



February 25, 2010

**Update from MACNY and the Business Council of New York State on
Energy Chair Cahill Introduction of Economic Development Power
Program**

Today, Assembly Energy Chair Kevin Cahill (D-Kingston) introduced legislation that would create a new a long term economic development power program for New York State. The legislation intends to replace the current Power for Jobs and other economic development power programs, which are slated to expire May 15th, 2010.

When Assemblyman Cahill assumed the leadership role of the Assembly Energy committee, he committed to proposing a long term power program as a solution to the current short term extensions of New York State's power discount programs that many manufacturers and businesses have come to depend on in order to remain competitive. MACNY and the Business Council have engaged in a number of roundtables, hearings and meetings sponsored by Assemblyman Cahill and his legislative colleagues, where we offered our expertise and proposed solutions in order to help design a highly effective economic development power program tool for retaining and creating jobs and businesses in New York State. With the release of this draft legislation, Assemblyman Cahill is honoring his commitment to present a long term solution, and we consider this piece of legislation an encouraging first step. Assemblyman Cahill's inclusion of multi-year contracts, updated criteria and hydro power redeployment comes as a positive step towards an effective program. While we consider this legislation a valued starting point, specific modifications are still necessary in order to create a long term power program that effectively sustains current and potential manufacturers and businesses. The right legislation will allow manufacturers and other employers make long term business plans, make significant capital investments, and keep reliable, high paying jobs in New York State.

We look forward to our continued dialogue and ultimately achieving a long term comprehensive economic development power program that will ensure the stability and growth of New York State manufacturers and businesses

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