

A photograph of the Cayuga Power Plant, a large industrial facility with multiple buildings and a tall smokestack emitting a plume of white smoke. The plant is situated near a body of water, with some greenery in the foreground. The entire image has a blue tint.

# Cayuga Power Plant: clearing the air

Irene Weiser  
Sept. 10, 2015

# OVERVIEW





# OVERVIEW

An aerial photograph of the Milliken Power Plant facility. The image shows several large industrial buildings, a large circular pond in the lower-left, and a road labeled 'Milliken Power Plant Access Rd' at the bottom. The text is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent dark background.

**Cayuga Power Plant built in the mid 1950's**

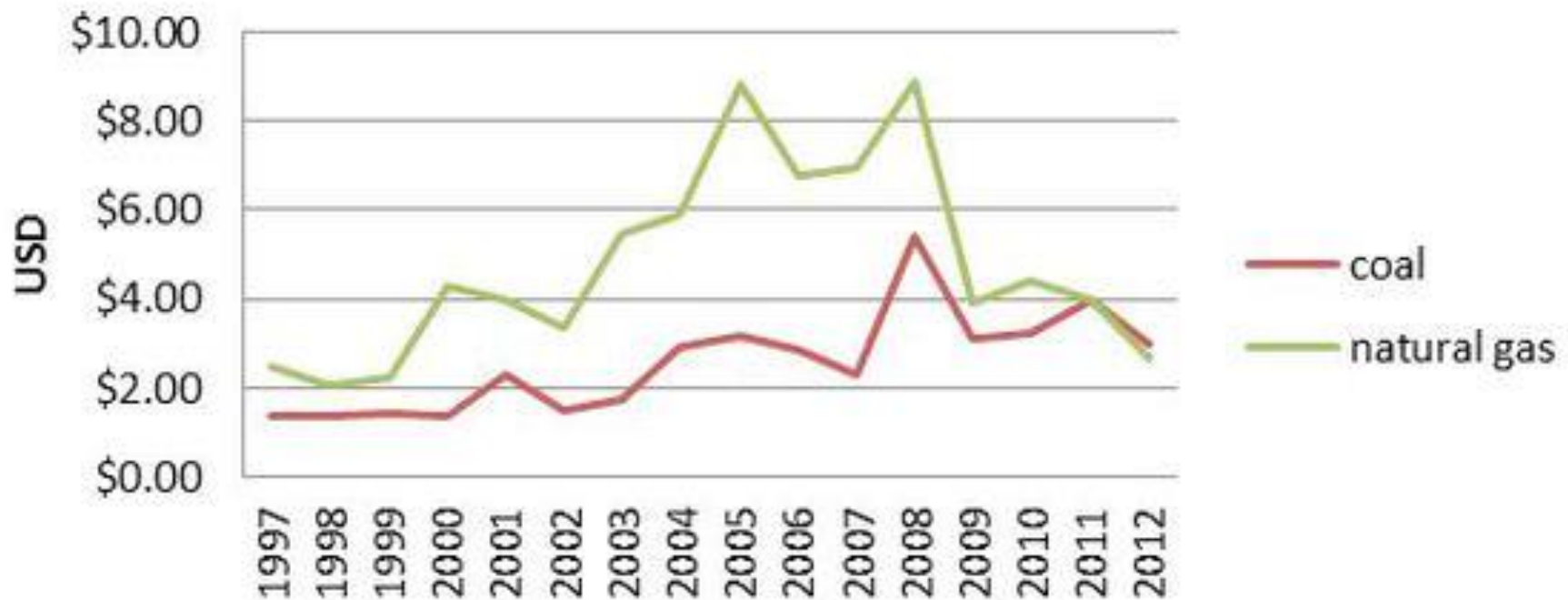
**Consists of 2 coal burning units with capacity of  
~ 150 MW each**

**Milliken → AES → Cayuga**

**December 30, 2011 – declares bankruptcy**

# Price of Coal vs “Natural” Gas

## Historical Spot Prices for Coal and Natural Gas (in MMBTU, yearly average)





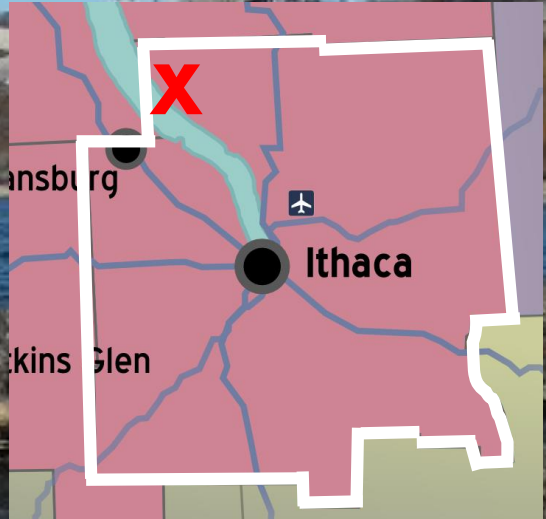
# EPA issues Mercury & Air Toxics Standards

Dec. 11, 2011





**BANKRUPT**

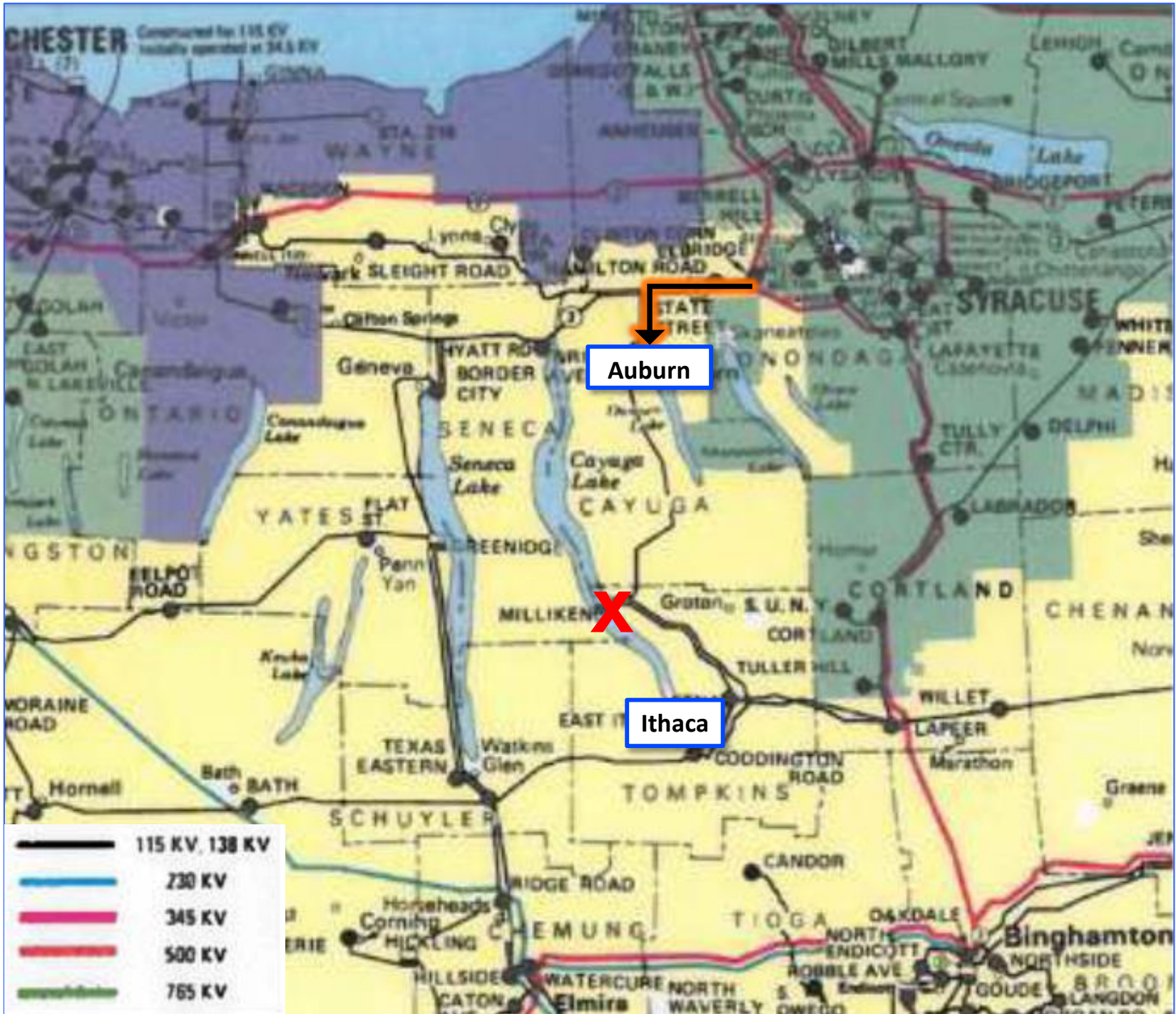




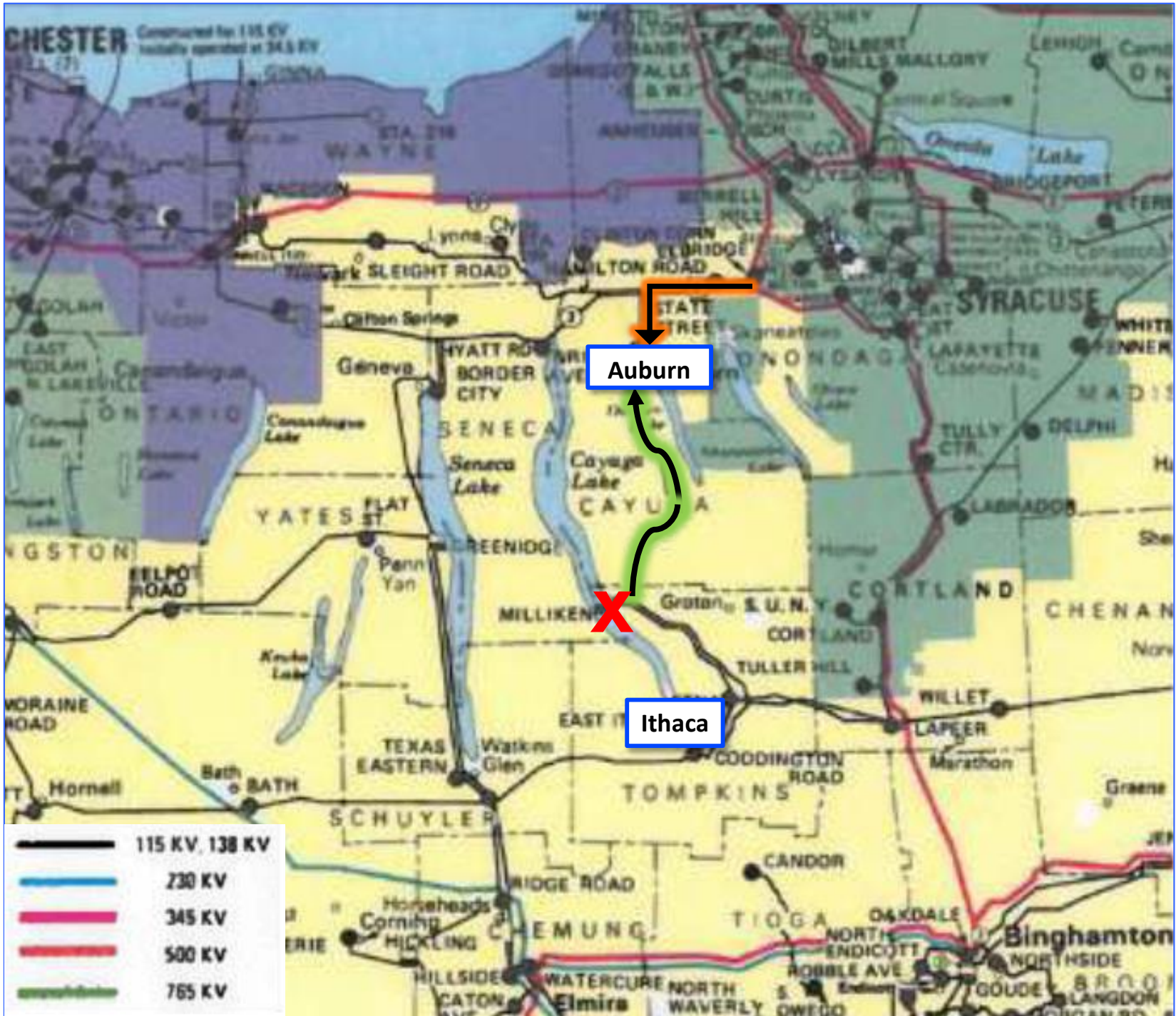
# RELIABILITY

Power is available when it is needed  
without stressing the system









Auburn

Ithaca





# **RELIABILITY**

**Transmission  
Line  
Upgrades**





New York State  
**Public Service  
Commission**

# RELIABILITY

**Transmission  
Line  
Upgrades**

**Coal  
+  
FRACK Gas**



New York State  
**Public Service  
Commission**

**RELIABILITY**

**\$UPPORT**

**\$ERVICES**



Meter Number	Current Meter Read Date	Reading
9998 [REDACTED]	12/24/14	76268 E
Type of read: A - Actual, E - Estimate		

Billing Period
29 days

### **Electricity Delivery Charges**

Basic service charge	15.11
Delivery charge	33.17
Transition charge	-3.82
Revenue decoupling mech	-3.09
Reliability support svcs. chg.	1.99
NY state assessment	1.61
SBC/RPS charge	6.31
<b>Subtotal Electricity Delivery</b>	<b>\$51.28</b>

# RELIABILITY \$UPPORT \$ERVICES

	Monthly	Cap Ex	Total/yr
2013	\$2.4m	\$4.3m	\$33.2m
2014-17	\$2.7m	\$42m	\$155m
Total			\$188m



**Fix  
Grid**



**Gas +  
Coal**

**PSC**



# Transmission Upgrades

# Gas plus Coal

**COST: \$55m**

**\$145m**

# Transmission Upgrades

# Gas plus Coal

**COST: \$55m**

**\$145m +  
externalized costs**



# Transmission Upgrades

# Gas plus Coal

**COST: \$55m**

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externalized costs**

**BENEFITS:**

**Jobs: 0 (-60)**

**30 (-30)**

# Transmission Upgrades

# Gas plus Coal

**COST: \$55m**

**\$145m +  
externalized costs**

## BENEFITS:

**Jobs: 0 (-60)**

**30 (-30)**

**Taxes: 0**

**~\$1.8m/yr**

**Fix  
Grid**



**Gas +  
Coal**

**PSC**

**Future**

**Past**





**Fix  
Grid**



**Gas +  
Coal**



**PSC**

**Fix  
Grid**



**Gas +  
Coal**



**\$240m**

**RSS + wires**

**\$330m**

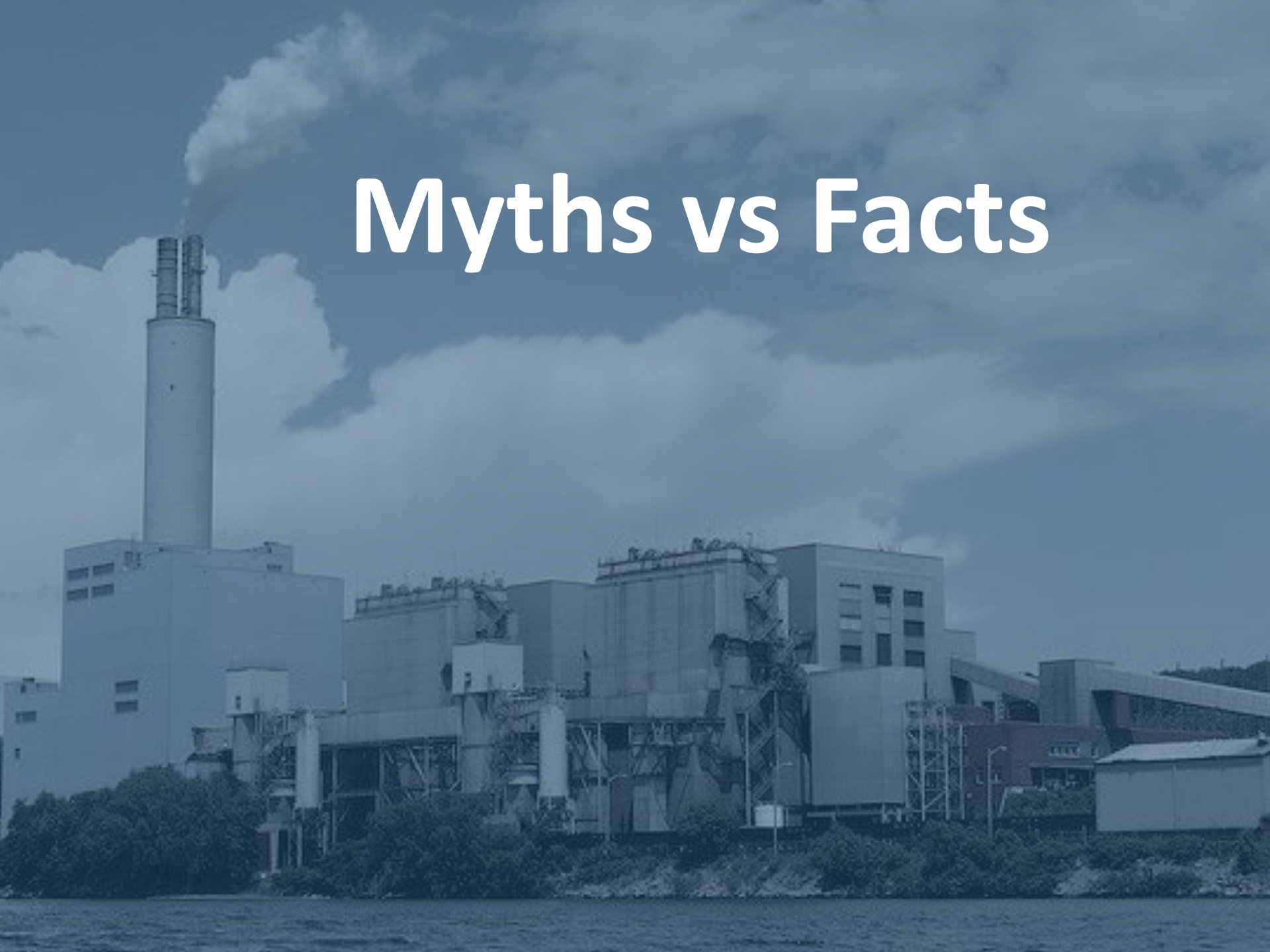
**RSS + convert**



# New York Set To Revive Renewable Energy Industry

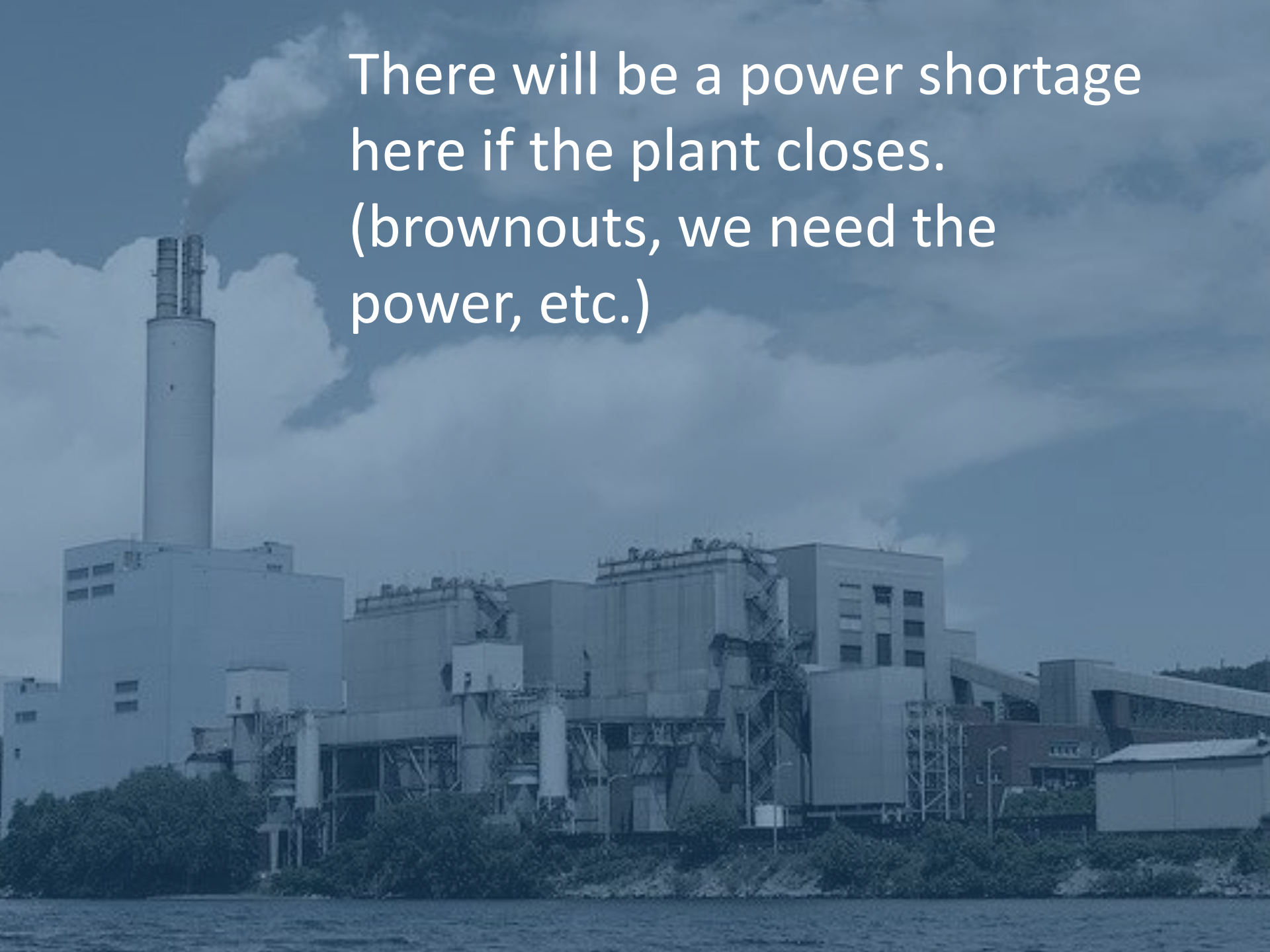
**NYSERDA proposes a long-term commitment to the next generation of large scale renewables through a \$1.5 billion public investment over ten years...**

# Myths vs Facts



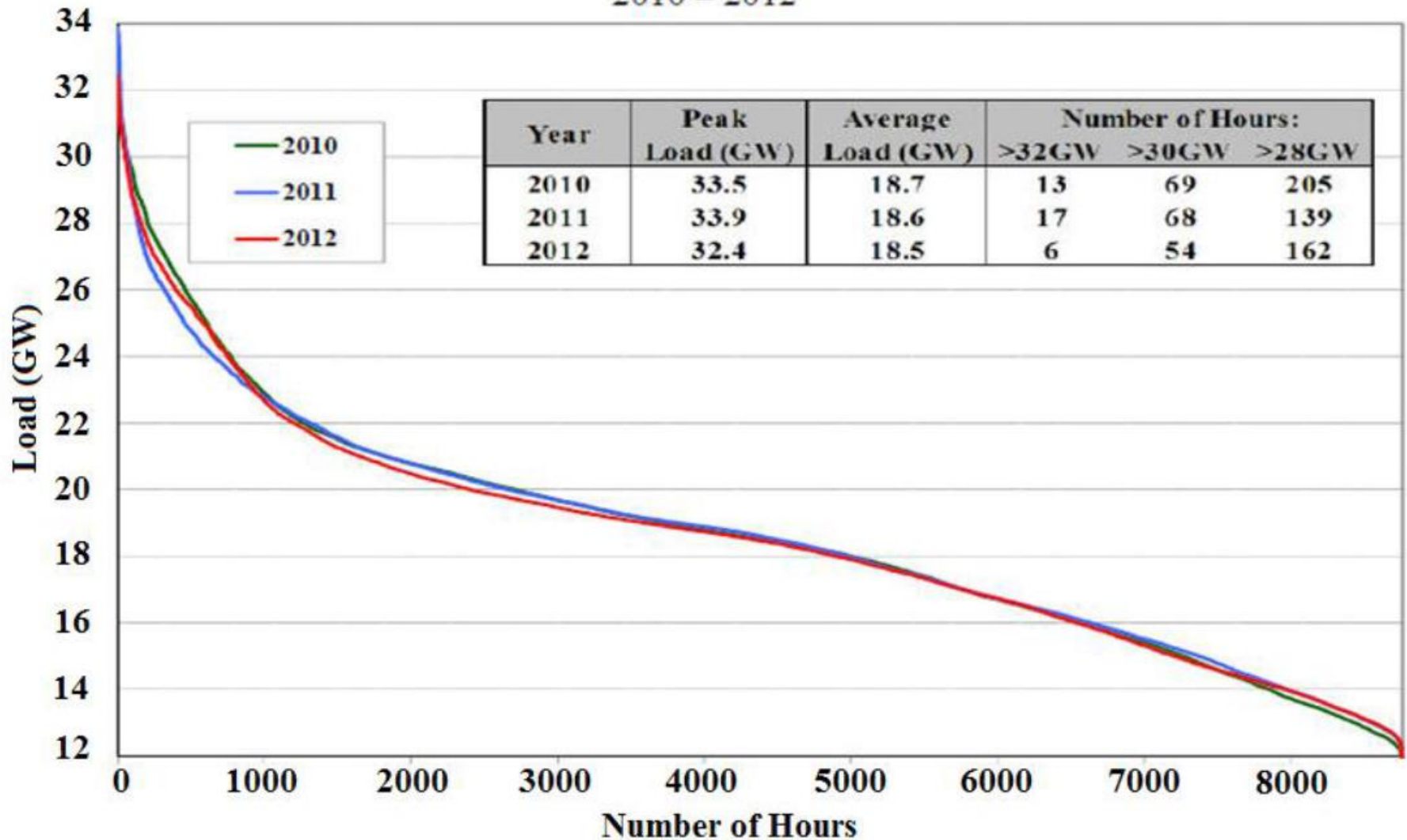


There will be a power shortage here if the plant closes.  
(brownouts, we need the power, etc.)

