) extraordinary property losses, and (iii) depreciation and amortization expense rates shall be stated values to be used in the Formula Rate approved by FERC order(s). NYSEG may make a limited section 205 filing to change its rate of return on common equity to reflect incentive rate of return adders, if any, which may only be included upon FERC order. Such filings shall comply with the filing requirements that the FERC may have established for seeking such incentives. ~~NYSEG may also make a limited section 205 filing to request~~

~~recovery of the cost of removal regulatory asset, request recovery of extraordinary property losses or change or add new depreciation and amortization rates. In each case, the sole purpose of any such limited section 205 filing shall be to address whether such proposed changes are just and reasonable and shall not include other aspects of the Formula Rate.~~

Changes in depreciation and amortization rates to track a state commission order shall become effective only upon FERC order permitting a change in depreciation and amortization rates, which, to the extent possible, should be made effective as of the same date the state commission order becomes effective. NYSEG will include notification of such changes in the applicable informational filing. NYSEG may also request transmission rate incentives pursuant to section 219 of the FPA.

1. It is the intent of the Formula Rate, including the supporting explanations and allocations described therein, that each input to the Formula Rate will be taken either directly from the FERC Form No. 1 or reconcilable to the FERC Form No. 1 by the application of clearly identified and supported information. If the FERC Form No. 1 is superseded, the successor form(s) shall be utilized and supplemented as necessary to provide equivalent information as that provided in FERC Form No. 1. If the FERC Form No. 1 is discontinued, equivalent information as that provided in the FERC Form No. 1 shall be utilized.

Section 4. Fundamental Predicates

a. The Formula Rate is premised upon data reported or recorded by NYSEG consistent with the following predicates ("Fundamental Predicates"):

- i. FERC's Uniform System of Accounts;
- ii. Applicable FERC Form No. 1 reporting requirements;
- iii. FERC's policies governing formula rates for transmission service,

including FERC's policies that all charges billed under transmission formula rates are subject to: (A) challenge on grounds of imprudence, and (B) an order by FERC requiring refunds in the manner and to the extent ordered;

iv. FERC orders establishing transmission ratemaking policies of general application to transmission-owning public utilities, including NYSEG; and

v. The accounting and cost allocation policies, practices and procedures of NYSEG to the extent consistent with the authorities listed in (i) through (iv) above.

b. The Formula Rate is based upon each of these Fundamental Predicates as existed as of the date these Formula Rate Protocols are filed with FERC. Provisions of the Formula Rate may be modified to conform to changes in these Fundamental Predicates in accordance with Section 8 of these Formula Rate Protocols or as ordered by FERC.

c. The Projected ATRR and the Actual ATRR shall include only costs for CLCPA Eligible Projects approved by the PSC as contemplated by the CSRA and such costs are directly related to or properly allocable to transmission functions pursuant to Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT. Interested Parties shall be entitled to review and challenge (i) the reasonableness and prudence of costs and expenditures included in the Projected ATRR and Actual ATRR, (ii) the basis for and reasonableness of allocating all or any portion of such costs and expenditures in determining the Projected ATRR and Actual ATRR under Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT, and (iii) whether the allocation of costs as applied results in a disproportionate allocation of cost to the Projected ATRR and Actual ATRR for charges under Rate Schedule 19 of the ISO OATT. Any such review and challenge shall adhere to the procedures set forth in Sections 6 and 8 below.

Section 5 Construction Work in Progress

a. This section applies to any and all NYSEG Schedule 19 Projects where the Commission has granted NYSEG CWIP in rate base, either 100% or less (“CWIP”).

i. NYSEG shall use the following accounting procedures to ensure that, if authorized by a Commission order to include 100% of any CLCPA Eligible Project CWIP in transmission rate base, NYSEG ceases to accrue for recovery any AFUDC and, if less than 100% of CWIP in transmission rate base is authorized, a corresponding percentage of AFUDC accruals will cease. NYSEG shall assign each Schedule 19 Project where the Commission has authorized CWIP a unique funding project number (“FPN”) for internal cost tracking purposes.

ii. NYSEG shall record actual construction costs to each FPN through work orders that are coded to correspond to the FPN for each applicable Schedule 19 Project. Such work orders shall be segregated from work orders for other Schedule 19 Projects for which the Commission has not authorized NYSEG to include any portion of CWIP in rate base.

iii. For each applicable Schedule 19 Project, NYSEG shall prepare monthly work order summaries of costs incurred under the associated FPN. These summaries shall show monthly additions to CWIP and transfers to plant in service and shall correspond to amounts shown in NYSEG’s FERC Form No. 1. NYSEG shall use these summaries as data inputs into the Annual True-up Adjustment. NYSEG shall make such work order summaries available upon request under the review procedures of Section 6 of these Formula Rate Protocols.

