

Dear Representative James;

I am the Manager for the Village of Hyde Park and its utility departments, including electric. This bill, S.50, will likely administratively and financially impact our customers and operations. I would like to have the opportunity to share these points with the House Committee.

I will try to elaborate on my concerns. First, I nor the Village are against NMR, we understand that given the technology, some people who can afford it, want it. Further, while the Village can “object” in the CPG process, we know that it is not a rejection of an application. As you know, only the PUC can reject application. And while you may have heard of HPE’s numerous objections, we have a fix in play that will restore ongoing interconnections.

The primary reason for our hesitancy on an accelerated pathway is due to our limited staffing and resources and our ability to be responsive. If the NMR path is accelerated our limited staffing will have to be shifted to accommodate those needs over other customer service needs. The Village has one person on-staff to review interconnection adequacy. Our other two technical staff members are in their first-year of training. This single person is also a lead for our ongoing daily operations in electric, water, wastewater, and the Village maintenance needs. The Village has no engineering staff, but has an out of state third party engineering consultant. If we need to use them for technical needs, we have no means for financial recovery since we are prohibited by the Rule to assess an application fee. Accelerating the application process will likely cause us to put customers who are in the work queue behind new applications because of the timing requirements of new NMR customers. Yes, we could “object”; however, those legal documents and associated regulatory processes chew up other work time of staff and incurs incremental legal expenses. While we understand the desire to move faster, the expedited registration will either cost other customers, in either added costs to bring on 3<sup>rd</sup> party resources, or their place in the work queue since they expedited requests will have to be advanced ahead of them.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.