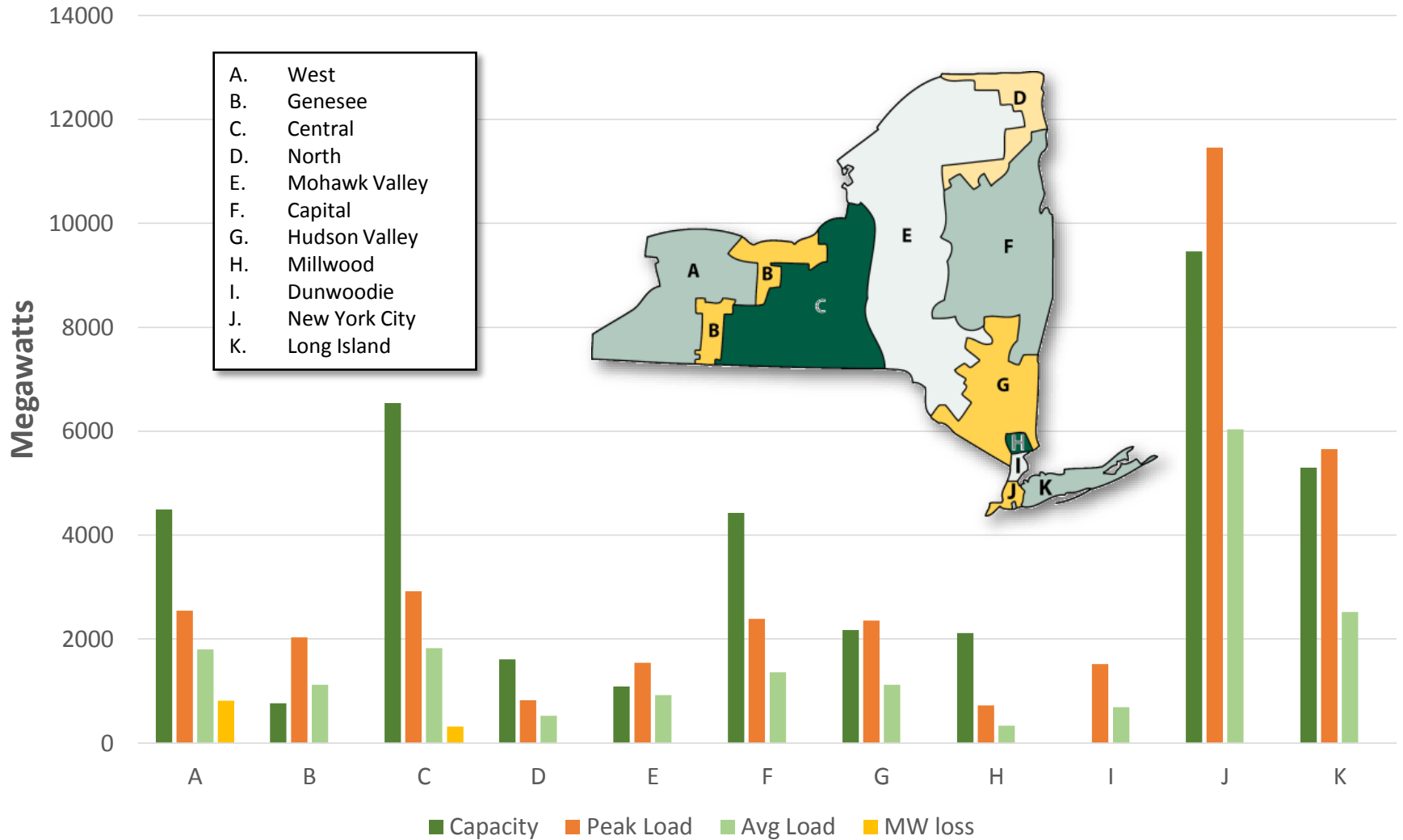


# NYCA Load Duration Curve

Figure A-11: Load Duration Curves for New York State  
2010 – 2012



## NY Control Area – Zonal Capacity and Loads





# Ithaca Transmission Project

Oct. 2006: The electric transmission system that supplies Ithaca and the surrounding area is currently dependent on nearby power generation resources to be available and operating to ensure reliable service. Ordering Clause 9 of the PSC's order in Case 05-E-1222 issued on August 23, 2006, requires NYSEG to submit all government and regulatory filings necessary to reinforce transmission infrastructure in the Ithaca area.

To comply with the ordering clause, **NYSEG is proposing the Ithaca Transmission Project to eliminate the transmission limitations in the Ithaca area and maintain adequate normal and contingency service throughout NYSEG's Ithaca Division during extended outages (forced or planned) of the AES-owned Cayuga Station generating units.**



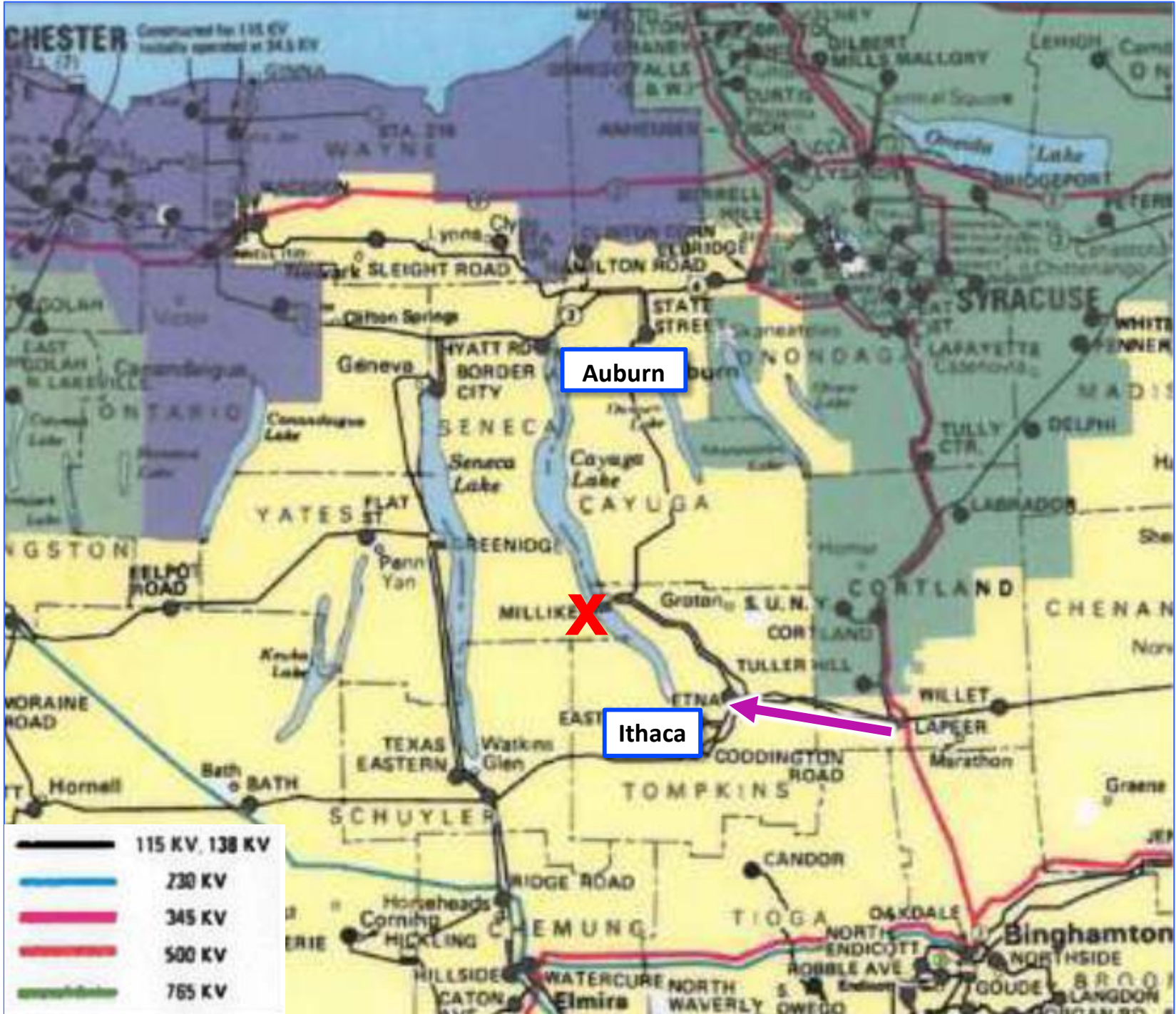


NOW IN SERVICE, NYSEG'S ITHACA TRANSMISSION PROJECT WILL  
ENHANCE RELIABILITY ACROSS THE REGION

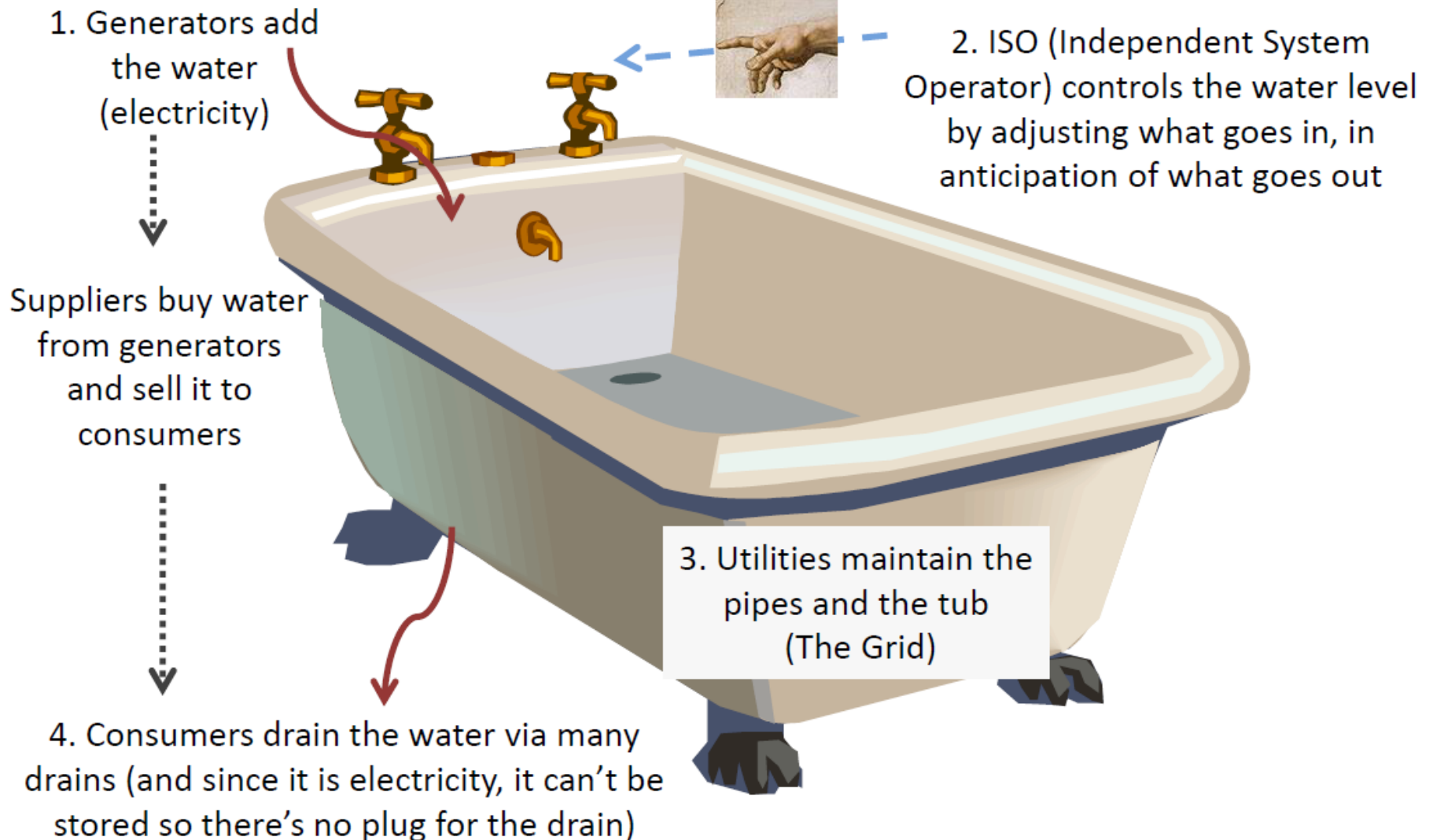
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ithaca, NY, August 26, 2010**

NYSEG's Ithaca Transmission Project, which **eliminates the reliance on local generation to ensure reliable service in the region**, is now in service after approximately a year of site and construction work.