iv. When a Schedule 19 Project for which the Commission granted CWIP,

or portion thereof, is placed into service, NYSEG shall deduct from the total CWIP the accumulated charges for work orders under the FPN for that project, or portion thereof. The purpose of this control process is to ensure that expenditures are not double counted as both CWIP and as additions to plant.

v. For Schedule 19 Projects for which the Commission has not granted CWIP, NYSEG shall record AFUDC to be applied to CWIP and capitalized as part of CWIP and included in the project investment when the project is placed into service.

vi. For Schedule 19 Projects where the Commission has granted CWIP, NYSEG will include in the investment for such project's AFUDC accrued prior to the date that NYSEG first includes the CWIP for such projects in rate base.

b. For each Schedule 19 Project where FERC has approved CWIP in rate base, NYSEG shall include in its Informational Filing a report that includes the following concerning each project:

- i. the actual amount of CWIP recorded for each project by month for the Rate Year;
- ii. the current status of each project; and
- iii. the estimated in-service date for each project.

Section 6 Annual Review Procedures

Each Annual True-up Adjustment and Annual Update shall be subject to the following review procedures:

a. Interested Parties shall have until December 1 to serve reasonable information requests on NYSEG for both the Annual True-up Adjustment and the Annual Update. If December 1 falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by FERC, the deadline for

submitting all information and document requests shall be extended to the next business day.

Such information and document requests shall be limited to what is necessary to determine:

- i. the extent or effect of an Accounting Change;
- ii. whether the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update fails to include data properly recorded in accordance with these Formula Rate Protocols and the Fundamental Predicates or includes data not properly recorded in accordance with these Formula Rate Protocols and the Fundamental Predicates;
- iii. whether the costs included in the Annual Update are properly accounted for (*e.g.*, recordable and recorded in the appropriate accounts) under FERC's Uniform System of Accounts under 18 C.F.R. Part 101, and otherwise consistent with NYSEG's accounting policies, practices, or procedures;
- iv. whether there are errors in the current Annual Update and, if any are identified, whether the same or similar errors were made in prior Formula Rate filings with a further explanation identifying each Formula Rate filing in which such errors were made;
- v. the proper application of the Formula Rate and procedures in these Formula Rate Protocols;
- vi. the accuracy of data and consistency with the Formula Rate of the calculations shown in the Annual True-up Adjustment or the Annual Update;
- vii. the prudence of actual costs and expenditures;
- viii. the effect of any change to the underlying Uniform System of Accounts or the FERC Form No. 1;
- viii.ix. information on procurement methods and cost control methodologies used by NYSEG; or

~~ix-x.~~ any other information that may reasonably have a substantive effect on the calculation of the Projected ATRR or Actual ATRR pursuant to the Formula Rate.

b. The information and document requests shall not otherwise be directed to ascertaining whether the Formula Rate is just and reasonable. Additionally, information requests shall not solicit information concerning costs or allocations where the costs or allocation methods have been determined by FERC (or resolved by a settlement accepted by FERC) or for Annual True-up Adjustments for other Rate Years, except that such information requests shall be permitted if they seek to determine if there has been a material change in NYSEG's circumstances.

c. NYSEG shall make a good faith effort to respond to information requests pertaining to the Annual True-up Adjustment and Annual Update within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of such requests. NYSEG shall respond to all information and document requests by no later than December 20 unless the information exchange period is extended by NYSEG or FERC. If December 20 falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by FERC, the deadline for response to information requests shall be extended to the next business day.

d. If NYSEG and any Interested Party are unable to resolve disputes related to information requests submitted in accordance with these annual review procedures, NYSEG or the Interested Party may petition FERC to appoint an Administrative Law Judge as a discovery master. The discovery master shall have the power to issue binding orders to resolve discovery disputes and compel the production of discovery, as appropriate, in accordance with these annual review procedures and consistent with FERC's discovery rules.

e. NYSEG will cause to be posted on the ISO website all information requests

from Interested Parties and NYSEG's response to such requests; except to the extent such responses to information and document requests include material deemed by NYSEG to be confidential information (in which event such information will not be publicly posted but will be made available to requesting parties pursuant to a confidentiality agreement to be executed by NYSEG and the requesting party).

f. NYSEG shall not claim that responses to information and document requests provided pursuant to these Formula Rate Protocols are subject to any settlement privilege in any subsequent FERC proceeding addressing NYSEG's Annual True-up Adjustment, Annual Update, or its Formula Rate.

g. The dates and time periods set forth in this Section 6 may be modified by agreement between NYSEG and other Interested Parties.

