

**New York State Laborers'-Employers'
Cooperation & Education Trust**

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April 12, 2012

**Champlain Hudson Power Express Project
(Underground Transmission Line)
Public Comment**

The New York State Laborers' Union represents 40,000 members employed in the construction industry and other fields throughout the state. Our members are organized into more than 35 local unions and 5 district councils. We are a proud affiliate of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA).

Direct Impact for our members

- The Champlain Hudson Power Express Transmission project would create more than 300 direct construction jobs for our members from Clinton County along the route to Queens County during the 3½ year construction period.
- The construction jobs will be associated with the construction of a converter station and the installation of the transmission cable within the state. Our members would also be involved with the construction of temporary access roads, site excavation and site restoration.
- We have 8 local unions represented throughout the geographic region of this project. The Champlain Hudson Power Express project would provide work opportunity in the communities where they live which would benefit these communities.

Economic Impact

- The construction phase will deliver immediate economic benefits to the state. Over the course of 3 ½ year construction phase, the spending generated by the Champlain Hudson Power Express project will increase New York's Gross Domestic product by nearly \$150 million per year.
- The instate construction jobs created by the Champlain Hudson Power Express project will result in an increase in demand of goods and services within the state.

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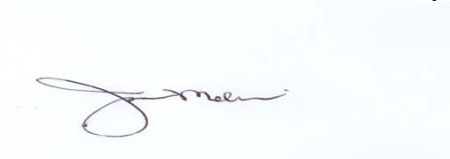
- The construction phase of the Champlain Hudson Power Express project will create an average of more than 1,200 indirect jobs in New York State over the same period of time from suppliers and businesses in the local community along the route.
- The project will also incur direct spending in New York, including non-labor installation costs, as well as fees and taxes paid to the local and state government. With more revenues/sales, businesses will have more profits and therefore be able to hire more people or make more investments.

Increase Reliability and Lower Costs

- Once this project is complete it will continue to deliver significant economic benefits. It is estimated that the increased supply of low cost electricity delivered through this line will decrease electricity costs by more than \$650 million a year to customers in New York State.

***Statistics came from the document Analysis of the Macroeconomic Impacts of the Proposed Champlain Hudson Power Express Project in New York prepared by London Economics International LLC*

Sincerely,



James M. Melius, MD, Dr.PH
Administrator