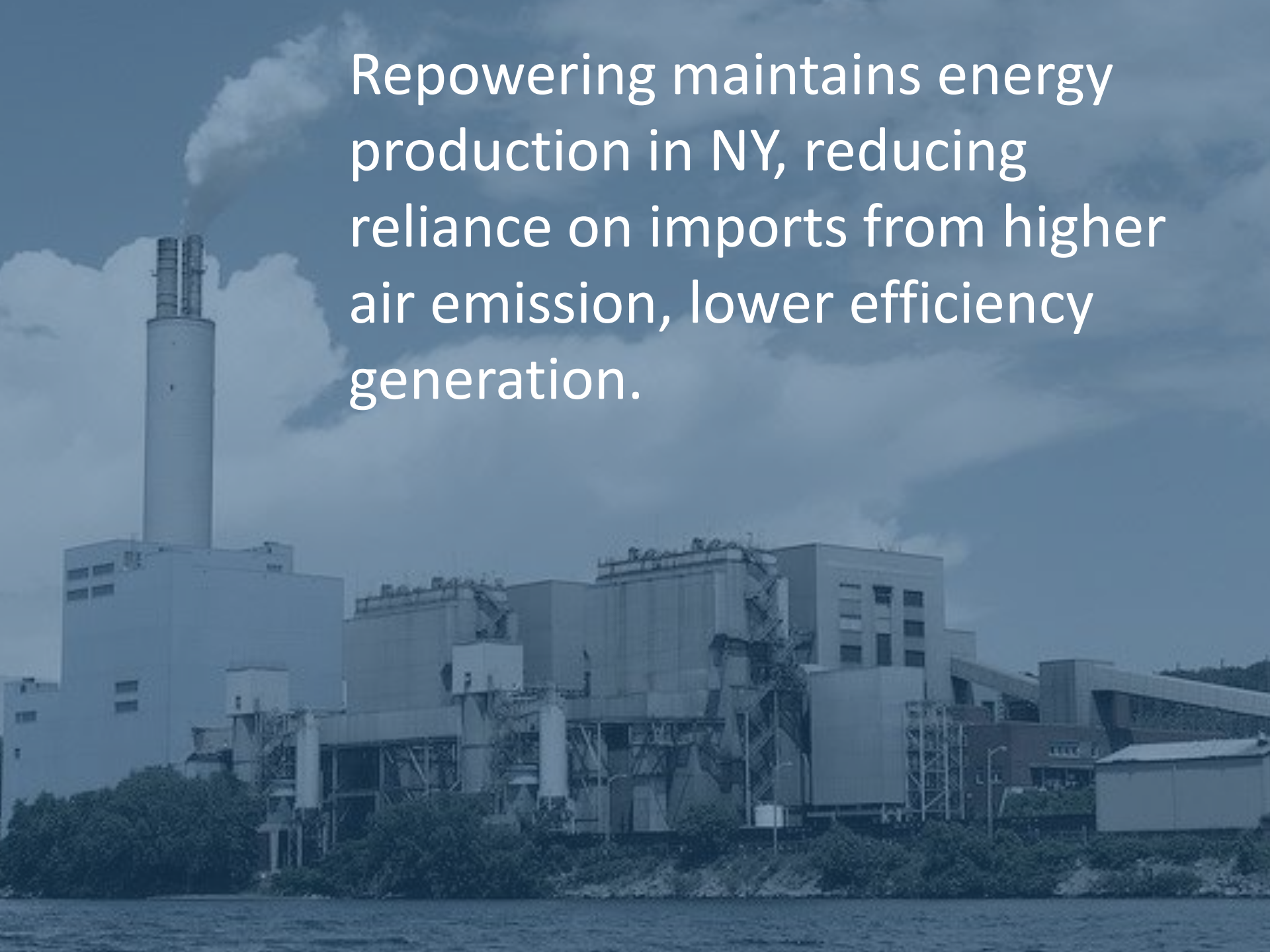


# If The Grid Is A Bath Tub & Electricity Is Water...





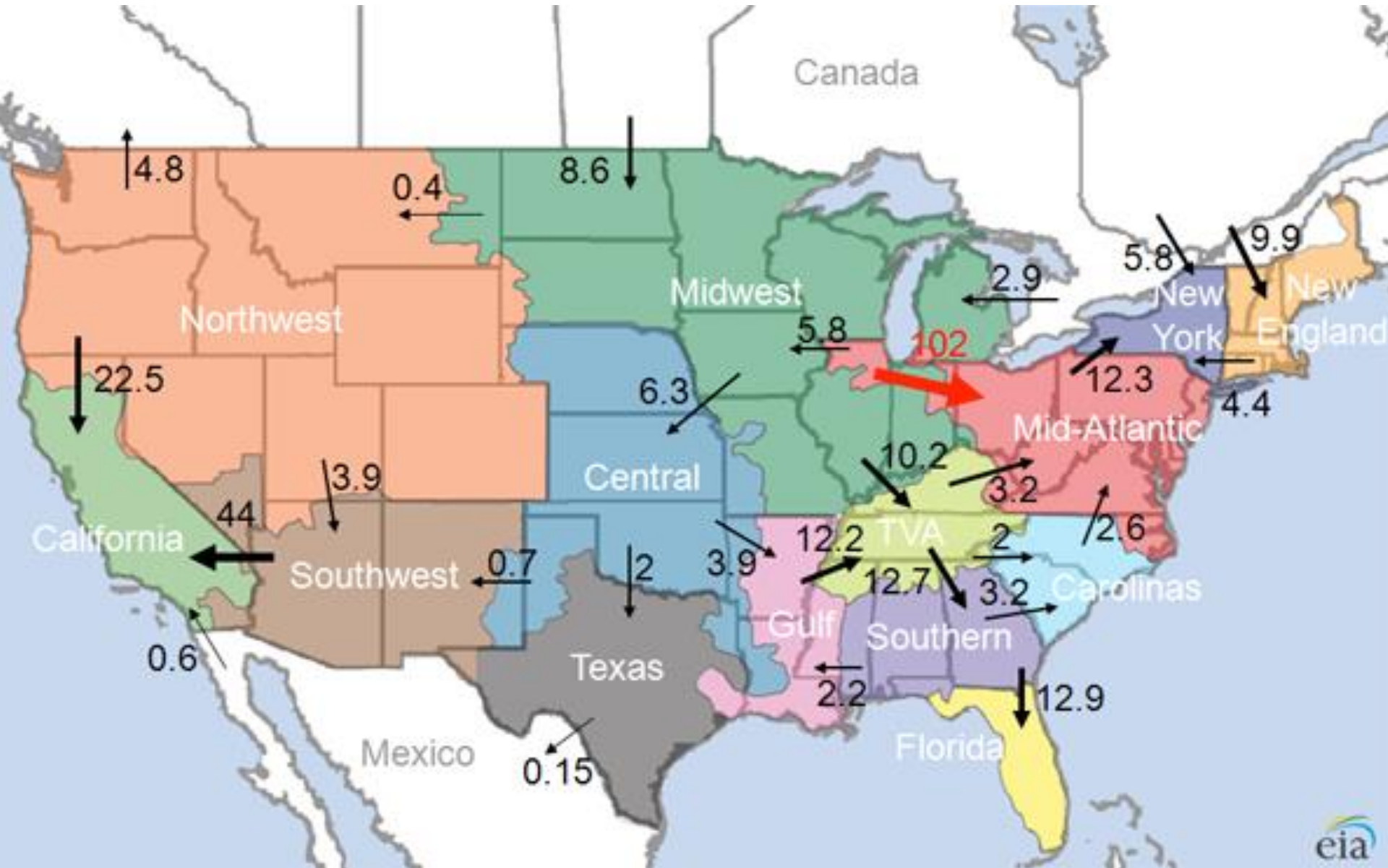
Repowering maintains energy production in NY, reducing reliance on imports from higher air emission, lower efficiency generation.

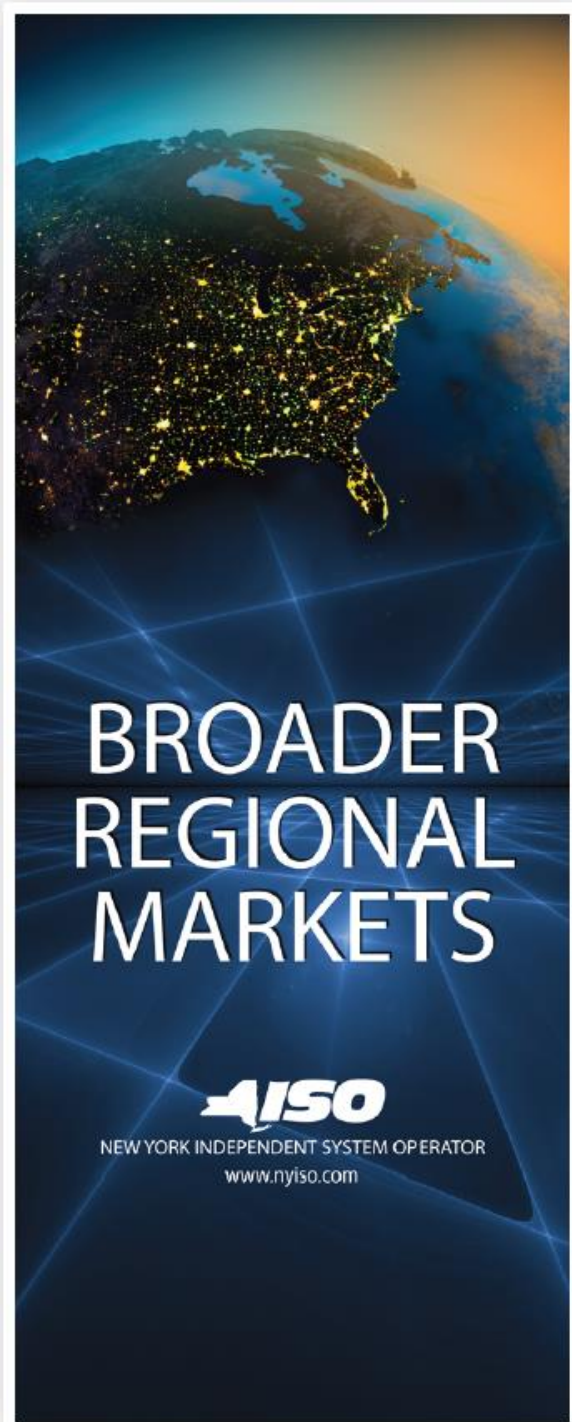




# Annual net power flow among regions in North America, 2010

(million megawatt-hours)





Begun in 2010, with inclusive, collaborative efforts of neighboring electric grid operators, the NYISO’s Broader Regional Markets initiatives seek to mend differences, or “seams,” in interconnected grids; **enhancing the efficiency of existing resources and reducing costs for power consumers.**

Among the improvements achieved through collaborative analyses and planning with other grids have been **more efficient interregional scheduling practices and power flows**, and more **cost-effective solutions** for transmission system constraints.

The combined initiatives are **projected to save New York \$193 million** a year and save the region \$362 million annually.

# Zonal Loads & Interface Flows

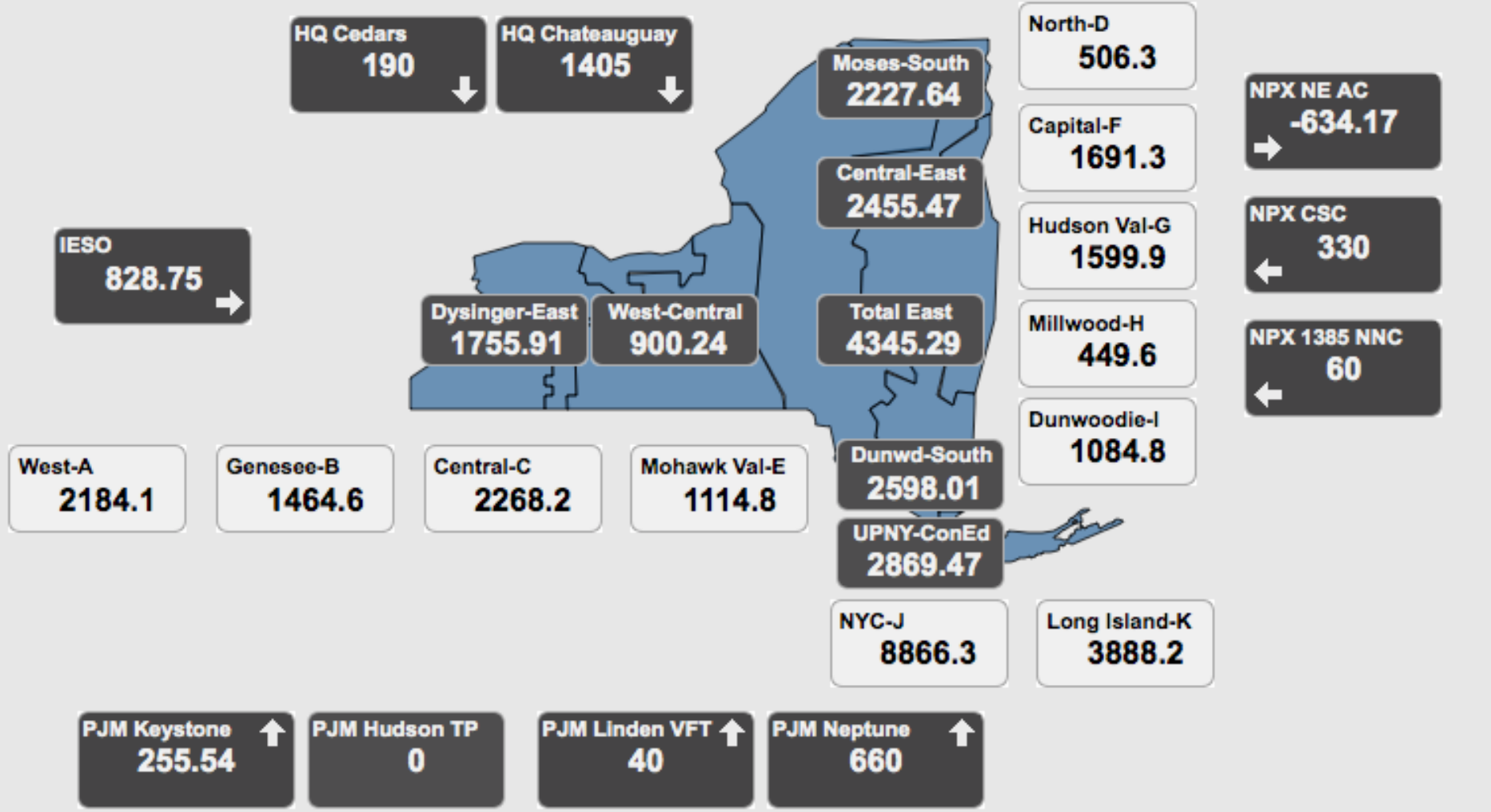
06/26/2014 12:16 ET

Auto Refresh (Updates with latest data every 5 mins): [On](#)

Click on zone box for graph.

