January 26, 2022

Honorable Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223-1350

RE: 15-E-0302

Dear Secretary Phillips,

On behalf of the Clinton County Legislature, I would like to express our whole-hearted support for the contract agreement between the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) Clean Energy Transmission Project.

When it is completed, the CHPE will bring 1,250 MW of clean, renewable hydropower from Quebec, Canada to Astoria, Queens. The Project is a historic opportunity for New York and our neighbors to the north to further strengthen our cross-border relationship, which has lasted over a century and provides mutual benefits to both sides of this invaluable economic partnership.

CHPE involves a $3.5 billion private investment that will create 1,400 direct family-sustaining jobs and another 3,200 secondary jobs. It will generate $1.4 billion in new tax revenue for 73 municipalities and 59 school districts in its first 25 years. As a result of the agreement between CHPE and the County of Clinton Industrial Development Agency, our towns and school districts will receive $78 million.

Moreover, CHPE will help New York State reach its target of deriving 70 percent of its power from renewable sources by 2030. It will reduce carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons between 2025 and 2040, the equivalent of removing half-a-million cars from New York roads. The innovative product design of this vital Project will result in the transmission lines being entirely buried or under water.

We in the North Country look forward to collaborating with CHPE as a positive partner for many decades to come. Thank you for your consideration and should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Henry
Chairperson, Clinton County Legislature

MRH/mfr