



NIAGARA COUNTY  
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ROSS ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF NYPA ADVISORY BOARD  
CERETTO, UPDEGROVE, KIMBLE TO REPRESENT COUNTY

LOCKPORT—Niagara County Legislature Chairman William L. Ross, C-Wheatfield, announced the formation of a New York Power Authority Advisory Board at Tuesday night's meeting of the Niagara County Legislature, naming several county lawmakers and other top county personnel to the panel.

The advisory board, an outgrowth of recent communications between Ross and NYPA President Richie Kessel, will provide Niagara County a greater voice in NYPA's decisions as they impact Niagara County and the Niagara Power Project.

To view video of Ross's announcement, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CojcY2OmTdY>.

"This is a great day for Niagara County," Ross said. "It's a new era—a new era in the relationship between the Niagara County Legislature and NYPA. This is a great opportunity for us to sit down, take a look at certain problems that have come up in the past, discuss these problems, and try to come up with solutions."

Ross was joined by Legislator John D. Ceretto, R-Lewiston, as he formally announced the advisory board's formation following the Legislature's meeting.

"I have to thank Legislator Ceretto for all the work he's done, because he had an awful lot to do with the creation of this Niagara County Legislature/New York Power Authority Advisory Board," Ross said. "It was his diligence in creating individual resolutions that pointed out discrepancies with NYPA, like lack of representation, that led to the creation of this board."

Ross named Ceretto, Legislator Renae Kimble, D-Niagara Falls, Majority Leader Rick Updegrave, R-Lockport, Commissioner of Economic Development Sam Ferraro, and Sewer District Director Anthony Hahn to the board. Ross, along with Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, R-Clarence, and Assistant County Attorney R. Thomas Burgasser, will serve on the board in an *ex officio* capacity.

Ceretto said he was optimistic about a new tone in the county's relationship with NYPA, but intended to remain a diligent watchdog of the power-producing entity.

"I've been a staunch critic of NYPA's practices over the years, and have sought to make sure that the voices of Western Niagara County's residents are heard. NYPA has a profound impact on my hometown of Lewiston, as well as our friends in Niagara Falls, Porter, and surrounding communities," Ceretto said. "We take it as a measure of good faith that NYPA is opening this path to dialogue, and we will seek to bring about a new relationship—one where our community is treated as an equal partner to the Power Authority."

Ceretto also praised Ross for bringing together strong talent from throughout county government in compiling the advisory board, noting that he and Kimble had frequently reached across the aisle to craft resolutions dealing with NYPA.

"[Kimble] has been a friend and an ally where the Power Authority is concerned, and I know that she will, in serving on this committee, be a capable representative for our county," Ceretto said. "The remaining members of the committee—Legislator Updegrave, Commissioner Ferraro, and Mr. Hahn—are all superb picks and will be able voices."

Ross forwarded the names to Kessel in a letter mailed late last week.

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