



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Opportunity for Public Feedback On PSC Tree Cutting Regulations

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS April 16, 2010

| ISSUE: **ENVIRONMENT**

(35th District, NY) - Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins is urging local residents to provide feedback on ways electric utility providers can improve the current clear cutting methods around power lines in the region. The Public Service Commission recently announced that it is conducting a review of the right of way (ROW) practices and has requested input from members of the community.

In March, after holding community forums and touring impacted areas for several months, Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins introduced legislation addressing the concerns being raised by hundreds of constituents, which impacts the community notification and input process related to ROW management. The Public Safety Commission cited the proposed legislation as well as efforts made by local residents as influential in their decision to review right of way practices.

“I am pleased the Public Service Commission has made a real effort to gather community feedback on this process and has responded to our concerns and I urge residents to share their thoughts on this process,” said Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins. “The ROW process must be conducted in a way that ensures public safety and maintains reliable services - without unnecessary damage to our environment or the property of taxpayers.”

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins has made an online petition available for constituents to sign as well as share comments and opinions. Residents can also call (914) 423-4031 or visit the Senator's District Office located at 28 Wells Avenue (Building 3) in Yonkers, NY to sign the petition in person. The online petition can be found at ([Link](#)).

"This is an opportunity to shape the public process, as a result of the collective efforts of those concerned about these issues. This feedback can be instrumental in urging my colleagues to support the legislation in the Senate and encouraging the Public Service Commission to make appropriate revisions to their policies, ensuring every avenue is explored to address the valid concerns of our residents," concluded Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins.