



For Immediate Release:
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**SCHIMMINGER PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
NOMINATION TO POWER PROCEEDS BOARD**

Assemblyman Robin Schimminger is pleased to announce that Speaker Silver has accepted the Western New York Assembly Delegation’s recommendation and subsequently recommended the appointment of Dennis Elsenbeck for the Western New York Power Proceeds Allocation Board, which was established in the 2012-13 state budget.

Each year, a certain amount of power is allocated for New York residents from the Niagara Power Project. However, when power is allocated and not used, proceeds from the sale up until two years ago went to the state’s general fund. A law enacted in 2010 that I co-sponsored created the Western New York Economic Development Fund, which will receive unused power proceeds from the Niagara Power Project and then funnel capital investment funding for economic development related projects in the region.

The Power Proceeds Allocation Board, a five-member panel, will oversee where the proceeds will go. Private businesses and not-for-profit organizations within a 30-mile radius of the power project will be eligible to apply for capital funding for buildings, research and development, tourism and other job-creating projects.

“Dennis Elsenbeck was the perfect candidate for the job. He has a long history in the development of the mechanics embodied in this act, and he possesses both the knowledge and expertise to contribute positively to this newly-established board,” said Assemblyman Schimminger, D-C-I-Kenmore. “Also, Mr. Elsenbeck is currently the Regional Executive Director of the Western Division of National Grid and manages the activities involving NYPA and economic development efforts. He also has an extensive knowledge of how hydropower and electric utility services work.”

Board members will be appointed by the Governor and serve five-year terms without compensation. Three of the five members must live within a 30-mile radius of the power plant.

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