Section 7 Informational Filing

a. By February 1 of each year, NYSEG shall submit to FERC an Informational Filing of its Annual Update and the results of the Annual Review Procedures. This Informational Filing must include the information that is required by Section 3, must describe any changes pursuant to the Annual Review Procedures and must describe all aspects of the formula rate or its inputs that are the subject of an ongoing dispute under the Informal or Formal Challenge procedures. NYSEG will include supporting documentation and workpapers for all Schedule 19 Projects added to operating property in the Rate Year of the respective Projected ATRR, including projected costs of each project, expected construction schedule and in-service dates. Within five (5) days of such Informational Filing, NYSEG shall provide (or cause to be provided) notice of the Informational Filing to Interested Parties via email and by posting the docket number assigned to NYSEG's Informational Filing on NYSEG's website and OASIS.

b. Any challenges to the implementation of the Annual Update must be made through the Challenge Procedures described in Section 8 of these protocols or in a separate complaint proceeding, and not in response to the Informational Filing.

Section 8 Challenge Procedures

a. Interested Parties have through January 31 of the following year to make an Informal Challenge to NYSEG's Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update. If January 31 falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by FERC, the deadline for submitting all Informal Challenges shall be extended to the next business day. Failure to pursue at least one issue through an Informal Challenge shall bar the filing of a Formal Challenge. If at least one Informal Challenge was pursued, then a Formal Challenge may be filed on that issue or any other issue. Failure to pursue an issue with respect to any particular Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update shall not bar pursuit of such issue through Informal Challenge or the lodging of a Formal Challenge as to such issue as it relates to subsequent Annual True-up Adjustments or Annual Updates. This Section 8 shall in no way affect a party's rights under FPA section 206.

b. A party submitting an Informal Challenge to NYSEG must specify the inputs, supporting explanations, allocations, calculations, or other information to which it objects and provide an appropriate explanation and documents to support its challenge. NYSEG shall make a good faith effort to respond to any Informal Challenge within twenty (20) business days of notification of such challenge. NYSEG shall appoint a senior representative to work with the party that submitted the Informal Challenge (or its representative) toward a resolution of the challenge. If NYSEG disagrees with such challenge, NYSEG will provide the Interested Party(ies) with an explanation supporting the inputs and provide supporting

calculations, descriptions, allocations, or other information. No Informal Challenge may be submitted after January 31, and NYSEG must respond to all Informal Challenges by no later than February 28, unless the Review Period is extended by NYSEG or FERC. Informal Challenges shall be subject to the resolution procedures and limitations in this Section 8.

c. Informal Challenges shall be presented to NYSEG and Formal Challenges filed before the FERC, pursuant to these Formula Rate Protocols and shall:

- i. Clearly identify the action or inaction which is alleged to violate the filed Formula Rate or Formula Rate Protocols;
- ii. Explain how the action or inaction violates the Formula Rate or Formula Rate Protocols;
- iii. Set forth the business, commercial, economic, or other issues presented by the action or inaction as such relates to or affects the party filing the Informal Challenge or Formal Challenge, including:
 - A. The extent or effect of an Accounting Change;
 - B. Whether the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update fails to include data properly recorded in accordance with these Formula Rate Protocols;
 - C. The proper application of the Formula Rate and procedures in these Formula Rate Protocols;
 - D. The accuracy of data and consistency with the Formula Rate of the charges shown in the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update, including errors as described in Section 6.a.iv, for the current Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update and for any prior years in which the Formula Rate included such errors;
 - E. The prudence of actual costs and expenditures;

F. The effect of any change to the underlying Uniform System of Accounts or FERC Form No. 1; or

G. Any other information that may reasonably have substantive effect on the calculation of the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update.

iv. Informal Challenges and Formal Challenges may address whether costs are recorded consistent with the Fundamental Predicates in these Formula Rate Protocols and FERC's policies and regulations, how the costs charged by NYSEG's affiliates are recorded on NYSEG's books in accordance with Instruction 14 of the Uniform System of Accounts, the amounts of such centralized service company costs, and whether the costs are properly includable in transmission rates.

v. With respect to an issue that had previously been adjudicated by the Commission in a Formal Challenge proceeding that was not resolved by settlement, the principles of *res judicata* and *collateral estoppel* shall apply and, therefore, if a subsequent Formal Challenge is made with respect to such issue, NYSEG may move to dismiss on such grounds, the challenging party or other Interested Parties may contest whether such principles apply, and the Commission shall have the discretion to determine whether the Formal Challenge may proceed or should be dismissed.

vi. Make a good faith effort to quantify the financial impact or burden (if any) created for the party filing the Formal Challenge as a result of the action or inaction;

vii. State whether the issues presented are pending in an existing Commission proceeding or a proceeding in any other forum in which the filing party is a party, and if so, provide an explanation why timely resolution cannot be achieved in that forum;

viii. State the specific relief or remedy requested, including any request for stay or extension of time, and the basis for that relief;

ix. Include all documents that support the facts in the Formal Challenge in possession of, or otherwise attainable by, the filing party, including, but not limited to, contracts and affidavits; and

x. State whether the filing party utilized the Informal Challenge procedures described in these Formula Rate Protocols to dispute the action or inaction raised by the Formal Challenge, and, if not, describe why not.

