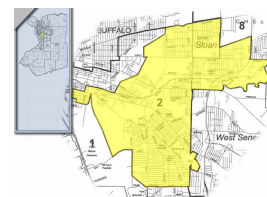


*Tim Kennedy* for N.Y. State Senator

BRINGING CHANGE TO ALBANY



**County of Erie**  
Timothy M. Kennedy  
Erie County Legislator, District 2



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**KENNEDY SPEARHEADS RESOLUTION AIMED AT KEEPING HYDRO  
POWER PROFITS HERE IN WESTERN NEW YORK**  
*LEGISLATURE UNANIMOUSLY ECHOS THE CALL OF CONGRESSMAN BRIAN HIGGINS,  
URGES THE POWER AUTHORITY TO DO MORE FOR WESTERN NEW YORK*

At the most recent legislative session, Erie County Legislator Tim Kennedy (D-South Buffalo) echoed the call of Congressman Brian Higgins and spearheaded a resolution through the legislature which calls on the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to keep hydro power profits here in Western New York.

Kennedy's proposed resolution received unanimous support and came shortly after Higgins announced plans to propose and file a bill that would dedicate a minimum of \$63 million in annual proceeds from the NYPA to local infrastructure, cultural, waterfront and park projects.

In 1957, a federal law granted the Power Authority the right to build and operate the Niagara Power Project. The federal law also set aside 695 megawatts of power to industry within 30 miles of the facility. Establishment of the Niagara Power Project initially provided direct benefits to the host community leading to an economic rising in Western New York as it provided low cost power to our historically strong manufacturing base.

Today, New York Power Authority's (NYPA) own studies indicate that only 14% of the economic benefit from the Niagara Power Project remains in our region. In 2008, NYPA had a surplus of \$309 million, 76% of which was generated by the Niagara Power Project.

Congressman Brian Higgins argues that any proceeds from the sale of the 695 megawatts of power initially set aside for industry within 30 miles of the facility by the 1957 federal law should remain within Erie and Niagara counties.

"As Chairman of the Legislature's Economic Development Committee, I cannot stand around and watch millions of dollars leave this community when we desperately need it," stated Kennedy. "We need jobs, we need development, and we need it here in

[www.kennedyforchange.com](http://www.kennedyforchange.com)

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Erie County immediately! The Erie County Legislature understands this, as demonstrated by their unanimous support on this initiative.”

“Congressman Higgins demonstrated his leadership and ability to deliver for Western New Yorkers when he took on the New York Power Authority and successfully fought for an increased settlement just a few short years ago. At that time, the Erie County Legislature and other municipal governments banded together to form a unified voice on behalf of Western New Yorkers in our fight against the NYPA. This resolution is a demonstration of the Erie County Legislature coming together and taking a leadership role, sending a message to Washington and Albany that Western New Yorkers are ready to stand up against the government bureaucracy that is taking our most precious resources out of our own backyard and depriving our community of that which we rightfully deserve,” concluded Kennedy.

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