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November 21, 2007

Kevin M. Kolevar
Assistant Secretary
Office of Electricity and Energy Reliability
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

RE: New York State Public Service Commission and Department of Environmental Conservation Requests for Rehearing on the Mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor; Docket No. 2007-OE-01

Dear Secretary Kolevar,

Citizens Campaign for the Environment is a non-profit, non-partisan environmental advocacy organization supported by 80,000 members throughout New York and Connecticut. On behalf of our members, CCE supports New York State's request for a rehearing on the Mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor designation.

In finalizing the Mid-Atlantic Corridor, the Department of Energy failed to preserve states' rights to plan and implement energy infrastructure. The final designation lacks necessary protections for environmentally sensitive and publicly held lands. CCE urges the DOE to reopen this discussion and adopt the following recommendations.

1. Abandon Corridor designation until clear guidelines outlining the specific reasons designations are developed that determine how designations shall be terminated once congestion and constraint is resolved.
2. Provide a transparent process for States and municipalities to resolve their own energy solutions to congestion and constraint, first, before any federal intervention.

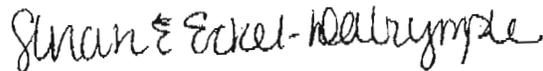
3. Adhere to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements and ensure potential adverse impacts to environmentally sensitive and publicly protected lands are fully evaluated prior to corridor designation.

4. Reconsider the potential undesirable impacts of a "source and sink" approach to addressing energy congestion, as this forces States and municipalities to consider energy infrastructure that may adversely impact public health and the environment. The pathways as determined by the Department of Energy do not follow along previously sited right-of-ways and therefore usurp the State's jurisdiction over these lands.

CCE strongly supports New York State's request to reopen this designation to rehear the Mid-Atlantic Corridor designation to reevaluate its role in prompting states to address critically congested and constrained areas without usurping their rights or overstepping environmental reviews.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our comments.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah E. Eckel-Dalrymple
Program Coordinator

Encl: CCE's comments of July 6, 2007 on the Draft Mid-Atlantic Transmission Corridor

cc: Governor Eliot Spitzer, New York State
Commissioner Alexander Grannis, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Chairwoman Patricia L. Acampora, New York State Public Service Commission
Hon. Michael Arcuri
Hon. James Walsh
Hon. Charles Schumer
Hon. Hillary Clinton
Hon. John Hall
Hon. Maurice Hinchey
Hon. Louise Slaughter