



**For Immediate Release
August 19, 2003
Contact: Joseph C. Fleury
(607) 762-4698**

New York State Reliability Council to Review New York Reliability Rules and NYISO Operating Procedures in Response to Massive Power Interruption

The New York State Reliability Council, L.L.C. ("NYSRC") is the entity that approves the Reliability Rules applicable to the operation of the New York State bulk power system by the New York Independent System Operator ("NYISO"). The New York Reliability Rules are based on reliability standards adopted by the North American Electric Reliability Council ("NERC") and the Northeast Power Coordinating Council ("NPCC"), but also include more specific and more stringent rules to reflect the particular requirements of the New York State power system.

The NYSRC has been in communication with the NYISO, NERC, NPCC and the New York Public Service Commission ("PSC"), entities that will be gathering data to determine the sequence of events and to identify the causes of the recent massive power interruption in the eastern United States and Canada. The NYSRC has encouraged the NYISO, NERC, NPCC and the PSC to coordinate their efforts with each other and with other entities that have undertaken an investigation of this event, to the greatest extent possible. The NYSRC has emphasized the need for a cooperative effort to develop an objective and professional study with a complete data base that can be used by all responsible entities to analyze the causes of the power interruption and to develop accurate conclusions and appropriate recommendations.

The NYSRC will monitor the investigations into the causes of the power interruption and analyze the information developed by these entities. When the studies have been completed, the NYSRC will determine whether the New York Reliability Rules and NYISO operating procedures need to be modified or improved to better protect the New York State power system in the future.

The purpose of the New York State Reliability Council is to promote and preserve the reliability of the New York State power system by developing, maintaining and, from time to time, updating the reliability rules which must be complied with by the New York Independent System Operator and all entities engaging in electric power transactions on the New York State power system. The New York State Reliability Council carries out its purpose to the benefit of the entire electric service industry, including consumers, with no intent to advantage or disadvantage any member or any market participant's commercial interest. The New York State Reliability Council is a not-for-profit entity. Visit our web site at www.nysrc.org.