



April 5, 2024

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: Support for the Clean Resilience Link Application by New York and New England

Dear Secretary Granholm,

As organizations focused on grid reliability, resilience, and clean energy integration, we strongly support the Clean Resilience Link (CRL) application submitted by all six New England States and New York under Topic Area 3 of DOE's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program. The undersigned organizations are dedicated to growing the clean energy economy and building the grid of the future across the Northeast region. With federal funding support, CRL will strengthen the electric grid connection between New York and New England, a critical need identified in DOE's recent National Transmission Needs Study and vitally important to the work of our members.

CRL will expand interregional transfer capacity by an average of 850 MW, bolstering power flows between regions by approximately 20 percent. The project will strengthen grid resilience and operational flexibility in the face of extreme weather events, help insulate customers from price shocks in the energy market, and benefit customers in each region through greater market participation as clean energy generation is added to the grid. CRL is expected to provide roughly \$1 billion in production cost savings, translating to lower energy costs for consumers.

New England and New York are partnering with National Grid, one of the largest employers in the region, and leveraging technical support from regional grid operators ISO New England and New York ISO. The project is expected to create hundreds of additional clean energy jobs and drive hundreds of millions of dollars in investments in local communities. As part of the community benefits plan for CRL, National Grid will increase commitments to workforce development programs, with a focus on technical schools, community colleges, and reaching students in disadvantaged communities.

We are pleased to see New York and New England working arm-in-arm with their grid operators to advance a clean and resilient Northeast power grid. We support their combined efforts to pursue DOE funding for the Clean Resilience Link, which is critical to its successful implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Curtatone, President
Northeast Clean Energy Council

Jeremy McDiarmid
Managing Director and General Counsel
Advanced Energy United

Phelps Turner, Senior Attorney
Conservation Law Foundation

Jamie Dickerson Senior Director, Climate and Clean
Energy Programs, Acadia Center

Moira R. Cyphers, Eastern Region State Affairs
American Clean Power Association

Francis Pullaro, Executive Director
RENEW Northeast