

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

**John Ceretto**  
Assemblyman 138th District



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December 20, 2011

Gil Quiniones  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
New York Power Authority  
123 Main St.  
White Plains, NY 10601-3170

Dear Mr. Quiniones,

The services NFTA (Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority) provides to Western New Yorkers is a necessity for current economic sustainability and future economic growth. NFTA is experiencing unpredictable revenue streams and operating costs, which is allowing for less fluctuation in range of services. I am requesting that NYPA provide an additional eight megawatts of low-cost power to the NFTA (they currently have one) in an effort to stabilize its finances and maintain the current services provided.

In back-to-back sessions in Albany, Governor Andrew Cuomo approved a \$1.88 billion bailout to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), and most recently, a \$250 million tax cut for downstate residents and small businesses. At the same time, the MTA receives 80 percent of its power in the form of low-cost power from NYPA.

This power is generated locally by the Niagara Power Project, and it should benefit Western New York first. I am redoubling my efforts and requesting this low-cost power for NFTA in the best interest of the Western New York economy.

I previously asked Governor Cuomo to restore \$10 million in previous cuts to NFTA to help eliminate its \$15 million deficit. On behalf of my constituents and all of Western New York, I firmly believe this is more than fair given the seemingly special treatment the MTA has received in recent years.

My constituents and the people of Western New York need this transit system. We are asking for \$10 million and low-cost power we develop, not the billions the MTA received.

Predictable, sustainable revenues and costs are essential for NFTA to maintain its excellent and affordable services. This is a bipartisan effort, with Assembly members Peoples and Gabryzak on board for this deficit reduction proposal. We must look long term, however, and NYPA's investment can ensure sustainability long term. That's what Western New York needs and deserves.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. I look forward to working with you to ensure that all regions of New York can get back to work. Please contact me at my district office, 716-282-6062, or email [cerettoj@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:cerettoj@assembly.state.ny.us) so we can arrange a time to discuss this important issue.

Respectfully yours,



John D. Ceretto  
Member of the Assembly  
138<sup>th</sup> District

CC: Governor Andrew Cuomo  
Ken Adams, President/CEO, Empire State Development  
Henry Sloma, Chairman, NFTA