

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 28, 2007

NYRI's "Green" Leaf Can't Cover Up Negative Impact of Project

The Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition, STOP NYRI, Inc., SayNo2NYRI and the Upstate NY Citizens Alliance dispute NYRI's claims regarding the environmental benefits of its transmission line project. Those claims are misleading at best; at worst, they are dishonest.

In a recent media campaign contrived to generate support for its project, NYRI claims that it is an "environmentally friendly" company. However, unprecedented environmental, economic and community damage will result from the construction of a high-voltage power line through sensitive cultural, historic, environmental areas.

Pat Carullo, President of UDPC stated, "It is important for citizens to insist on intelligent energy use and to preserve our valuable cultural, historic and environmental resources."

Despite NYRI rhetoric, the proposed project will have the following effects on upstate New York.

- The NYRI project will result in higher electric prices for residents and businesses in an economically depressed upstate New York.
- NYRI has repeatedly stated it will use eminent domain to take private lands and homes. In fact, NYRI is currently challenging New York State legislation that removed the power of eminent domain from NYRI, in Federal Court.
- Many of the most valuable archaeological, cultural, historic and environmental resources in central and upstate New York will be damaged by the construction of the NYRI project.
- Building a 1200 MW power line above one of the busiest New York City commuter railroads, running between Port Jervis and Campbell Hall, could create a public safety hazard and line maintenance issues.
- NYRI's alternate route would follow the banks of the Upper Delaware River and result in yearly losses to the local economy based on tourism.
- NYRI's statement that this is a "green" power line is misleading. If interconnected with the grid, NYRI would not be able to prevent electricity generated from "dirty" generating plants from passing over this line.

The CEO of NYRI, Richard Muddiman, has not made a public statement or appearance in association with this project. Who and where is Richard Muddiman? Is this just another Enron? Is it wise to trust our energy independence to a group of foreign investors?

From NYRI's submitted Public Service Commission application the project would:

- Cross several scenic byways and historic trails, affect 7 counties, 1 city, 7 villages and 30 towns. It would run through children's camps, past schools and playgrounds and through the heart of 2 towns. It would bisect or be adjacent to 66 historic properties and 265 archeological sites.
- Impact 65 miles of farm land, 70.5 miles of forest lands, 52.4 miles of brush lands, 154 streams and rivers, 64 trout streams, 5 state regulated wet lands, 37 federal wetlands and protected Wild and Scenic River areas which contain endangered species like the American Bald Eagle and Timber Rattlesnake.

When asked about the NYRI project Chris Rossi from STOP NYRI, Inc. responded, "When you look at all the negative impacts of this project and the fact there are no real benefits to upstate New York, this project should not be built. Not here. Not now. Not Ever!"

New York State energy policy should require stricter energy efficiency standards, conservation, demand-side management and upgrading current lines prior to considering construction of new transmission facilities.

For more information please visit www.stopnyri.info, www.udpc.net, www.sayno2nyri.com and www.upstatenycitizensalliance.com.

###

For more information contact:

Troy Bystrom
Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition
917-359-4774
udpc@udpc.net
www.udpc.net

Gail Heatherly
SayNo2NYRI
845-386-2872
gail@SayNo2NYRI.com
www.sayno2nyri.com

Chris Rossi
Stop NYRI, Inc
315-691-5353
chrisnicky@yahoo.com
www.stopnyri.info

Marina Latella
Upstate NY Citizens Alliance
315-794-0788
runningre@msn.com
www.upstatenycitizensalliance.com