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News: NYISO power grid reliability assessment finds reliability concerns over next decade

By Jared Anderson, Jason Fargo Published on - Wed, 30 Nov 2022 16:47:57 EST

- · Reliability margins could narrow by 2023
- · CHPE transmission line critical to reliability

Future **New York** power grid reliability is dependent on coordinated scheduling of new generation and transmission projects, along with other factors, the **New York Independent System Operator** said Nov. 30, the same day that construction began on a 1,250-MW transmission project to bring **hydropower** from **Canada** into **New York** City.

The grid operator released a report on future **electric** grid reliability that finds thinning reliability margins over the next decade driven by the retirement of **natural gas** -fired generation and electrification trends.

"We see reliability margins narrowing to concerning levels as early as 2023," Zach Smith, NYISO 's vice president of system and resource planning, said in a statement. "To meet policy goals and maintain reliability we need to use the power of markets to mitigate these risks as we bring new resources on the grid."

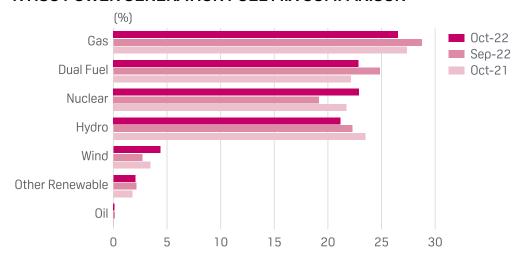
The report called the Reliability Needs Assessment is conducted every two years and evaluates grid reliability over the next 10 years.

Important findings

"Without emergency assistance from neighboring regions, there would not be sufficient resources to serve demand within **New York** throughout the planning horizon," the report said.

Although transmission security within **New York** City is maintained through the 10-year period, the margins are "very tight" and decrease to roughly 50 MW by 2025, according to the report.

NYISO POWER GENERATION FUEL MIX COMPARISON



Source: NYISO

The reliability assessment found that a key piece of the supply picture is the Champlain Hudson Power Express transmission project that began construction Nov. 30. Summer reliability margins improve in 2026 with the scheduled addition of the CHPE connection from **Hydro -Quebec** to **New York** City "but reduce through time as demand grows within **New York** City," **NYISO** said.

Additionally, the report found that reliability margins within **New York** City may not be sufficient even for expected weather if:

- The CHPE project experiences a significant delay
- Forecasted power demand in New York City increases by as little as 60 MW in 2025
- There are additional generator deactivations beyond what is already planned

"Some generation" expected to deactivate in 2025 pursuant to **New York** State Department of Environmental Conservation **emissions** rules may need to remain in service until CHPE or other permanent solutions are completed to maintain a reliable grid, **NYISO** said.

Construction has begun on the 339-mile CHPE line, which will link the borough of Queens to the Canadian border. When complete, the project will supply New York City with as much as 1,250 MW of power produced at dams operated by Canada 's Hydro -Quebec .

The project is being built by Transmission Developers Inc., which is majority-owned by investment firm Blackstone and is expected to go into service in 2026.

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