Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Legislators Call for More Information Concerning Proposed Canadian-American Power Transmission Line

Champlain Hudson Express Transmission Line under Hudson would take underground detour through portions of Stony Point, West Haverstraw and Clarkstown

New City, NY (June 25, 2012) - Rockland County Legislators Jay Hood, Jr., Douglas Jobson and Ed Day have stated their opposition to the proposed Champlain Hudson Express Transmission Line in light of the limited opportunity for public input and the absence of an alternative study on the feasibility to utilize the former Lovett and Bowline Power Plants. The 330-mile line, which would run from Quebec to Queens, NY, is proposed to provide electric power to the Hudson Valley. The line would run under the Hudson River, and would be routed to land at Tomkins Cove to avoid disruption of the environmentally sensitive Haverstraw Bay, and continue through Stony Point and Haverstraw and head back into the river an at exit point at Clarkstown's Rockland Lake.

The three legislators stated their concerns in a resolution passed at the June 19th meeting of the County Legislature which will be presented to Governor Cuomo, NYSDEC, NYSPSC and Rockland's state-level elected officials. The resolution outlines their concerns that the installation will have detrimental ecological impact on the environment and dependent species in and along the Hudson River, that it will negatively impact real estate values where it is routed to land in Rockland; recommends consideration of the former Lovett and Bowline energy plants which will bolster the economy through the creation of jobs and stabilize the local tax base destroyed by plant closings.

"Our resolution also calls upon Governor Cuomo to make certain that all effected communities have an opportunity to have public comment," said Legislator Hood, Jr. (Haverstraw). "There was one public hearing, held in Stony Point that only a few people knew about. We have limited information on this project, as well as limited opportunity for residents to voice concerns."

Legislator Jobson (Stony Point) said, "We have two shuttered power facilities right on the Hudson, the Lovett and Bowline plants, that could be retooled to provide electrical energy to New York City, infuse the local economy and create local employment opportunities. I believe it is incumbent upon the PSC to encourage local operations at available properties like these, before allowing us to become dependent on foreign energy sources."

"This project would have a major economic and environmental impact on this entire County," said Legislator Ed Day (New City-Pomona). "We're being told by the applicant and governmental agencies 'Not to worry'. Well, I will not accept that, and neither should any Rocklander. With more questions than answers, this project deserves zero support."

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