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Contact: Paul Steidler
917-612-3594 or 212-683-1203
steidler@area-alliance.org

Karlene Hamilton
212-683-1203 or 718-350-7251
hamilton@area-alliance.org

New York AREA Statement on the New York Independent System Operator's Summer 2008 Forecast

New York, NY/May 22, 2008 – Jerry Kremer, Chairman of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (New York AREA) and a former Assemblyman who was a principal author of the state's power plant siting law, Article X, made the following statement in conjunction with the New York Independent System Operator's (NYISO) summer 2008 peak usage forecast.

"NYISO is predicting a peak electricity usage of 33,809 megawatts, five percent higher than the 2007 summer peak of 32,169 megawatts. This shows that there is growing demand for power in the state and is yet one more alarm bell that the state needs to take several concerted steps, including to expand power generation, improve transmission infrastructure, and expand energy efficiency programs.

In order to have increased power supply from additional sources, the Article X power plant siting law needs to be renewed as soon as possible. This law expired five years ago and it takes at least five years for a new power plant to come online. Our pipeline is dry. Unless we renew Article X, proposals for new power plants will languish and investors will go to other states to build plants where there is a permit process."

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About New York AREA: Founded in November 2003, the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (New York AREA) is a diverse group of more than 125 business, labor, and community groups whose mission and purpose is to ensure that New York has an ample and reliable electricity supply, and economic prosperity for years to come. New York AREA helps to educate policy makers, businesses, and the general public regarding the necessity and importance of safe, low-cost and reliable electricity. For additional information visit: www.area-alliance.org.