



OPPOSES

A. 7685 (Paulin)/S. 5126 (Griffo)

*AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation
to the authority to contract for energy*

The New York League of Conservation Voters strongly opposes A. 7685 (Paulin)/S. 5126 (Griffo), which would prohibit the New York Power Authority (NYPA) from purchasing energy transmitted over a transmission line that connects to a source outside the United States and does not connect to generating facilities within New York State.

NYPA provides low-cost electricity to government agencies, municipalities, non-profits, and economic development projects. In New York City, NYPA holds a 12-year, \$7.35 billion contract to provide power to City agencies, provides power to the MTA and the Port Authority, and provides the vast majority of power for the New York City Housing Authority, which houses more than 400,000 low-income New Yorkers. In recent years, planning has taken place for a transmission line called the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE). CHPE would connect 1,000 megawatts of hydropower produced in Quebec to a substation in New York City operated by NYPA, and NYPA could then purchase the energy and sell it at no profit to the City and other public and non-profit entities. A. 7685/S. 5126 would block NYPA's involvement in the CHPE, effectively terminating the project.

New York City's power needs are currently met by the Indian Point nuclear facility, a variety of fossil fuel-fired power plants, and a burgeoning renewable energy sector. NYLCV strongly supports the continued development of clean energy in New York City and State, at both utility- and residential-scale, but closing off the possibility of Canadian hydropower would not accelerate the development of these resources. Instead, it would increase the City's reliance on fossil fuels that contribute to climate change and air pollution. The New York Power Authority is well-positioned to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and environmental benefits of the CHPE and decide, without second guessing, whether or not this project should move forward.

For these reasons, NYLCV is opposed to this legislation and urges the legislature to reject it.

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