

Public Comments on the Residential Time of Day Rate Proposal

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LIPA Trustee Mark Fischl states in LIBN that TOD pricing will allow less efficient power plants to close along with substations and the need to expand the grid. He states that usage will be minimal after 10 PM. When will people be charging their electric cars? This is the path to blackouts, brownouts, unreliability, diminished public safety and health.

LIPA currently has one of the best reliability records in NYS for a utility with overhead distribution. This did not happen easily or cheaply. Reducing load with the carrot of lower rates won't work. The public has inertia and works hard for a convenient, comfortable life style. They will pay more to maintain it.

But even if there were a load shift or reduction, closing generation will be a disaster. Texas, N. Carolina, California have closed fossil, hydro and nuclear generation with calamitous results; people died in extreme weather events when the power failed. The European Union including UK are convulsing with power interruptions and rates so high people are demonstrating, industries and businesses are closing and people must decide whether to pay for food or lights. Europe relied on intermittent solar and wind power which are so unreliable, they generate at 20% or less of nameplate capacity. In fact they are now reopening coal generation plants in desperation. Battery backup will never work due to the extreme costs and very limited output duration. Roger Caiazza details these in his copious comments on the NYS proposed green energy plan.

LIPA will make a historic, catastrophic blunder if it follows Europe and relies on intermittent, unreliable wind and solar generation. Also the unprecedented offshore wind construction is associated with the recent massive whale kills. Long Island as an industrial, business, financial, scientific and high-tech powerhouse will collapse. Jobs and businesses will migrate to states with more reliable and cheaper utilities, which is already happening.

Furthermore, claimed emissions-lowering will be inconsequential and on a global scale undetectable. China, Russia, India, Asia and Africa are building state-of-the-art fossil and nuclear generation at an unprecedented rate. They embrace reliable, cost-effective, clean power. Any steps LIPA, NYS, America and Europe take to reduce emissions are completely offset with this new and future generation. In addition, a significant body of scientists have

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shown the global warming models are specious, predictions wrong and climate change is due to decadal-century-millennial weather cycles and geo-oceanic oscillations.

In addition, wind and solar generation are plagued with other issues:

- 1- Use of construction materials many times more than conventional generation. Securing and fabricating them emits more greenhouse emissions, and mining damage.
- 2- Many times more use of rare elements, earths and materials which are mainly found in China and Africa and obtained by child labor under nonexistent safety and health regulations.
- 3- Environment and habitat destruction: lithium leaching fields leave huge quantities of toxic waste and poison the land and streams. Wind turbines kill birds including thousands of bald eagles, bats and others. They are associated with recent massive whale kills. Hundreds of thousands of acres and forests are destroyed by solar farms.
- 4- End-of-life toxic waste of unrecyclable giant turbine blades and solar panels. Marine wind turbines have considerably shortened life in the harsh salt water environment.
- 5- Backup batteries explode in unquenchable fires emitting toxic gasses requiring area evacuation.

Instead of enabling the death of LIPA's reliable generation by a thousand cuts and embracing the chimera of unreliable, intermittent and expensive solar and wind generation, LIPA should reread Dr. Matt Cordero's 2000 study of REPOWERING (updating) existing generation, namely Northport. For a fraction of duplicating the existing grid for wind and solar, with almost 100% and 24/7 reliability, rebuilding the Northport Power Station with state-of-the-art generation fueled by the in-place Iroquois gas pipeline and backup oil, the output can more than double to 3500 MW with a 90% emissions reduction. I'll bet doing that will be a net emissions reduction compared to keeping peakers and the existing plants on spinning reserve to back up the unreliable, intermittent wind and solar generation. Fantastically expensive and dangerous battery backup are eliminated too.

Learn from the infrastructure mistakes of Europe and the positive steps the Global South, China, Russia and India are taking. Optimize the existing generation fleet by repowering. With the potential for the unwise proposed ban on natural gas heat and cooking, future electrification of homes and vehicles, LIPA will be pressed to provide more reliable, safe, cost-effective generation. That will be done by updating the existing fleet of generators and improving distribution. Duplicating the existing system with unreliable, expensive and intermittent wind and solar generation is a fatal mistake.

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