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February 22nd, 2022

Honorable Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Dear Secretary Phillips:

The New York Building Congress is a broad-based membership association that is committed to promoting the growth and success of the construction industry in New York and the surrounding area. The Building Congress also provides a unique forum to advance an industry-wide agenda focusing on economic and infrastructure investment, job creation, and professional exchange. As such, the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) project represents an outstanding opportunity to advance all these goals and more.

We write today to express our support for the approval of the contract between the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the CHPE that will allow the latter to deliver hydropower from Canada to New York City. The contract is currently being reviewed as part of Case Number 15-E-0302 before the New York State Public Service Commission.

The CHPE project is a partnership between Hydro-Québec and Transmission Developers, Inc. and will deliver enough hydropower to power more than 1 million New York City homes. The fully buried transmission line will be one of the largest infrastructure investments ever made in New York State and will provide \$3.5 billion in economic benefits to New Yorkers.

The project's sponsors have committed to using union labor to build this project and can start construction this year, creating more than 1,400 direct construction jobs at a pivotal time in our economic recovery. This large investment in New York will generate more than \$400 million in family-sustaining wages and benefits in the state and approximately 3,200 secondary jobs during construction. That means new business for restaurants, shops, and other retailers that are still recovering from the pandemic.

In addition, the project's developers are committed to creating economic opportunity beyond the construction period of the project through the creation of a Green Economy Fund. This new \$40 million fund will provide resources to existing training programs to create additional job training opportunities and access to clean energy jobs for New Yorkers. The fund will also retrain fossil industry workers to work in the new green economy.

CHPE will also be essential in meeting the carbon reduction mandates set by the State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act and the City's Climate Mobilization Act. Both actions call for New York to shrink its carbon footprint and reduce its reliance on fossil fuels, with the former requiring a zero-carbon electric grid by 2040. With the window closing to meet these goals – and thus improve the health of our planet – we must seize opportunities like CHPE sooner rather than later.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlo Scissura'.

Carlo A. Scissura, Esq.

President & CEO