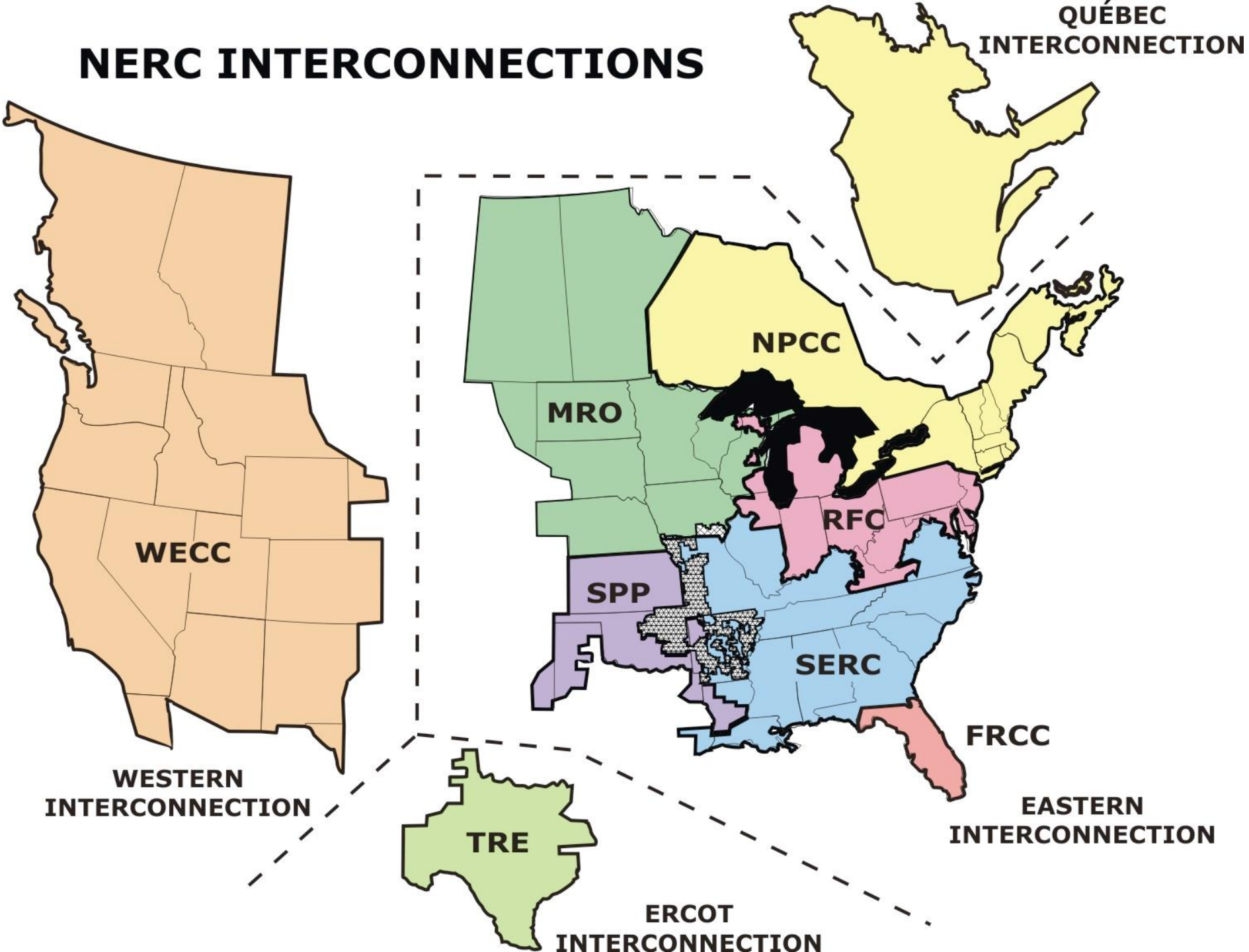
**New York State Load: 25,118.10 MW**

Zonal Load  Interface Flows





# NERC INTERCONNECTIONS



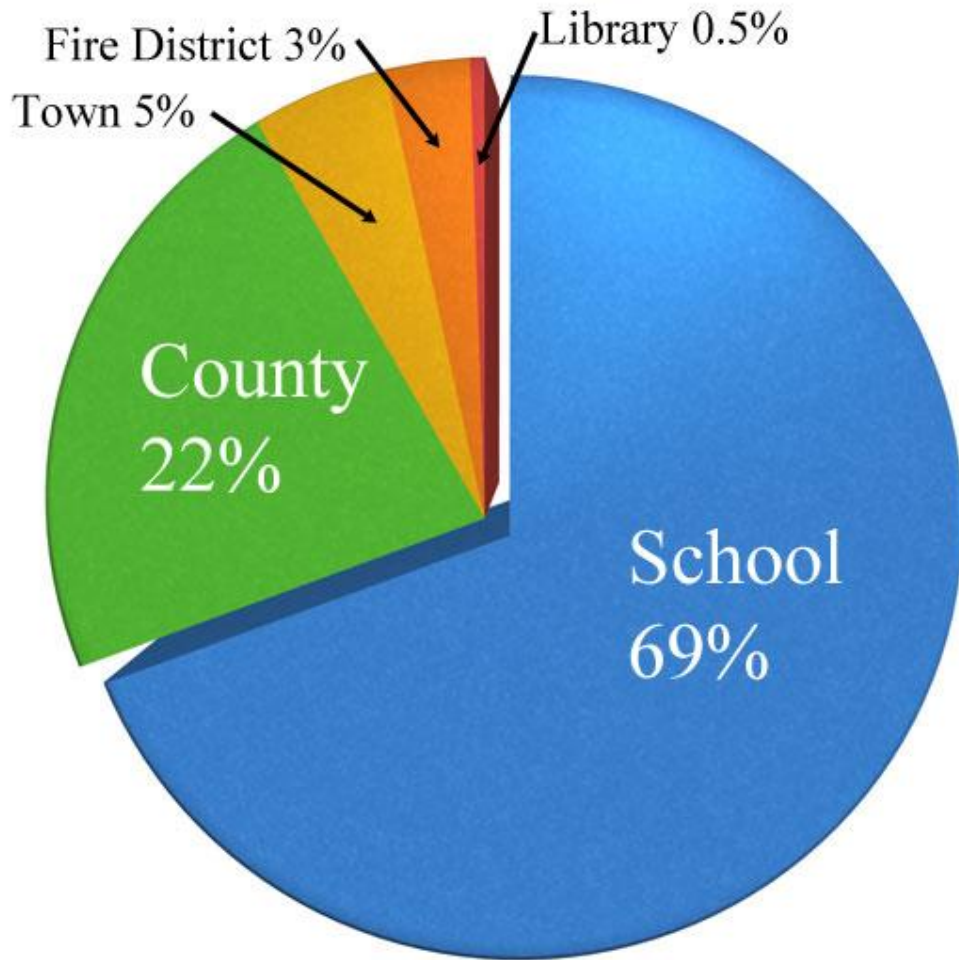


A repowered Cayuga will provide  
needed tax support to the region.



# CAYUGA POWER PLANT PILOT

## TAX BENEFICIARIES



## PAYMENTS ON \$60,000 VALUATION

Recipient	Tax Revenue
School	\$1,269,222.00
County	\$411,927.00
Town	\$88,177.00
Fire	\$54,169.00
Library	\$9,162.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,832,657.00</b>

# **A Losing Proposition: Why the Proposal to Repower the Cayuga Plant Should Be Rejected**

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**Institute for Energy Economics  
and Financial Analysis**  
IEEFA.org

**August 2015**

**David Schlissel, Director of Resource Planning Analysis**  
**Cathy Kunkel, IEEFA Fellow**  
**Appendix by Tom Sanzillo, Director of Finance**

# Cayuga's Financial Viability

IEEFA prepared a cash flow analysis to evaluate the risk to NYSEG ratepayers of continued investment in the Cayuga plant under the terms of the company's Revised Repowering Proposal. IEEFA looked at Cayuga's profitability under a range of assumptions about future plant operations and electricity market costs:

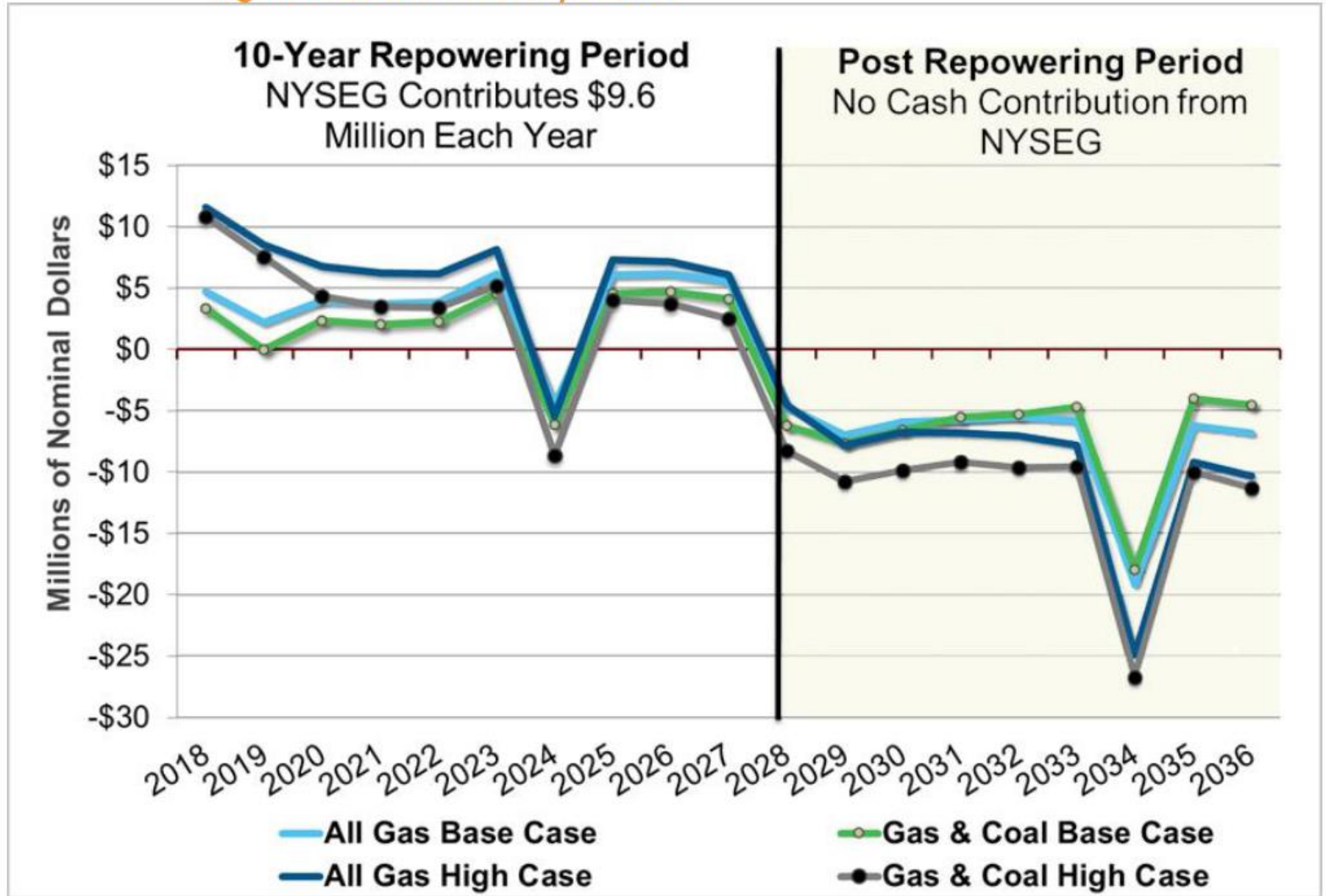
1. with and without the \$9.6 million annual cash-infusion from NYSEG ratepayers currently proposed by the Revised Repowering Proposal;
2. with Unit 1 burning coal or gas during winter months, and
3. under a range of future energy market and capacity prices, natural gas prices, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission allowances prices, and future plant operating and maintenance costs.

