Good morning Chairman Thiele and esteemed members of the commission. I am Dan Lloyd, the Founder and President of Minority Millennials, and I am here to express my opposition to the proposed municipalization of utilities.

I understand the need for all Long Island residents to have access to quality utilities, as I, too, am a small business owner and the sole provider for my family of four. The possibility of shut off notices is a very real concern, and I empathize with those seeking affordable and reliable energy.

Millennials and Gen Z residents of Long Island are facing increasing costs of living and inadequate high paying jobs, making it difficult for them to find success here. There is no denying that there are many socioeconomic issues that need to be addressed.

However, I believe that the answer does not lie with municipalization. History has shown us that the promise of cost savings can easily result in higher taxes and lower quality services. The potential drawbacks of municipalization are too great to ignore, and could include hefty startup fees, delays, and service interruptions that will only hurt those most economically vulnerable.

What we need is a viable public private partnership that is held accountable to provide dependable and affordable services to all people, especially those who reside in disadvantaged communities. It’s clear that we all agree we need authentic residents from the Long Island community to help drive innovation and improve our quality of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration!