# **Climate Resilience Working Group**

October 29, 2025



# Today's Agenda

- Update on Joint Proposal in the Niagara Mohawk Rate Case presented by Matt LaFlair, Director of Integrated Planning & Solutions
- Delivering on our Commitments Implementation Plan presented by Pete Haswell, Manager of Distributed Generation (DG) Standards & New Technology (lead for NY Electric's Climate Resilience efforts) and Gavin MacLean, Engineer in Electrical Planning & Design.
- Rhizome Risk Assessment for Wildfires presented by Casey Kirkpatrick,
  Director of Group Strategic Engineering
- Onondaga County Joint Hazard Mitigation Plan Five-Year Update— presented by Jeffery Harrop, Planner in Onondaga County Department of Planning
- Next Steps

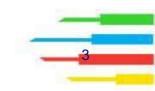




### Three-Year Rate Plan for NMPC Electric and Gas approved by the PSC

- •Three-year term beginning May 1, 2025, and ending March 31, 2028
- •Rates effective September 1, 2025,
- •The Joint Proposal is supported by a **broad group of stakeholders** (Staff, large commercial and industrial customers, solar developers, Local 97, and environmental advocates) and reflects their input over six months of negotiations.
- •A typical residential electric customer will see a total bill increase of 11.5% or \$14.32 per month.
- •A typical residential gas customer will see a total bill increase of 8.2% or \$7.66 per month.

On August 14<sup>th</sup>, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) approved the Joint Proposal (JP) establishing new rates for National Grid's upstate New York electric and gas businesses.





The Rate Plan provides funding to enhance the reliability of the electric system and build the infrastructure needed to attract and serve new growth.

- •Reliability and resiliency projects to ensure the continued provision of safe and reliable service to customers. Investments in system automation, FLISR technology, and storm hardening projects to reduce the impact of severe weather.
- •Multi-value transmission and distribution projects to improve reliability, enable the delivery of renewable energy, and support adoption of decarbonization technologies (e.g., heat pumps, electric vehicles).
- •Funding for response to major and minor storms
- •Company must meet electric reliability targets related to power outage frequency and duration or face financial penalties

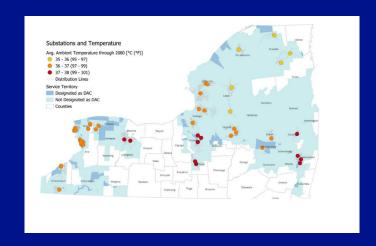


Three-year electric capex levels reflect a \$2.1b increase



# Updates to National Grid's Implementation Plan

October 2025

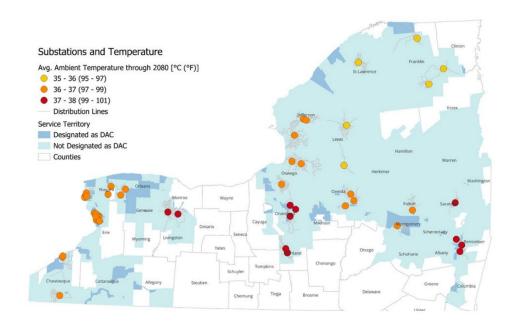






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#### **Upgrading Transformer Specifications**



To deal with the projected temperature increase our resiliency plan posited changing the specifications from peak average ambient temp of 95°F (from 90°F)

The specifications have been published with the updated transmission and distribution transformer specs

We will be purchasing our first group of transformers (7) with these new specs

#### Distribution and Sub-Transmission Storm Hardening Standards for Higher Pole Classes







Upgrade in line design standards to account for weather loading



Standards have been updated to use larger class (stronger) poles as called for in our Climate Change Resilience Plan (CCRP)



Upgrading three phase mainline poles and poles with heavy equipment to Class 1.



The standards were published in July, and the rollout of the updated standards will take place this fall



Any designs issued after this rollout will use the updated standards.

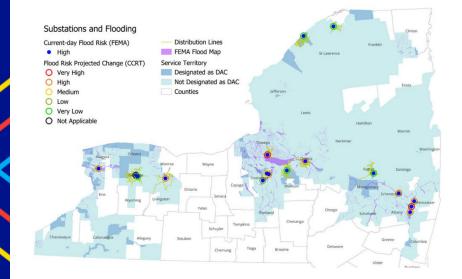
# Transmission Lines Updating Standards for Structures in High Wind Areas



- Transmission line standards updates have been issued requiring structures be designed for higher wind gusts (up to 120 mph)
- Going forward, transmission line designs will factor in the wind projections that may exceed National Electric Safety Code (NESC) levels

## Front Street Flood Wall

- First floodwall project from the CCRP
- The project will kick off in early 2026





### **Delivering on our commitments**

#### Timeline

2025

- File updated/approved Climate Change Resilience Plan (CCRP)
- Update standards & specifications, and initiate projects
- Align projects and budgets with the outcome of the Niagara Mohawk rate case

2026

- Begin to implement projects and changes initiated in 2025
- Initiate vegetation study & update to MIT study if approved

2027

• Prepare and file first biennial update on status of CCRP implementation

2028

• File updated CCRP (due every 5 years)

#### Wildfire Risk: EEI Wildfire Mitigation Paper

Edison Electric Institute (EEI)'s white paper "Wildfire Mitigation Activities" In the Electric Power Sector" has served as a guidance document for National Grid's wildfire mitigation strategies. Elements of the guidance include:

- Risk Assessment
- Situational Awareness
- Vegetation Management
- Operational Procedures Grid Hardening
- Training
- Community Outreach and Communication

  - **Technology Deployment**

These elements align with industry best practices learned from benchmarking with other utilities that have experienced wildfires, including PG&E, Southern California Edison, and others.





#### **Situational Awareness and Operating Procedures**

NY and NE Electric have expanded their agreements with weather service provider DTN to include a Fire Weather Outlook twice weekly, and more frequently in the event of a fire in or near our service territory.

National Grid participated in a research project with University of Albany and University of Connecticut to apply the Santa Anna Wildfire Threat Index (SAWTi) threat level evaluation, used in Southwestern United States, to the Northeast United States. Avangrid and Central Hudson also participated in this research.

The NY Electric team developed a wildfire crisis playbook, laying out procedures in the event of a wildfire in our territory and addressing roles / responsibilities.

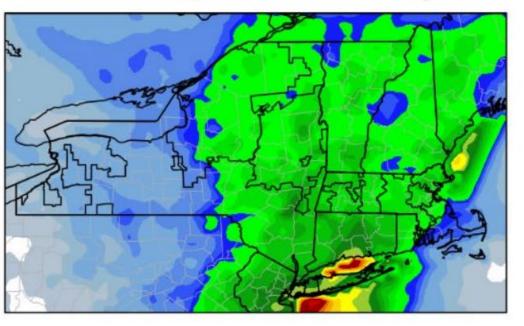


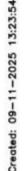
#### **Situational Awareness Example**

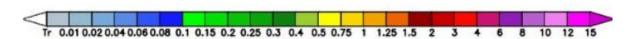
#### Overview

- No large fires are ongoing across National Grid operations.
- Spotty showers at times Saturday through Monday but no significant or widespread rainfall is expected.
- Fire weather wise, relative humidity is only expected to drop to around 35-50% each day through early next week with relatively low winds. Therefore, not expecting any wildfire issues.
- Please see EEI forecast for more region-specific details.

#### Total Precipitation Thru Monday









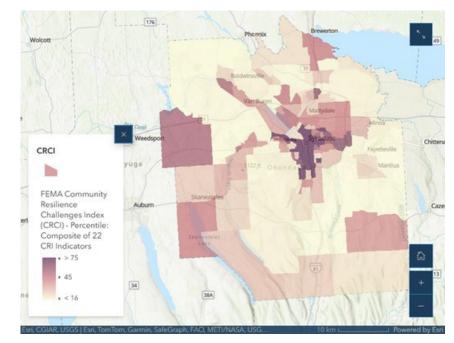
### Rhizome Asset Risk Assessment for Wildfires

- National Grid's electric business units are conducting a risk assessment using Rhizome, a company that takes a geospatial look at asset health and climate/weather risks to identify areas of vulnerability on the system.
- The risk assessment model that Rhizome is creating incorporates:
  - Asset Health
  - Outage History
  - Vegetation Management
  - Inspections and Maintenance Data
  - Weather Conditions
  - Climate Projections
- The outputs of the assessment will give National Grid greater understanding about where pockets of vulnerability may be on the system.



#### **Onondaga County Joint Hazard Mitigation Plan Five-Year Update**

- Original HMP adopted in 2013
- 36 Jurisdictions
  - City of Syracuse
  - Towns and Villages
  - OCWA
- 2025 Update incorporates ClimRR
  - In partnership with Colorado State University and AT&T
  - Puts high-resolution, forward-looking climate data into the hands of our communities
- ClimRR is designed to interact with FEMA's RAPT
  - Provide local data on social vulnerability and community characteristics
  - Example: Focus planning efforts on communities most vulnerable to the impacts of extreme heat
  - https://arcg.is/1vHn541 or, http://ongov.net/planning/haz.html
- ClimRR helps community leaders and public Safety officials understand how changing climate risks will affect their communities
- Draft HMP Plan is under review
- Onondaga County invites additional jurisdictions in future updates



## **Community Updates & Feedback**



Let's hear from you!



### **Next Steps**





Understanding local concerns and priorities is important to National Grid. To that end, we will convene the Climate Resilience Working Group at least twice annually to seek your feedback and recommendations to be incorporated into our Resilience Plan implementation and the development of future 5-year updates.

We also look forward to hearing about emergency planning and resilience efforts happening in your communities.