IEEFA concludes from this cash flow analysis that:

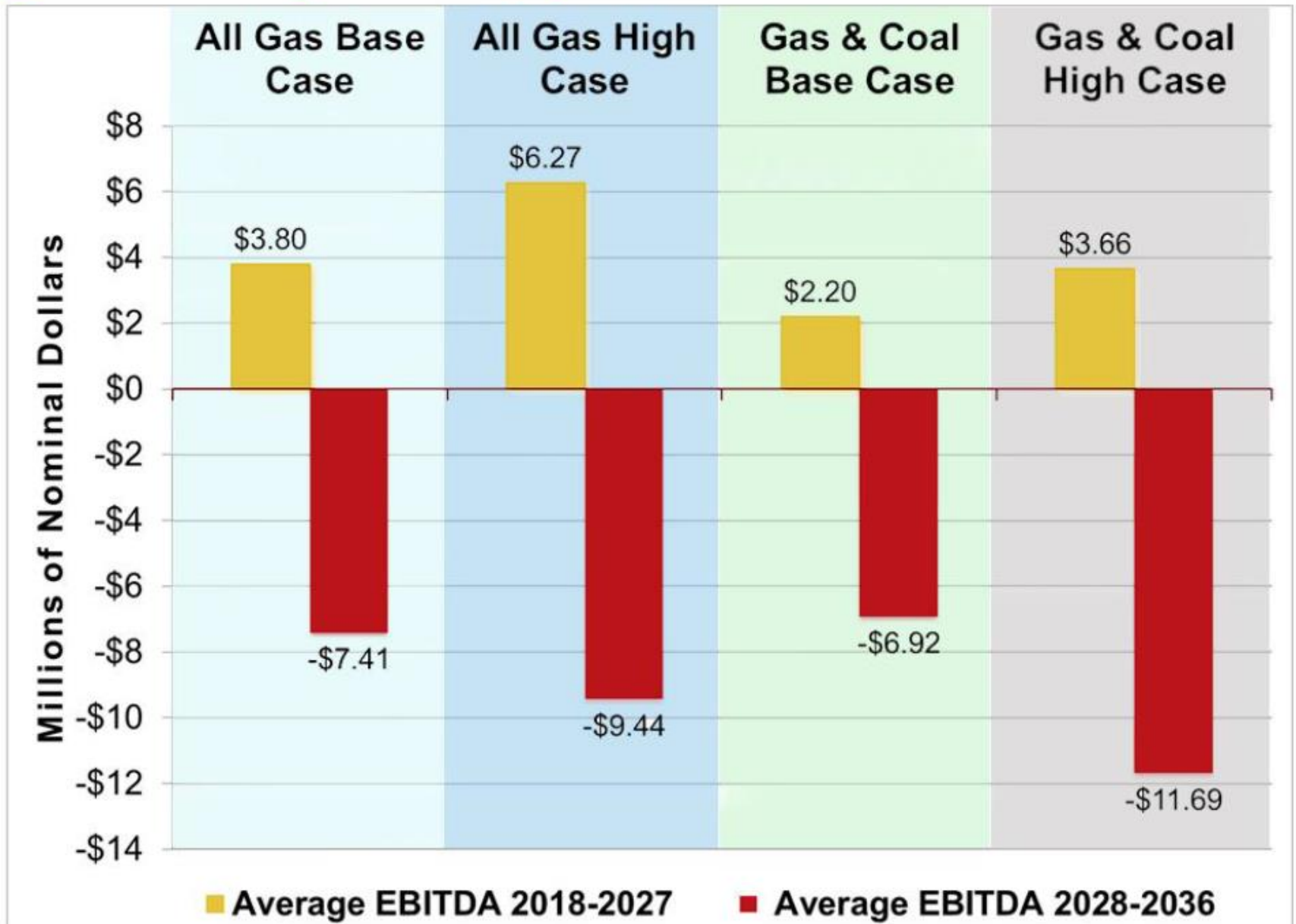
1. Cayuga is unlikely to be profitable in almost all of the years 2018 to 2027 unless NYSEG's ratepayers provide the \$9.6 million annual cash infusion required by the Revised Repowering Proposal; and
2. The plant is very likely to be unprofitable following the 2027 end of the Revised Repowering Proposal's 10-year term once the cash infusion from ratepayers ends.

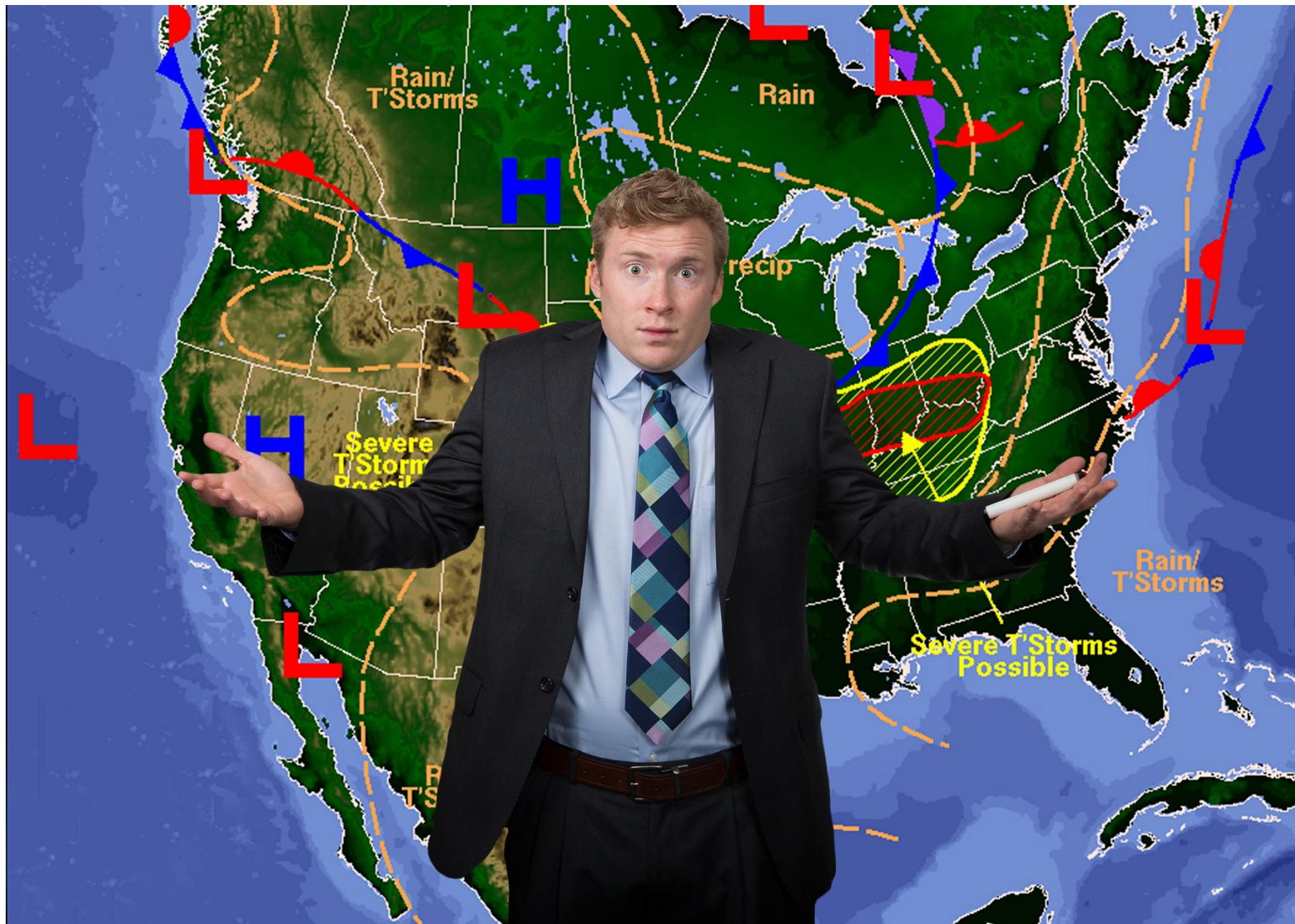


**Figure 9: Annual EBITDA Earned During the Years 2018-2027 by Cayuga in the Base and High Cases Examined by IEEFA.**



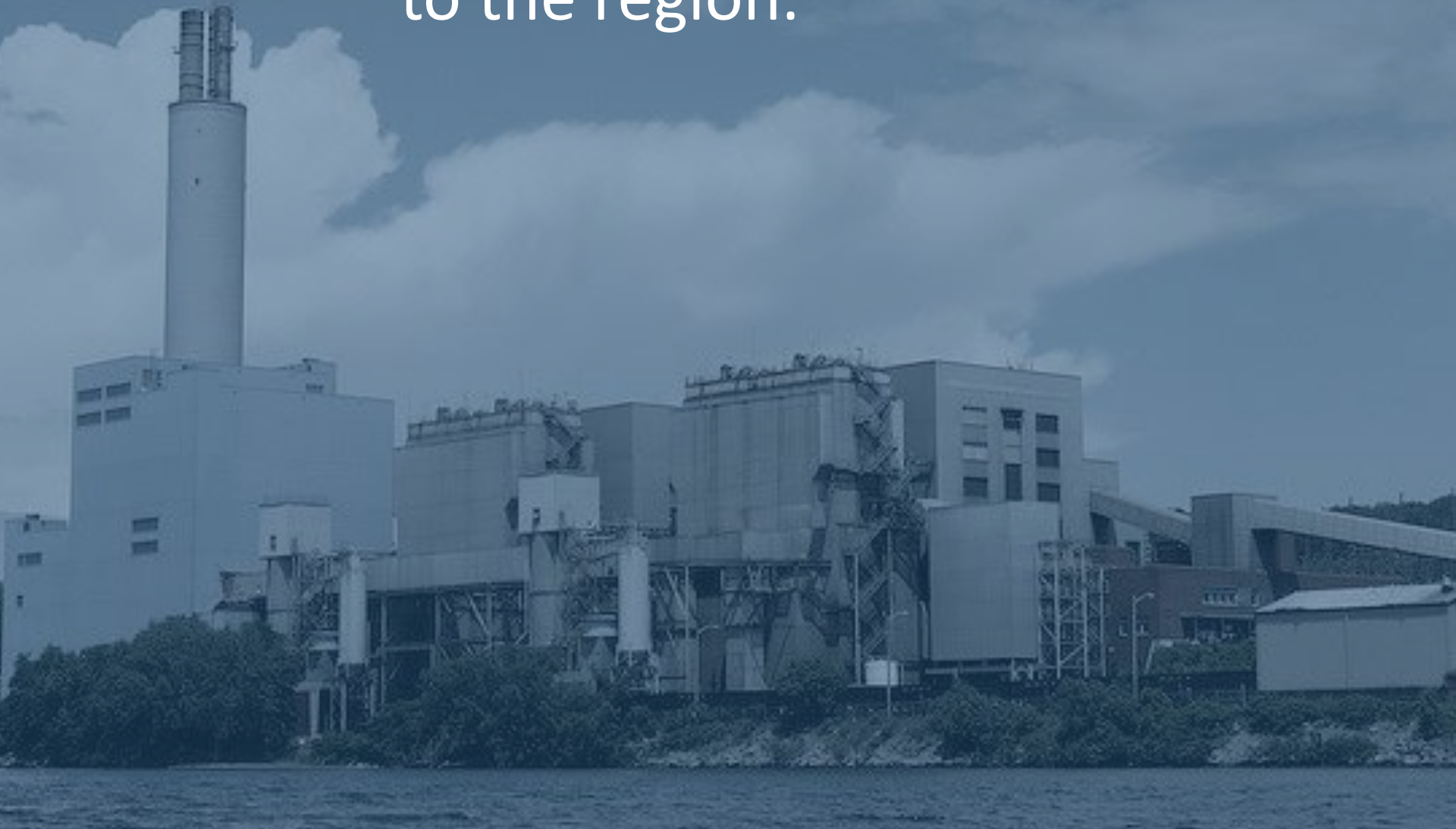
**Figure 10: Average Annual Cayuga EBITDA for the Periods 2018-2027 and 2028-2036.**





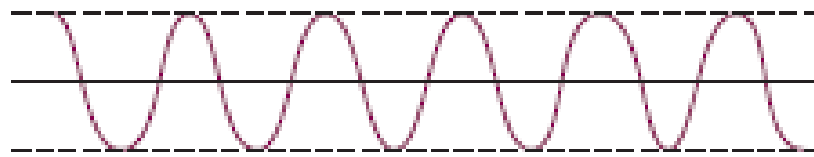


A repowered Cayuga will  
provide needed power quality  
to the region.

