

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Statement on Brodsky Electricity Bill

New York, NY/March 5, 2009 – Arthur “Jerry” Kremer, Chairman of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (New York AREA) today issued the following statement in conjunction with Assemblyman Richard Brodsky’s legislation (A.1563) to end competitive wholesale electricity markets in New York State. Assemblyman Brodsky is holding hearings on the legislation in Albany today.

“Ending competitive wholesale electricity markets in New York State is an unnecessary step that will only lead to higher utility costs for New York’s hard-pressed working families.

“In fact, the New York Independent Systems Operator (NYISO) – the independent agency which operates New York’s electrical grid – notes that New York’s competitive market has led to new generation and transmission investment, more efficient power plants, and an increase in renewable energy production.

“Increasing fossil fuel costs and growing electricity demand are the true dangers for New York’s working families – not the competitive marketplace. This is why our legislature should support a comprehensive power plant siting law, and continue to invest in clean, reliable baseload power resources such as nuclear and hydro. Practical, common sense initiatives like this will preserve our energy future, and protect the interests of New York’s working families.”

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 150 business, labor, and community groups whose mission and purpose is to ensure that the New York metropolitan area 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, reliable, clean electricity.

For additional information visit: www.area-alliance.org .

- 30 -