



**New York State Electric & Gas/Rochester Gas & Electric
Proposed Walk-In Center Closures
Cases 15-E-0283, 15-G-0286, 15-E-0285 & 15-G-0284**

On February 19, 2016, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) and Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation (RG&E) filed a Joint Proposal (JP) that proposes to resolve all matters relating to Companies' electric and gas rates and services through April 30, 2019. In addition to the Companies, the JP was signed by seven parties representing different interests, including Staff of the Department of Public Service.

Included in the JP is a proposal to close three walk-in office locations located in Belmont, Geneseo and Mechanicville. The closures would occur between September 2016 and May 2017.

PSC Seeking Public Comment

The New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) is seeking comment on the proposed office closures, as well as the overall JP. Assigned Administrative Law Judges will preside over the gathering of public comments and all evidence relating to the proposal. The JP and formal record, including public comments, will be presented to the Commission for consideration. The Commission may adopt or reject the JP in whole or in part.

Interested members of the public are invited to attend a series of public hearings and provide comments regarding the proposal. The hearings are being held as follows:

Date	Location	Time
Wednesday, April 20	North Dansville Town Hall Auditorium 14 Clara Barton Street Dansville, NY	Hearing Start Time: 6:30 PM
Thursday, April 21	Mechanicville City Senior Center 178 North Main Street Mechanicville, NY	Hearing Start Time: 6:30 PM

It is not necessary to make an appointment in advance or present written material in order to speak at the hearings. All comments given at the hearings will be transcribed and become part of the Commission's formal record. The hearings will remain open until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the DPS Human Resources Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this factsheet.

• **Proposed Office Closures:**

The Companies propose to close the following walk-in office locations based upon the following phased schedule:

- (1) September 2016: RG&E's Belmont Office at 23 Schuyler Street, Belmont, NY
- (2) April 2017: NYSEG's Mechanicville Office at 6 Werner Road, Route 146, Clifton Park, NY
- (3) May 2017: RG&E's Geneseo Office at 56 Main Street, Geneseo, NY

At least two months before the proposed closure date of each walk-in office, NYSEG or RG&E will provide DPS Staff with a customer outreach implementation plan. In the event NYSEG or RG&E proposes to close any additional walk-in office(s), the applicable Company must first file a petition with the Commission and obtain Commission approval for such office closure.

• **Additional JP Components:**

Under the JP, a set of terms and conditions were developed for a three-year rate plan for the Companies electric and gas service. The three-year plan is proposed to become effective May 1, 2016 with the Rate Year 1 ending on April 30, 2017, Rate Year 2 ending on April 30, 2018 and Rate Year 3 ending April 30, 2019.

For NYSEG, the JP proposes annual delivery rate increases of 4.1% for electric customers and 7.3% for gas customers. These increases would result in an average overall (i.e. both commodity and delivery) bill increases for customers of approximately 2.7% for electric and 4.1% for gas.

For RG&E electric service, the proposal includes a 0.7% delivery revenue increase the first year, a 5% increase for the second year and a 5.7% increase for the third year. These increases translate to an average overall increase for customers of 0.5% in the first year, 3.4% in the second year and 3.9% in the third year. For RG&E gas, a 5.2% increase in delivery revenue is proposed for the first year, a 4.4% increase for the second year and a 5.2% increase for the third year. These increases would result in an average overall increase for customers of 2.8% in the first year, 2.4% in the second year and 2.9% in the third year.

The actual bill impacts for NYSEG and RG&E customers will vary by customer class based upon revenue allocations and rate design.

The JP also includes terms that may affect customers, including:

- acceleration of the Companies' natural gas leak prone main replacement programs;
- electric vegetation management practices to provide continued safe and reliable service;
- implementation of an Energy Smart Community Project in the Ithaca region to test Reforming the Energy Vision initiatives;
- neighborhood and community gas expansion programs; and
- an expansion of the Companies' Low Income Programs.

The full text of the JP may be viewed online at DPS's www.dps.ny.gov website. From the homepage, click on "Search," and enter any of the case numbers (NYSEG electric: 15-E-0283, NYSEG gas: 15-G-0284, RG&E electric: 15-E-0285 or RG&E gas: 15-G-0286) in the "Search by Case Number" field.

Methods for Commenting on the Case

In addition to providing comments at public hearings regarding the proposed office closures and other components of the JP, members of the public may also provide comments for the Commission's consideration as follows:

- **Via the Department's Website:** Comments may also be entered directly into the case by locating the case via the home page of the Commission's website, www.dps.ny.gov, by clicking on "Search," and entering the associated case number (noted above) in the "Search by Case Number" field. After clicking to open the case, enter comments in the "Post Comments" section located at the top of the page.
- **Via Mail/E-Mail:** Submit comments electronically to Kathleen H. Burgess, Secretary, at secretary@dps.ny.gov or by mail or delivery to Secretary Burgess at the Department of Public Service, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350. Comments delivered in these manners should reference the associated case number.
- **Via Toll-Free Opinion Line:** Individuals may choose to submit comments by calling the Commission's toll-free Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This line is set up to receive in-state calls 24-hours a day. Callers should press "1" to leave comments about Case 15-E-0283, 15-G-0284, 15-E-0285 or 15-G-0286 "Joint Petition of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation and Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation". Comments received via the Opinion Line are not transcribed, but a summary is provided to the Commission for their consideration.

All comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission. Comments will be accepted at any point while this proceeding is pending, but are requested by May 5, 2016 to ensure full consideration.