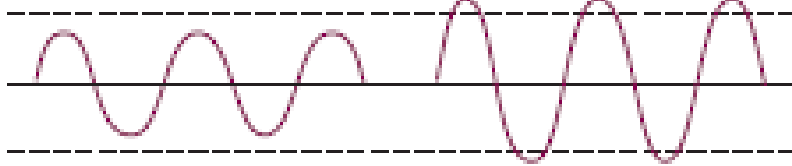




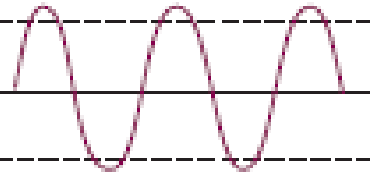
>> **Normal Power**



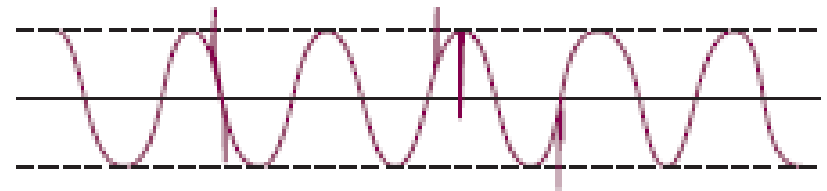
**Undervoltage**



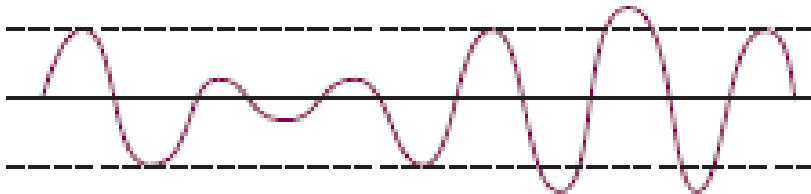
**Overvoltage**



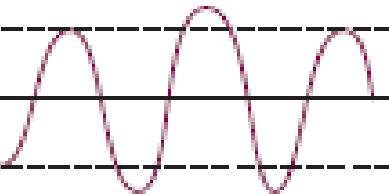
**Spikes, Impulses, Surges**



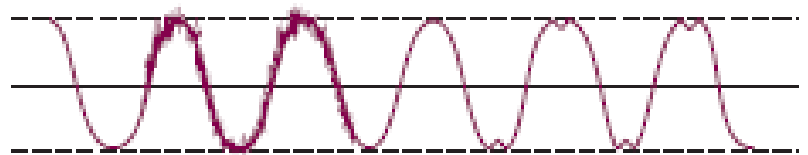
**Sag**



**Swell**



**Electrical Noise, Harmonic Distortion**



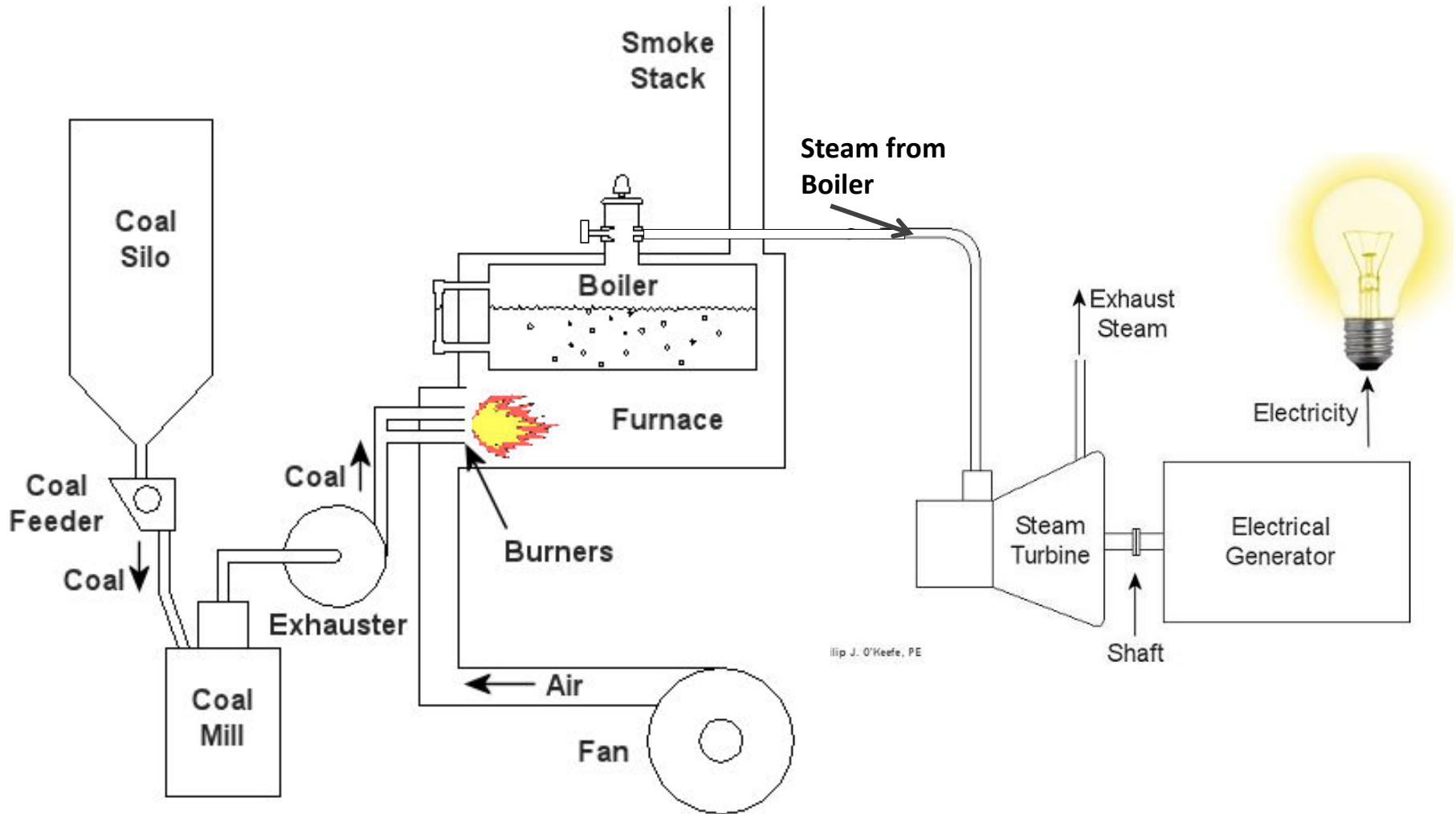
<b>PQ Problem Type</b>	<b>Consumer Role</b>	<b>Utility Role</b>	<b>Generator Role</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Off-nominal frequency</b>	None unless running on local generator disconnected from the grid	Avoid unnecessary islanding of load / generation	None	Results from major bulk power system disturbances, or on small islanded systems – eastern US interconnection keeps deviations in the millihertz region
<b>Voltage regulation / unbalance</b>	Low voltages could be due to loads on customer's premises	Follow planning and operations standards to minimize utility-side problems	Can provide voltage support in certain locations under specific operating conditions	Utility-installed shunt capacitor banks are a standard solution to sustained low voltage problems
<b>Flicker</b>	May have flicker-producing equipment onsite	May have a role in working w/customer to devise solution	None	Usually mitigated at the source of flicker – customer / utility both involved
<b>Harmonics / interharmonic distortion</b>	Usually due to specific onsite equipment	May have a role in working w/customer to devise solution	None	May involve both a customer and a utility solution
<b>Voltage sags</b>	Faults, motor starting within customer premises may be responsible	Limit transmission & distribution faults / good tree trimming practices	None	Principle causes are faults and motor starting
<b>Transients</b>	May be due to grounding/ switching issues onsite	Review line / capacitor bank switching practices	None	

A repowered Cayuga will  
provide clean, energy efficient  
power to the region.



