

## **New York City Council**

### **Memorandum in Support of Resolution**

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the resolution referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Resolution Number:

- Res. No. 21533

Prime Sponsor:

- Council Member Sandy Nurse

Resolution Title:

Resolution calling upon the New York State Public Service Commission to deny Con Edison's petition, Case 24-E-0621, to retroactively approve changes to its interconnection policies that have increased costs for battery storage facilities located in networks that the company deems constrained.

Submitted by:

- Council Member Sandy Nurse

### **Justification**

New Yorkers, especially those from low-income and communities of color, disproportionately experience the worst effects of the climate crisis. To reduce the reliance on fossil-fuel energy systems driving this crisis, the City set a target of 500 megawatts (MW) of battery storage capacity by 2025, but failed to reach even one-fifth of that goal.

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) offer a sustainable solution by storing surplus renewable energy to be used during peak demand, reducing costs and improving air quality by minimizing reliance on polluting peaker plants. However, Con Ed, in August 2025, unilaterally changed its method for determining interconnection costs for BESS installations, raising fees by over 25 times. This effectively halts new installations in networks spanning all five boroughs, including 66% of the city's disadvantaged communities. In January 2026, Con Ed filed a petition with the NYS Department of Public Service to retroactively codify and apply its new methodology.

If this petition is approved, it sets a dangerous precedent that Con Ed can unilaterally shift massive infrastructure costs onto green energy developers without accountability, forcing the most vulnerable New Yorkers to suffer from poor air quality and exorbitant energy costs. To advance our climate goals, the State must deny this petition.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.