



KPMG LLP
515 Broadway
Albany, NY 12207-2974

June 26, 2017

Members of the Authority
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have audited the financial statements of New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and the stand-alone financial statements of the Authority's enterprise fund, NY Green Bank, (collectively, the Authority) as of and for the year ended March 31, 2017, and expect to issue our reports thereon dated June 26, 2017. Under our professional standards, we are providing you with the accompanying information related to the conduct of our audits.

Our Responsibility Under Professional Standards

We are responsible for forming and expressing opinions about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with the oversight of the Members of the Authority are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. We have a responsibility to perform our audits of the financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America. In carrying out this responsibility, we planned and performed the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud. Because of the nature of audit evidence and the characteristics of fraud, we are to obtain reasonable, not absolute, assurance that material misstatements are detected. We have no responsibility to plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance that misstatements, whether caused by error or fraud, that are not material to the financial statements are detected. Our audits do not relieve management or the Members of the Authority of their responsibilities.

In addition, in planning and performing our audits of the financial statements, we considered internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. We also have a responsibility to communicate significant matters related to the financial statement audits that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to the responsibilities of the Members of the Authority in overseeing the financial reporting process. We are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

Accounting Practices and Alternative Treatments

Significant Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 2 to the respective financial statements. In fiscal year 2017, the Authority adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application* (GASB 72), which establishes a definition of an investment and requires that all investments be measured at fair value, with certain exceptions. GASB 72 provides guidance for determining fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes, as well as disclosures related to fair value measurements. Notes 2c, 2k, and 3 to the basic financial statements describe the impact of



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implementation of this standard on the Authority's financial statements. Although adoption of GASB 72 resulted in enhanced disclosures related to the Authority's investments, which are recorded at fair value, it did not impact the measurement of the Authority's assets and liabilities.

Unusual Transactions

We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year that were both significant and unusual, and that, under professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

We have discussed with the Members of the Authority and management our judgments about the quality, not just the acceptability, of the Authority's accounting principles as applied in its financial reporting. The discussions generally included such matters as the consistency of the Authority's accounting policies and their application, and the understandability and completeness of the Authority's financial statements, which include related disclosures.

Management Judgments and Accounting Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management of the Authority to make a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses/expenditures during the reporting period.

We evaluated management's estimates, including possible management bias in developing the estimates, and determined that these estimates were reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Audit Misstatements

During the course of our audit of the Authority's basic financial statements, we identified and discussed with management a misstatement relating to the out-of-period recognition of third-party reimbursements revenue in connection with the Portable Emergency Generator (PEG) program that the Authority administers. During fiscal year 2016, the Authority did not recognize revenue to the full extent that expenditures were incurred for the program, thereby understating revenue and overstating unearned revenue by \$863,000 as presented in Other Funds (approximately 1.0% of the Other Funds fiscal year 2016 revenue) and Governmental Activities (less than 0.1% of the Governmental Activities fiscal year 2016 revenue). In fiscal year 2017, the Authority corrected the amount of revenue to be recognized for the program to date, recording an entry to reverse unearned revenue recorded on the 2016 balance sheet and recognize revenue in the current year, overstating Governmental Activities fiscal year 2017 revenue by approximately 0.1%. We have reported this audit difference to management on a summary of audit misstatements and will receive written representations from management that management believes the effects of the financial statement misstatement is immaterial, individually and in the aggregate, to the basic financial statements of governmental activities or other governmental funds as of and for the year ended March 31, 2017 taken as a whole. We have discussed with management and the Audit and Finance Committee our basis for the determination that the misstatement is immaterial, including the qualitative factors considered, and concur with management's approach.



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New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
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Disagreements with Management

There were no disagreements with management on financial accounting and reporting matters that, if not satisfactorily resolved, would have caused a modification of our auditors' reports on the Authority's financial statements.

Management's Consultation with Other Accountants

To the best of our knowledge, management has not consulted with or obtained opinions, written or oral, from other independent accountants during the year ended March 31, 2017.

Significant Issues Discussed, or Subject to Correspondence, with Management

Major Issues Discussed with Management Prior to Retention

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with Members of the Authority and management each year prior to our retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention for the current year audits.

Material Written Communications

Attached to this letter please find copies of the following material written communications between management and us:

1. Engagement letters
2. Management representation letters, including the summary of uncorrected audit misstatements

Additionally, a separate management letter will be issued subsequent to the issuance of this letter under separate cover.

Significant Difficulties Encountered During the Audits

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audits.

Independence

We hereby confirm that as of June 26, 2017, we are independent accountants with respect to the Authority under relevant professional and regulatory standards.

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This letter to the Members of the Authority is intended solely for the information and use of the Members and management of the Authority and management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

KPMG LLP



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**Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance
and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in
Accordance with Government Auditing Standards**

Members of the Authority
New York State Energy and Research Development Authority:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (a component unit of the State of New York) (the Authority) as of and for the year ended March 31, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 26, 2017.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.



Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KPMG LLP

Albany, New York
June 26, 2017



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**Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance with Section 201.3 of Title Two of the
*Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York***

Members of the Authority
New York State Energy and Research Development Authority:

We have examined the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (the Authority) compliance with the requirements of Section 201.3 of Title Two of the *Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York* during the year ended March 31, 2017. Management is responsible for the Authority's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance with those requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Authority complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Authority complied with the specified requirements referenced above. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Authority's compliance with specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Authority complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of Section 201.3 of Title Two of the *Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York* for the year ended March 31, 2017.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we are required to report all deficiencies that are considered to be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control; fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws and regulations that have a material effect on the Authority's compliance with Section 201.3 of Title Two of the *Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York* and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance; noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and abuse that has a material effect on the subject matter. We are also required to obtain and report the views of responsible officials concerning the findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as any planned corrective actions. We performed our examination to express an opinion on whether the Authority complied with the aforementioned requirements and not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the internal control over compliance with those requirements or other matters; accordingly, we express no such opinions. The results of our tests disclosed no matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.



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This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Members and management of the Authority, the New York State Office of the State Comptroller, the New York State Division of the Budget, and the New York State Authorities Budget Office and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

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Albany, New York
June 26, 2017



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June 26, 2017

Members of the Authority
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Albany, New York

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In planning and performing our audit of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (the Authority), which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Authority, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2017, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of Members and management of the Authority and others within the organization, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

KPMG LLP

Albany, New York
June 26, 2017