

February 5, 2008

CARI
Communities Against Regional Interconnect

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: **Upon Receipt**
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Communities Against Regional Interconnect
Connect with New York City Officials

Headed by regional economic development leader Steve DiMeo, President of the Rome based Mohawk Valley EDGE, representatives of Communities Against Regional Interconnect met with New York City economic development and energy officials to discuss state energy policy, energy needs for both upstate and the metropolitan New York and common interests. The New York City officials were led by James Gallagher, New York City Economic Development Corporation Senior Vice President for Energy and Telecommunications. The meeting was initiated by CARI in the group's quest to better understand New York's energy needs and plans.

The CARI group comprises counties and citizens groups representing communities impacted by the widely unpopular New York Regional Interconnection proposal to construct a 200 mile long high-voltage, direct-current power line slashing through Central New York and running from Marcy in Oneida County to Rock Tavern in Orange County. The NYRI project was discussed during the meeting with everyone in agreement that as currently described, the project leaves a lot of unanswered questions about its reliability, security and ability to overcome the congestion impacting New York City's electricity supply.

Steve DiMeo, President of Mohawk Valley EDGE and Chairman of Communities Against Regional Interconnection said "I am more confident than ever that New York's energy future will not depend on NYRI. CARI agrees that there is a need for an Article X siting law and that New York State needs a comprehensive energy plan. We also were pleased to hear that New York City believes that there is a need for discrete corridors in New York State and not the expansive and overreaching corridor designation created by the Federal Department of Energy that potentially encompasses 47 of 62 counties in New York State.

Sullivan County Planning Commissioner Dr. William Pammer, who also attended the session said "It's clear that both New York City and CARI will carefully scrutinize the updates to NYRI's previously flawed application to the state Public Service Commission

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if and when it is finally submitted.”

Troy Bystrom, Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition representative to CARI said “I was pleased that the meeting revealed that New York City planners place a high priority on energy conservation, demand side management, and regionally based distributed generation. If planners can get to work on these measures now, the better solution to the problems forecasted down the road can be implemented in a timely manner. NYRI is a quick fix using old solutions. We need solutions for the new century and now is the time to get on with developing them.”

Both CARI and Gallagher agreed to stay in touch and to share information during the regulatory process of reviewing the NYRI proposal if it ever becomes a viable application before the Public Service Commission.

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The Counties of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Madison, Oneida, Orange and Sullivan Counties are members of CARI. The citizens group members of CARI are the Upper Delaware Council; the Upstate New York Citizens Alliance; the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition; STOP NYRI, Inc. and SayNo2NYRI, Inc. To learn more about the work of this coalition of county governments and grass roots citizen groups, visit www.caricoalition.org, or contact one of the group’s representatives listed below:

Broome County	Patrick Brennan	(607) 778-2109
Chenango County	Donna Jones	(607) 337-1640
Delaware County	Sam Rowe	(607) 637-3651
Madison County	Rocco DiVeronica	(315) 366-2201
Oneida County	Steve DiMeo	(315) 338-0393
Orange County	David Darwin	(845) 291-3150
Sullivan County	Frank Armstrong	(845) 794-3000
Upstate New York Citizens Alliance	Michael Steiger	(315) 725-6499
STOP NYRI, Inc.	Eve Ann Shwartz	(315) 691-2917
Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition	Troy Bystrom	(212)886-2244
Upper Delaware Council	William Douglass	(845)-252-3022
SayNo2NYRI, Inc.	Gail Heatherly	(845) 386-2872