



NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

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March 9, 2012

The Honorable Jaclyn Brillling, Secretary
New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: **Case 10-T-0139**

**Application of Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. and CHPE Properties, Inc.
for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to
Article VII of the New York State Public Service Law**

Dear Secretary Brillling:

I am the President of the New York State Conference of Operating Engineers and I write to express support for the above referenced application and for the Joint Proposal of Settlement ("JP") signed and filed with your office on February 24, 2012. For the reasons set forth below, we hope that further proceedings in this matter will advance to a timely and favorable conclusion, with the certificate being granted before the end of this year.

As you may know, the New York State Conference of Operating Engineers has more than 30,000 members in New York State and represents operating engineers who work as heavy equipment operators, mechanics and surveyors in the construction industry, and stationary engineers, custodial engineers and building inspectors who work in operations and maintenance in buildings and industrial complexes.

We believe that the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project, which is privately financed, will lead to the creation of several hundred jobs in many economic sectors. The report of London Economics released on February 2, 2012 confirmed that direct, indirect and induced jobs will be produced during the construction and operation phases of the Project. We were very encouraged to learn that the developer has committed to making project labor agreements with trade unions a centerpiece of its construction program.

Thank you for your consideration of our views in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. McGraw
President

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