



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins Strongly Opposes Proposed ConEd Rate Increase in Letter to Public Service Commission

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS March 6, 2025

| ISSUE: **NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



Letter dated March 5 voices strong opposition to proposed hikes; calls on PSC to "change the game."

In a letter to New York State Public Service Commission Chair and CEO Rory Christian, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins spoke against the proposed ConEd rate increase, and called on the PSC to reject the proposal.

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS
35TH SENATE DISTRICT
TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
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March 5, 2025

Rory M. Christian, Chair and CEO
Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223

Dear Mr. Christian,

As the State Senator of the 35th Senate District which includes most of the City of Yonkers, the Town of Greenburgh and the Town of Mount Pleasant in Westchester County, I write to strongly oppose the rate increase requested by Consolidated Edison. My constituents are already faced with outlandish electric and gas bills because of the previous increases the PSC has granted to the company.

ConEd's request flies in the face of the priorities of the State Senate, Assembly and the Governor to make life for New Yorkers more affordable. I urge you to deny this request.

This past January, the most recent increase was put into effect, creating extreme hardship for many of my constituents. This was the latest increase which the PSC has granted Con Ed on a yearly basis for at least the past 6 years. It is time to change the game. ConEd's delivery rates are too high now; to increase them further increases the burden on the public.

The company's rationale for the rate increase has been the same every year. And every year they are successful. They need more money to replace infrastructure and distribution lines, to build more underground lines, and to enhance customer service. Nowhere in their rationale is how these improvements will lead to lowering the cost of energy. Improvements and maintenance should not be made on the shoulders of their customers.

I have seen bills from my constituents where ConEd's delivery costs are twice as much as their supply costs. This is unfair and should be reviewed. Their request for an 11.4% increase for electricity and a 13.3 % increase in gas places an extra burden on people who are already in sticker shock with their current bills.

I am aware that ConEd has asked for this one year increase with the hope that they will negotiate with the PSC for three year increases at a lower rate. It is a game, and either way, it's the customers who feel the impact.

On behalf of the residents and businesses in my district, I urge the Public Service Commission to listen to the public and to deny ConEd's request to increase its already excessive energy rates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Stewart-Cousins".

Andrea Stewart-Cousins
New York State Senator, 35th District
President Pro Tem, Majority Leader

