

# STATE OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ELIOT SPITZER Attorney General DIVISION OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY Environmental Protection Bureau

# Robert Rosenthal Assistant Attorney General State/Federal Relationships in Cases & Settlements

STAPPA/ALAPCO/EPA ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP June 14, 2006

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# 1) Nature of NSR Lawsuits

Major Modification = Non-routine physical change + increase in emissions.
 40 C.F.R. § 52.21.

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#### 2) Legal Landscape Effects Terms of Settlement

- New York I, 413 F.3d 3 (D.C. Cir. 2005)/New York II, 2006 U.S. App. LEXIS 6598 (D.C. Cir. Mar. 17, 2006): Provided details of meaning of both parts of "modification" test.
- United States v. Duke Energy, 411 F.3d 539 (4th Cir. 2005): Supreme Court granted certiorari on issues related to NSR emissions test.
- United States v. Cinergy (7th Cir.): Interlocutory appeal pending on emissions test.
- National Parks Conserv. Ass'n v. TVA (11th Cir): Appeal pending on statute of limitations & other issues.
- Wisconsin Electric Power Co. v. Reilly, 893 F.2d 901 (7th Cir. 1990): Affirmed EPA's routine maintenance determination; explained NSR emissions test.
- Puerto Rican Cement Co. v. EPA, 889 F.2d 292 (1st Cir. 1989): Affirmed EPA's use of potential emissions as measurement of post-change emissions for non-utility.
- Numerous District Court Decisions.
- Clean Air Interstate Rule, 70 Fed. Reg. 25,162 (May 12, 2005): Imposes SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>X</sub> reductions requirements in 2009/10 and 2015. Being challenged by some companies.

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# 3) Summary of Settlements w/New York as Participant

- United States v. Virginia Elec. & Power Corp., (E.D. Va. Oct. 10, 2003).
- United States v. Ohio Edison Co., (S.D. Ohio July 11, 2005).
- New York v. Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., (W.D.N.Y. June 6, 2005).
- New York v. NYSEG, (W.D.N.Y. Mar. 29, 2005).
- New York v. Mirant New York, Inc., (S.D.N.Y. Oct. 9, 2003).

#### SUMMARY OFNSR SETTLEMENTS

| Case                                     | Pollution Controls<br>(Approximate Cost)  | Civil Penalties                   | Benefit Projects in NYS   |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| O&R Utilities<br>and Mirant<br>(2 units) | ·\$100 -200 million ·NO <sub>x</sub> : SCR ·SO <sub>2</sub> : Alkaline-based induct sorbent injection ·Bag house ·Cap/rates | \$600,000 to NYS<br>(from O&R)    | \$800,000 (O&R for:<br>Digester gas renewable installation<br>Low income energy efficiency<br>School PV installation  |
| VEPCO<br>(10 Umits)                      | ·\$1.2 billion<br>·NO <sub>x</sub> : SCR<br>·SO <sub>2</sub> : FGD<br>·Cap/rates  | \$5.3 million to<br>U.S.          | \$13.9 million total;<br>2.1 million inN YS for:<br>Solar PV systems onmunicipal buildings  |
| NiMO and<br>NRG<br>(10 units)            | ·\$400 million (NRG)<br>·Caps   | \$3 million to NYS<br>(from NIMO) | \$3 million(NiMO) for:<br>School bus retrofits<br>Coal boiler replacement inpublic housing<br>Low income energy efficiency<br>In addition, NiMO is conveying 2,500<br>acres of land to the state for preser vation.   |
| NYSEG and<br>AES<br>(6 units +)          | ·\$50 million (AES) ·SO <sub>2</sub> : MPC Project or FGD ·NO <sub>3</sub> : SCR ·Caps /rates                               | \$700,000 to NYS<br>(from NYSEG)  | \$1 million(AES) for: PV on Schools and BOCES tree plant ings Low- income energy efficiency NOTE: projects are under develop ment   |
| Ohio Edison<br>(7 units +)               | ·\$1.1 billion ·NO <sub>x</sub> : SCR/SNCR ·SO <sub>2</sub> : Wet/dry FGD ·Caps /rates                                      | \$8.5 million to<br>U.S.          | \$10 million total for all states over 5 years; \$6.1 million in N YS over 5 years: Year lwill fund solar PV \$14.385 million for long-term purchase of wind power (wind farm will likely be in Pennsylvania, but it may be built in WNY) NOTE: projects are under develop ment |
| TOTAL                                    | \$2.85 - 2.95 billion   | \$18.1 million                    | \$43,085,000 (\$13 million in NY S)   |

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# 4) Settlement Principles

- Potential different interests of U.S. and States: Location of source, capacity of unit, stack height.
- Local Concerns: Environmental vs. Public Health. SIP compliance.
- Emission rates, annual reductions, caps: As close to BACT as possible. Consideration of plant-specific issues.
- Pollutant specific issues: SO<sub>2</sub> vs. NO<sub>X</sub>.
- Promoting New Technology.
- Remediation: Civil Penalty vs. Environmental Benefit Projects.
- Addressing Other Industry Concerns: Resolution of Claims/Covenant Not to Sue.
- Precedent: Prior settlements may effect negotiations.