

February 8, 2022

Rory M. Christian, Chair New York State Public Service Commission Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Mr. Christian,

I write to urgently request the Public Service Commission investigate recent increases in supply charges by Consolidated Edison. My office has been flooded with concerns from Queens residents who have seen their bills increase by hundreds of dollars. The PSC must look into this matter, and do so with haste.

My constituents, no stranger to high energy bills already, have seen their bills increase dramatically by up to 300%. Consolidated Edison has <u>said publicly</u> this is related to increased costs from their suppliers. The PSC must seek answers to the following questions: why have the company's suppliers raised their costs so dramatically? why were consumers not notified of this development beforehand so they could plan accordingly? what can be done to reduce these costs for Con Ed customers during the current billing cycle – even if it means subsidizing these drastic increases. New Yorkers also deserve to know how this will be prevented in the future.

This is the type of pernicious behavior, and dismissive explanation, that has convinced me and so many others that the time has come to support public power for New Yorkers. These increased utility costs are hurting thousands of New Yorkers. Until the Legislature enacts a systemic solution, the PSC must investigate, act, and work to provide relief to New York's ratepayers – now.

Sincerely,

Senator Michael Gianaris Deputy Majority Leader

CC: Rory Lancman, Special Counsel for Ratepayer Protection Michelle Phillips, Secretary to the Commission