



# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2006

Mr. Joseph T. Kelliher  
Chairman  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington DC 20426

RE: Request for an investigation surrounding the power outage in Queens, NY

Dear Chairman Kelliher

We respectfully request that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission open an investigation to the recent power outages that darkened Northwestern Queens, New York for almost 9 days in late July. Representing these areas, we believe that FERC is the appropriate Federal regulator to look into this situation and answer four very important questions.

- What caused this massive power outage to occur?  
Why did it only occur on one grid, the Long Island City grid operated by Consolidated Edison?
- Is there sufficient capacity in this grid to handle the energy needs of the growing population and businesses sector, including new high-rise buildings, in this area of Queens?
- What is the extent of the damage to the underground wires and infrastructure?
- How can we work to prevent another power outage from occurring again?

This power outage darkened the homes and businesses of over 125,000 people for well over a week; businesses lost hundreds of millions of dollars; the City was strapped with millions in new financial burdens; and besides the suffering of everyone affected, we also saw one casualty from the black-out.

Therefore, we hope that FERC will open an investigation into this situation and answer the above questions. For far too long during the 9-day power outage, neither our constituents nor our offices had any information. I understand Consolidated Edison will be preparing an initial report in the next week for the City of New York, but as the Federal regulator, a more broad investigation is needed.

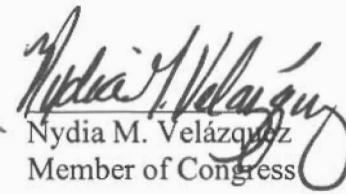
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Thank you for your attention to this serious matter, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress