



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patrick M. Gallivan

Senator Gallivan Urges PSC to Reject National Grid's Rate Hike Request

JIM RANNEY September 23, 2024

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



Higher Costs May be Associated with New York's Climate Policies

Senator Patrick M. Gallivan, (R-C, Elma) is urging the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) to reject a proposal by National Grid to raise rates for both electric and natural gas services. The utility is seeking a 15-percent increase in electric rates and 20-percent increase for natural gas.

In a letter to the PSC, Senator Gallivan calls the proposed increase harmful to residents he represents, and others across the state. He has also heard from customers of New York State Electric and Gas, or NYSEG, who are also experiencing higher electric bills after the PSC granted the utility a rate increase in 2023.

“I am troubled by these increases and the financial impact on individuals and families across Western New York,” Senator Gallivan said. “The requests by utilities to raise rates sheds additional light on the significant costs associated with implementation of the state’s climate policies, including the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, or CLCPA, which is unaffordable and unsustainable.”

Adopted in 2019, the CLCPA requires the state to dramatically reduce its use of fossil fuels, like oil and gas, with an increased reliance on electricity and renewable energy. Senator Gallivan voted against the measure, arguing in part that a detailed cost analysis was needed to determine the impact such mandates would have on utility companies and ratepayers.

“The required cost analysis has yet to be completed, but it is evident the state’s climate policies, in their current form, are unattainable,” Senator Gallivan said. “We must work to ensure a cleaner energy future, but the recommendations included in the CLCPA are unachievable and cost prohibitive. I worry increased electric rates are only the beginning, and I further urge the PSC to recommend climate policies that are attainable, reliable and affordable.”

Residents concerned about higher rates are encouraged to contact their utility and to voice their concerns to the PSC.