# Existing System

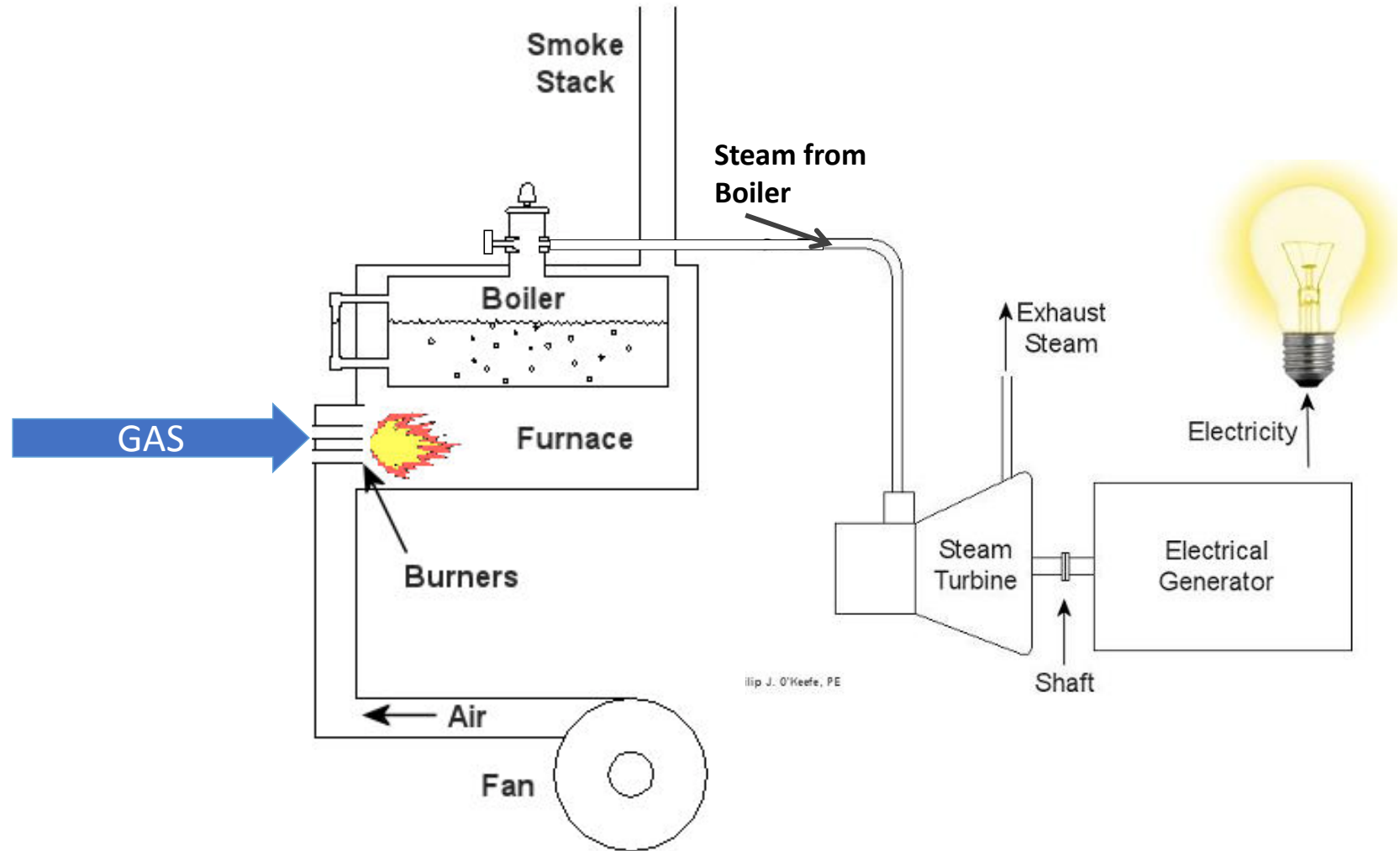
## COAL FURNACE – STEAM TURBINE





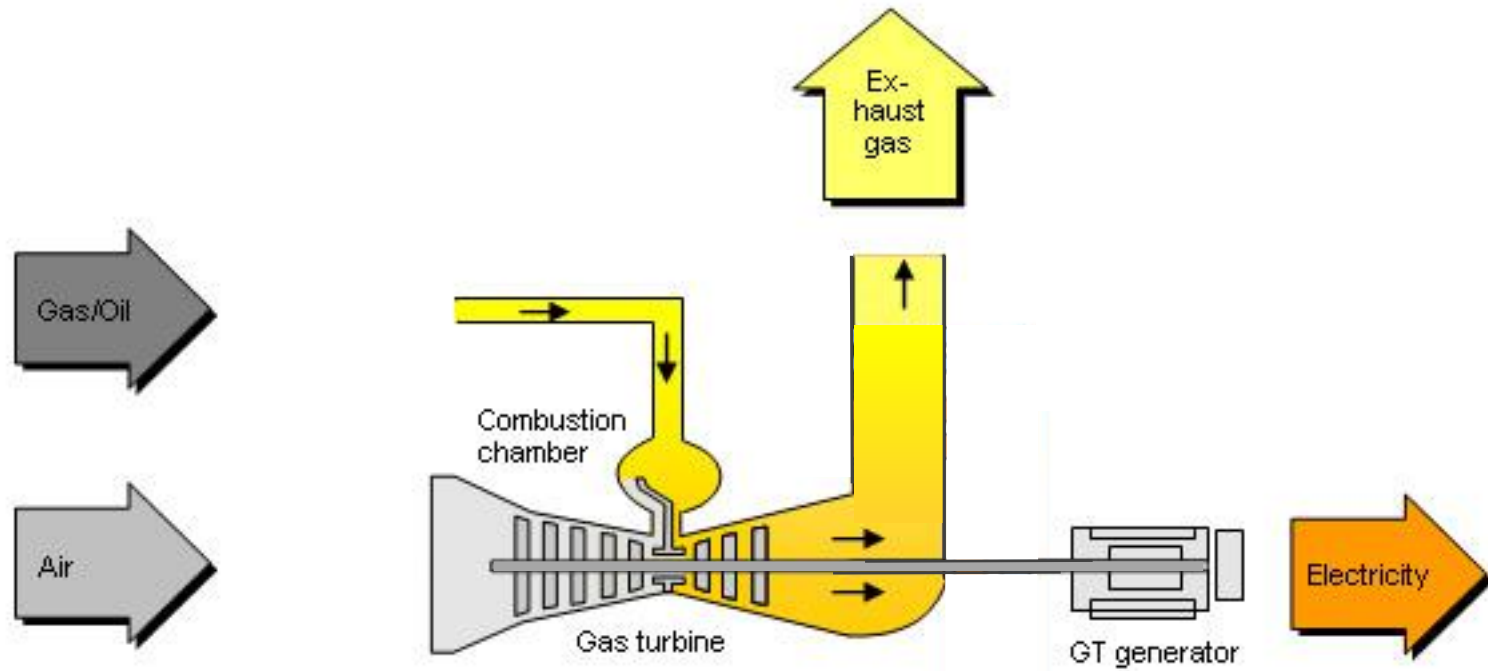
# Option 1

## GAS + COAL FURNACE – STEAM TURBINE



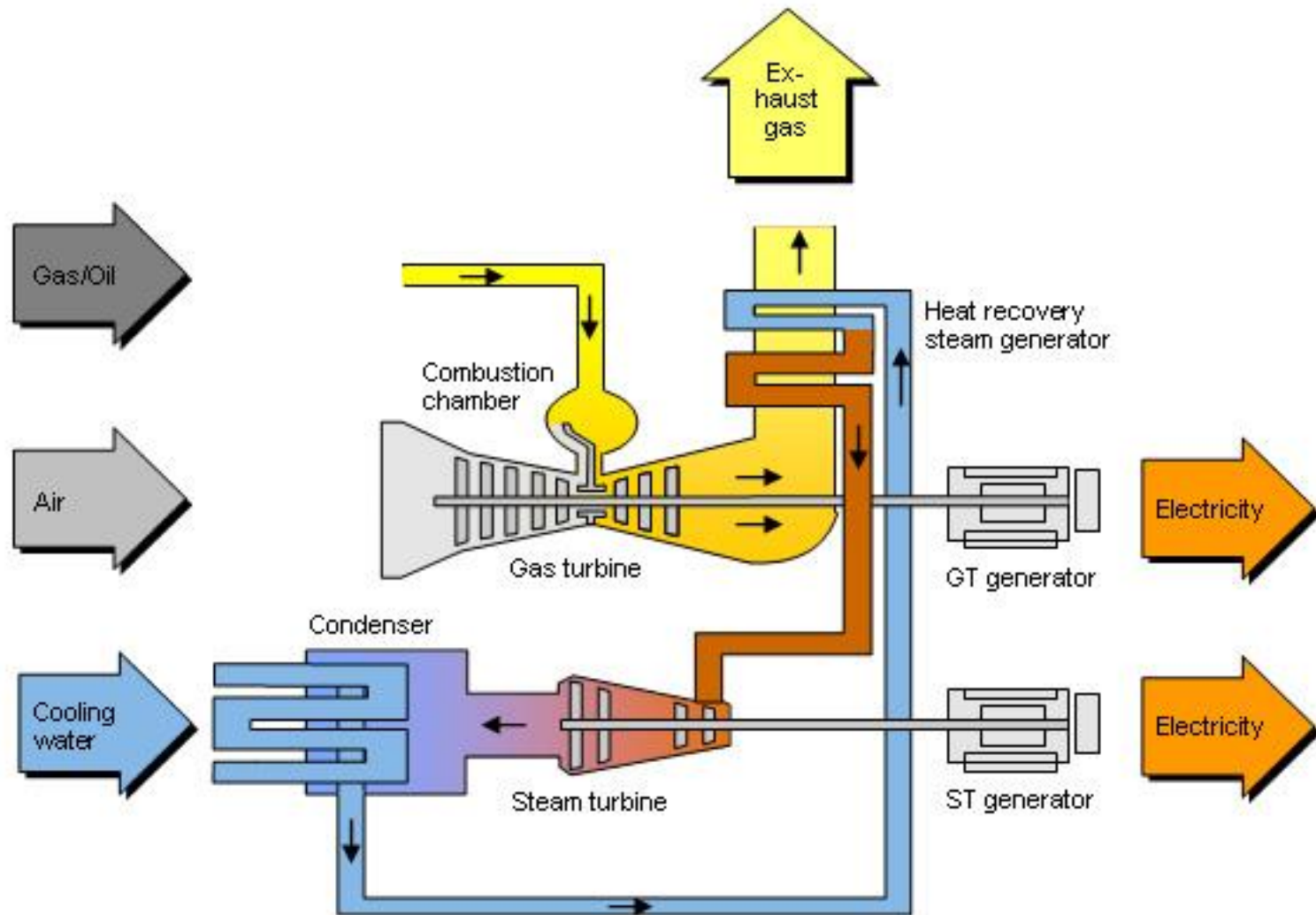
# Option 2

## Simple Cycle Gas Turbine



# Option 4

## Combined Cycle Gas Turbine



# Zone C Gas Generators

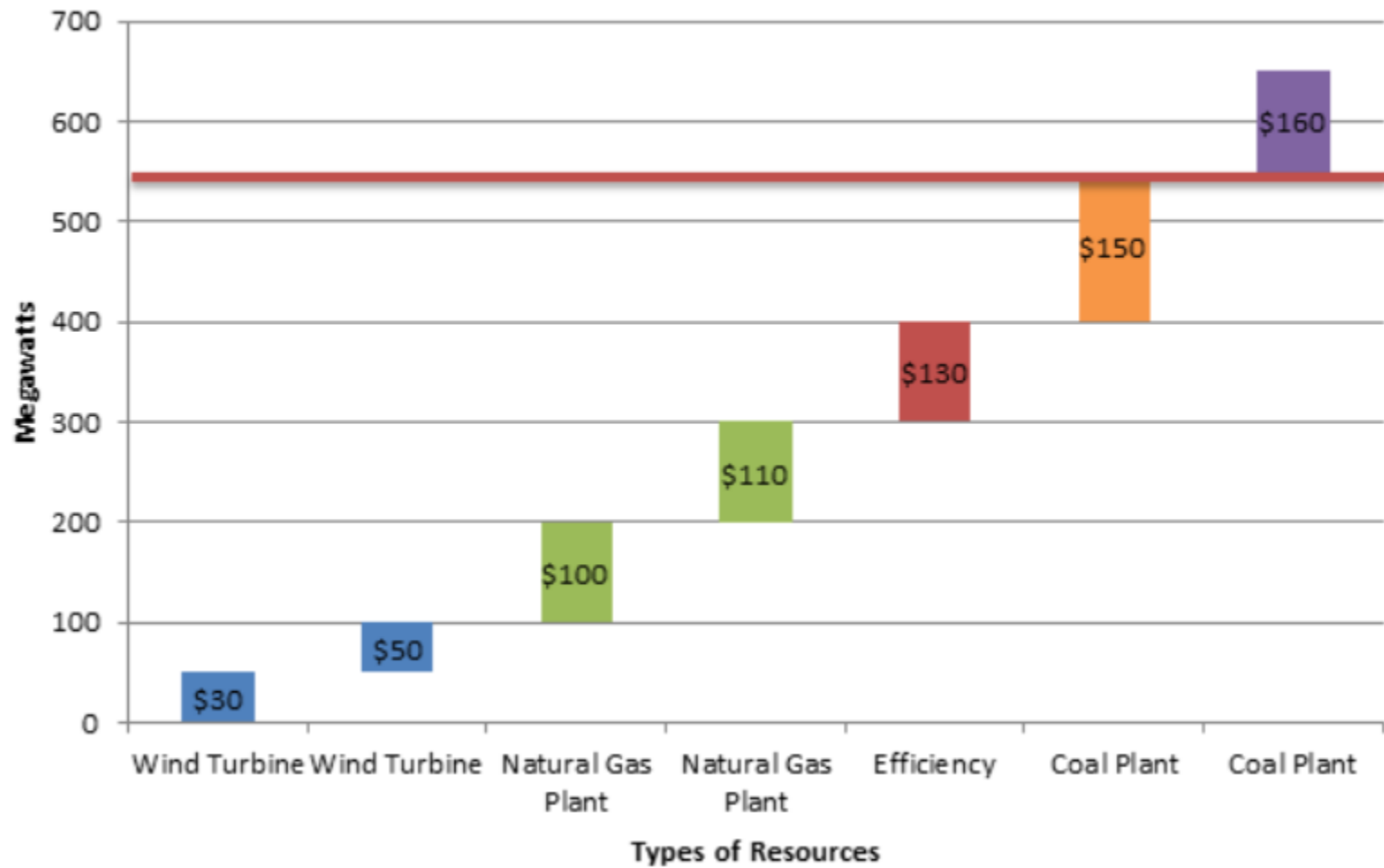
Location	Nameplate (MW)	Type	2013 Net Energy (GWh)	Capacity Rate %
Scriba	1,254.0	CCGT	5,290.0	63
Dewitt	122.6	CCGT	41.5	5
Syracuse	102.7	CCGT	25.3	3
Oswego	57.4	CCGT	46.8	10
Silver Springs	56.6	CCGT + CoGen	47.2	10
Auburn	7.4	GT	0.1	0.18



Retaining fuel diversity from coal will save money when gas prices spike during polar vortex.



## How a Capacity Auction Works





# COAL ASH CONTAMINATION



# Coal ash flowing into groundwater, Milliken Creek

Nick Reynolds, nreynolds@ithacajournal.com | @IJCityWatch 6:33 p.m. EDT September 17, 2015

*A geologist presented findings of lack of coal ash contamination oversight to Tompkins County officials, revealing an undefined risk to the local environment*



(Photo: SIMON WHEELER / Staff Photo)

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Coal ash sitting dormant in an unlined portion of the landfill near the Cayuga Power Plant has been seeping into groundwater for nearly 30 years and has flowed into nearby Milliken Creek, potentially contaminating drinking water, a geologist said in a meeting with Tompkins County officials Wednesday afternoon.

Mark Quarles, owner and a senior consultant with Nashville, Tennessee-based geology firm Global Environmental, was brought in last fall to assist in the review of a proposed









Ridge Rd

Cayuga Operating Company

156

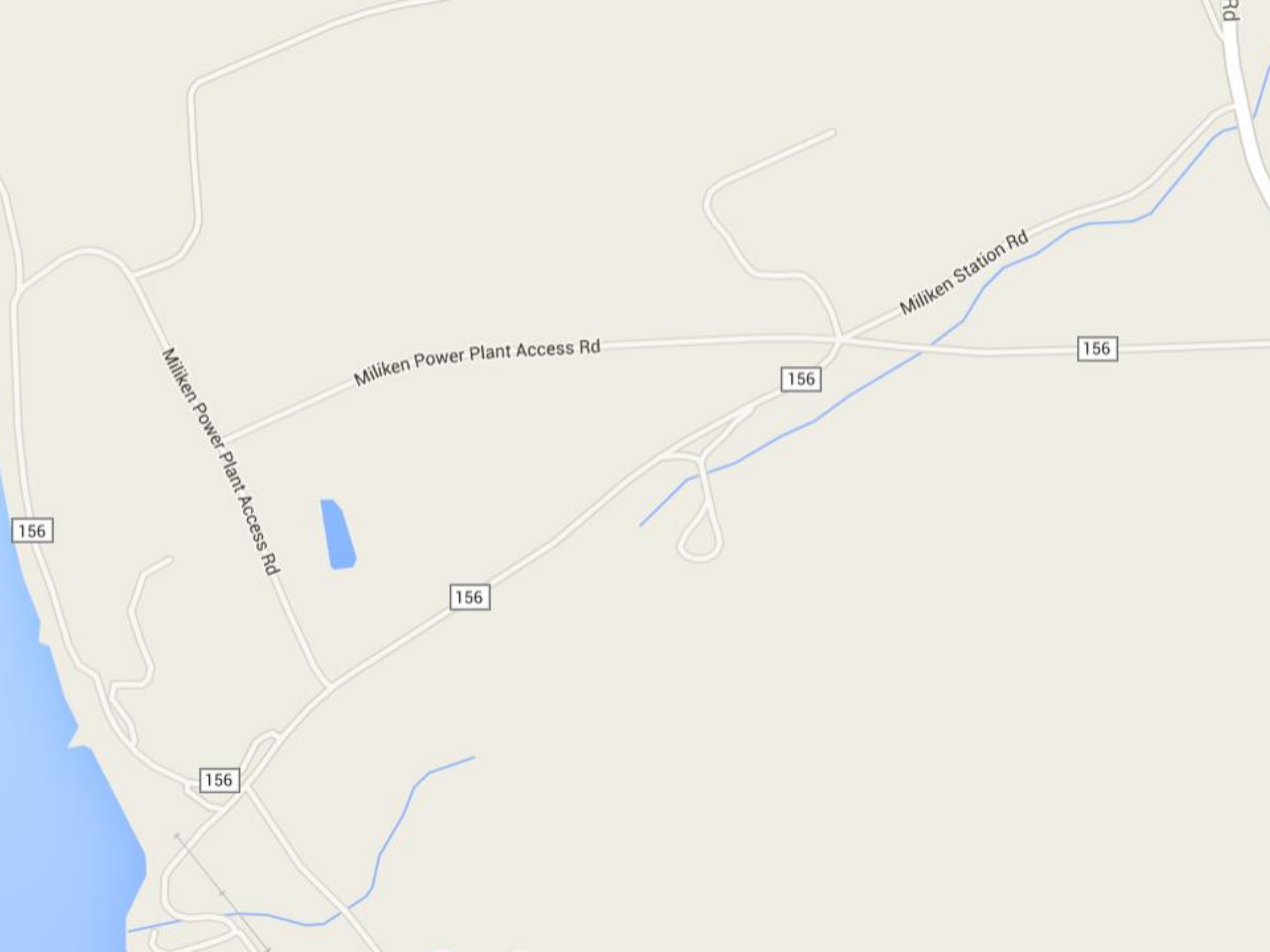
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Miliken Power Plant Access Rd

Miliken Power Plant Access Rd

Miliken Station Rd

Rd





Ridge Rd

Cayuga Operating Company

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