d. Any person filing a Formal Challenge must serve a copy of the Formal Challenge on NYSEG. Service to NYSEG must be simultaneous with filing at the Commission. Simultaneous service can be accomplished by electronic mail in accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 385.2010(f)(3), facsimile, express delivery, or messenger. The party filing the Formal Challenge shall serve the individual listed as the contact person on NYSEG's Informational Filing required under Section 7 of these Formula Rate Protocols.

e. NYSEG will cause to be posted on the ISO website all Informal Challenges from Interested Parties and NYSEG's response(s) to such Informal Challenges; except to the extent such Informal Challenges or responses to Informal Challenges include material deemed by NYSEG to be confidential information (in which event such information will not be publicly posted but will be made available to requesting parties pursuant to a confidentiality agreement to be executed by NYSEG and the requesting party).

f. Any changes or adjustments to the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update resulting from the information exchange and Informal Challenge processes agreed to by NYSEG on or before December 1 will be reflected in the Annual Update for the upcoming

Rate Year. Any changes or adjustments agreed to by NYSEG after December 1 will be reflected in the following year's Annual True-up Adjustment.

g. If NYSEG and a challenging party have not resolved an Informal Challenge to an Annual Update, the challenging party shall have the right to submit by May 1 a Formal Challenge with the FERC, which shall be served on NYSEG on the date of such filing as specified in Section 8.d., above. If May 1 falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by FERC, the deadline for submitting a Formal Challenge shall be extended to the next business day. However, there shall be no need to make a Formal Challenge or to await conclusion of the time periods in this Section 8 if the FERC already has initiated *sua sponte* a proceeding to consider the Annual Update. A Formal Challenge shall be filed pursuant to these Formula Rate Protocols rather than Section 206 of the FPA and in the same docket as NYSEG's informational filing discussed in Section 7 of these Formula Rate Protocols. NYSEG shall respond to the Formal Challenge by the deadline established by FERC. A party may not pursue a Formal Challenge if that party did not submit an Informal Challenge on at least one issue during the applicable Review Period.

h. In any proceeding initiated by FERC concerning the Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update or in response to a Formal Challenge, NYSEG shall bear the burden, consistent with FPA section 205, of proving that it has correctly applied the terms of the Formula Rate consistent with these Formula Rate Protocols, and that it followed the applicable requirements and procedures in these Formula Rate Protocols. Nothing herein is intended to alter the burdens applied by FERC with respect to prudence challenges.

i. In the event an error, as further described in Section 6.a.iv, is identified in an Annual True-up Adjustment or Annual Update and such error was present in prior Annual

True-up Adjustments or Annual Updates, an Interested Party may request a FERC order making any correction or providing other remedial relief retroactive to the first Formula Rate filing in which such error occurred. NYSEG retains all rights to oppose such a request.

j. Except as specifically provided herein, nothing herein shall be deemed to limit in any way the right of NYSEG to file unilaterally, pursuant to FPA section 205 and the regulations thereunder, to change the Formula Rate or any of its inputs (including, but not limited to, rate of return and transmission incentive rate treatment), or to replace the Formula Rate with a stated rate, or the right of any Interested Party to request such changes pursuant to FPA section 206 and the Commission's regulations thereunder.

k. No Interested Party shall seek to modify the Formula Rate under the challenge procedures set forth in this Section 8, and the Annual True-up Adjustment and Annual Update shall not be subject to challenge by anyone for the purpose of modifying the Formula Rate. Any modifications to the Formula Rate will require, as applicable, an FPA section 205 or section 206 filing.

l. Any Interested Party seeking changes to the application of the Formula Rate due to a change in the Uniform System of Accounts or FERC Form No. 1 shall first raise the matter with NYSEG in accordance with this Section 8 before pursuing a Formal Challenge.

Section 9 Changes to Annual Informational Filings

Any changes to the data inputs as a result of revisions to NYSEG's FERC Form No. 1 or as a result of any FERC proceeding to consider the Annual True-up Adjustment or as a result of the procedures set forth herein shall be incorporated into the Formula Rate (with interest determined in accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 38.19a) in the Annual Update for the next effective Rate Year. This approach shall apply in lieu of mid-Rate Year adjustments or any

refunds or surcharges. However, actual refunds or surcharges (with interest determined in accordance with 18 C.F.R. §38.19a) for the then current Rate Year shall be made if the Formula Rate is replaced by a stated rate by NYSEG.

Section 10 Timeline of Annual Process

