April 29, 2011

Francis J. Murray, Jr.
President and CEO
NYSERDA
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Reference: Draft Scope of the 2013 New York State Energy Plan

Dear Mr. Murray:

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco), a wholly owned subsidiary of Williams Partners L.P., thanks the New York State Energy Planning Board for the opportunity to provide public comments on the Draft Scope for the 2013 New York State Energy Plan. The Transco pipeline has served the New York downstate region since its original construction in 1951 and has expanded throughout the years with scalable infrastructure projects that were timed to meet increased demand. Today Transco transports more than half of the gas used by New York City through two major local distribution companies, National Grid and Consolidated Edison.

Transco agrees that natural gas will continue to play an important role in the State’s future and supports the New York State Energy Planning Board’s objectives in the current Draft Scope of the 2013 New York State Energy Plan. As the New York State Energy Planning Board has correctly pointed out in section VII under Energy Infrastructure and Reliability, assessing the issues and potential impacts associated with the siting of energy infrastructure is a matter that must be given considerable examination. As greenfield site locations become scarcer amongst densely populated areas, the need for an energy corridor to balance State policies and regulatory agency coordination with maintaining current interstate pipeline infrastructure and expansions for future growth becomes more critical. The entire Mid-Atlantic and Northeast corridor is a critical path for the development of infrastructure for New York, and Transco encourages New York to work to find common ground with these other entities relating to these vital natural gas transmission projects.

These are important matters for the State of New York and, as such, we believe that the 2013 New York State Energy Plan should further examine:
• How State policies will be used to support maintaining current interstate pipeline infrastructure and expansions for future growth; and
• How the State will coordinate with Local and Federal agencies to support maintaining current interstate pipeline infrastructure and expansions for future growth.

Transco appreciates the work of the New York State Energy Planning Board in providing a framework for regulators and legislators to build a brighter future for all New York. For additional information please contact Tom Compson, Director, Business Development (713-215-3080).

Respectfully submitted,

TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPE LINE COMPANY, LLC

By

James C. Moore
Vice President, Commercial Operations East