

STRICKEN AS OF 11/10/2016
AMENDED COPY AS OF 5/17/2016

Intro. Res. No. 1465-2016
Introduced by Legislator Krupski

Laid on Table 5/10/2016

RESOLUTION NO. -2016, DIRECTING COUNTY
PARTICIPATION IN REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of “Superstorm Sandy”, New York State began to proactively strengthen its energy infrastructure and the State continues to formulate plans to reinforce local and state energy structures; and

WHEREAS, it is important that Suffolk County be represented and involved in the conversation and planning of storm hardening investments developed by New York State; and

WHEREAS, in addition to ongoing infrastructure reinforcements, New York State created the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) strategy which actively spurs clean energy innovation by bringing new investments into the State and improving consumer choice and affordability; and

WHEREAS, the REV initiative will lead to regulatory changes that promote more efficient use of energy, deeper penetration of renewable energy resources and wider deployment of “distributed energy resources”; and

WHEREAS, the REV strategy aims to transform energy policy to encourage investment in distributed energy resources such as local distributed generation, on-site power, micro-grids, demand, response, and energy storage, and it is envisioned that these changes will empower customers by allowing them more choices in how they manage and consume electric energy; and

WHEREAS, the primary mission of the New York State Department of Public Service (DPS) is to ensure affordable, safe, secure, and reliable access to electric, gas, steam, telecommunications, and water services for New York State’s residential and business consumers, while protecting the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), promotes energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Public Service and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, are working collaboratively to promulgate new regulatory guidelines, utility rates, and related consumer programs to facilitate consumer choice in the new REV marketplace; and

WHEREAS, National Grid has filed with the Department of Public Service for a natural gas rate increase, which also includes storm hardening and REV components; and

WHEREAS, municipal involvement is integral to the successful development and implementation of distributed energy resources, and will have profound and lasting impact on our land use, our municipal economy, and our residents’ welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is important that Suffolk County be represented and involved in the regulatory changes relating to utility rates in general, and those occurring as a result of the REV initiative as well as the development and implementation of distributed energy resources by the New York State Department of Public Service; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Office of Budget Review, the Department of Public Works and the County Attorney's Office are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to represent the interests of Suffolk County and all Suffolk County electric and natural gas ratepayers regarding the planning and implementation of storm hardening investments made by PSEG LI and National Grid; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Office of Budget Review, the Department of Public Works and the County Attorney's Office are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to represent the interests of Suffolk County and all Suffolk County electric and natural gas ratepayers in proceedings relating generally to energy utility rates, and also regarding the formulation of REV Market electric and natural gas rates and REV Market programs; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that the Office of Budget Review, the Department of Public Works and the County Attorney's Office are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to represent the interests of Suffolk County and all Suffolk County residents in all New York State Department of Public Service energy rate proceedings and in the potential development of new electric and natural gas supply infrastructure resources by PSEG LI and National Grid; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED:

APPROVED BY:

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: