

FACT SHEET

ATTORNEY GENERAL SPITZER'S ACTION PLAN FOR A BALANCED ELECTRIC POWER POLICY IN NEW YORK STATE

The Attorney General's Action Plan for a Balanced Electric Power Policy in New York State is a comprehensive report that makes specific short- and long-term recommendations to the New York State Legislature, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the New York State Independent Service Operator (NYISO), and the electric utility industry about meeting the State's electricity demands at a reasonable cost while protecting public health and its natural resources.

The Attorney General Energy Plan recommends the following specific actions to:

Increase short-term supply and reduce demand

- New York Power Authority's proposed construction of gas turbine generators in order to meet projected supply shortfalls for the summers of 2001, 2002, and 2003; and
- Increase targeted state funding to existing energy efficiency programs at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority; the New York Power Authority, and the Long Island Power Authority by over \$100 million per year, over ten years, to promote energy conservation, and renewable energy.

Increase long-term supply by streamlining the siting process for new power generation facilities while minimizing the impact on the environment and public health

- Require the Siting Board (Board) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to prioritize pending siting in order to be responsive to areas in need of additional power rather than simply first come, first served;
- Require applicants to file environmental permit applications with DEC prior to filing siting application with the Board in order to expedite overall siting process; and
- Reduce bureaucratic hurdles to public participation through the appointment of project specific managers and community ombudsman.

Expand transmission system to enhance access to regional electric supply to eliminate intra-state bottlenecks

- Establish a federally-sanctioned Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) to address New York's transmission needs.

Minimize need for additional large generating plants

- Provide financial incentive for power companies to provide consumers with electricity generated by a mix of renewable and fossil fuels;
- Stimulate use of solar, wind, and small-scale hydro energy generation as a source of new power supply; and
- Reduce demand by providing consumer tax-credits for the use of clean on-site distributed generation systems.

Protect consumers during transition to competitive electric market from severe price swings

- Limit utilities' ability to pass along costs to consumers; and create shared wholesale price burden;
- Direct utilities to offer flexible rates based on time-of-use; and require multi-unit buildings to be individually sub-metered;
- Support the NYISO's efforts to prevent the exercise of market power leading to excessive wholesale electricity prices; and
- Allow power marketers, brokers, and others not directly involved in generating or retailing to buy and sell power through the NYISO.