

**SENATE DEPUTY LEADER MICHAEL GIANARIS
ASSEMBLY MEMBER ZOHRAN MAMDANI**

September 26, 2022

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

New York State Public Service
Commission Members
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Governor Hochul, Chair Christian, and Commissioners,

We write to you today as representatives of New Yorkers who are already facing the existing unaffordability of utilities, while Con Edison proposes an additional \$1.7 billion revenue increase for 2023. The company's proposal in the ongoing rate case will translate to an increase of \$20.90 more per month for electricity and \$37.88 more for gas for an average customer - over \$700 a year. For the median New York State household, the proposed increase translates to nearly a full percent of their income. For Con Edison, this proposal will translate to greater profits.

Working-class New Yorkers need another chance to be heard in the course of this ongoing rate case which will determine whether the state accepts ConEd's proposal to increase already high utility rates. The Public Service Commission must hold another public hearing, as soon as possible, before a final settlement is reached between the Public Service Commission and Con Edison. The last public hearings were held in March of 2022, when even fewer New Yorkers knew of a potential rate increase.

As of February of this year, over 1.3 million New Yorkers were behind on their utility bills, owing over \$1.7 billion, according to an analysis from The CITY. As other household costs increase, the state cannot allow Con Edison to increase revenues to line their pockets while New Yorkers forgo basic needs to pay their utility bills.

We have heard from across our districts about the impossible choices that families have had to make because of the utility bill increases they've seen from the 2019 rate case. In the event of these rate increases, many have told us that they are unsure if they can continue to afford living in our neighborhoods.

While Con Edison is able to pay attorneys and lobbyists to fight for their interests, our constituents—working New Yorkers—have not been given an adequate seat at the table. We call on you to hold a public hearing immediately to give our constituents the chance to weigh in on a decision that will impact their lives deeply.

Sincerely,



Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris



Senator Cordell Cleare



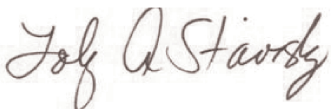
Senator Robert Jackson



Senator Liz Krueger



Senator Shelley B. Mayer



Senator Toby Ann Stavisky



Senator Pete Harkham



Senator Andrew Gounardes




Senator Brad Hoylman



Senator Simcha Felder



Senator Anna Kaplan



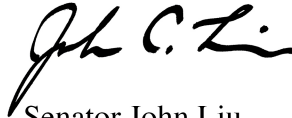
Senator Luis Sepulveda



Senator Jessica Ramos



Assembly Member Zohran Mamdani



Senator John Liu



Senator Zellnor Myrie



Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick



Senator Alessandra Biaggi



Senator Gustavo Rivera



Assembly Member Nily Rozic



Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal



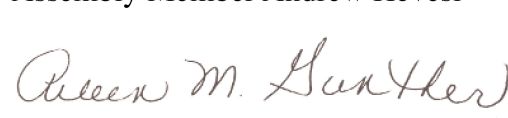
Assembly Member Karines Reyes



Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes



Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi



Assembly Member Aileen Guntner



Assembly Member Emily Gallagher

Assembly Member Phara Forrest

Assembly Member Harvey Epstein

Assembly Member Catalina Cruz

Assembly Member Kenny Burgos

Assembly Member Chris Burdick

Assembly Member Brian Barnwell

Assembly Member Mathylde Frontus

Assembly Member Yuh-Line Niou

Assembly Member Richard Gottfried

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright

Assembly Member Clyde Vanel

Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon

Assembly Member Manny De Los Santos

Assembly Member Robert Carroll

Assembly Member Nathalia Fernandez

Assembly Member Daniel O'Donnell

Assembly Member Latoya Joyner

Assembly Member David Weprin

Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson

Assembly Member Deborah Glick

Assembly Member Amanda Septimo

Assembly Member Jessica Gonzalez Rojas

Assembly Member Brian Cunningham

Assembly Member Al Taylor

Assembly Member Michael Reilly