



February 19, 2026

U.S. Representative Josh Riley
128 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Riley,

We are writing in regard to the video posted on your official Facebook page on Feb. 12 in which you used inflammatory language to discuss the recent rate proceeding of New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG). This xenophobic rhetoric that implies the company is “money laundering” to Spain is disrespectful and unfairly stigmatizes the working families, specifically working Hispanic families, in New York that are dedicated to keeping the lights on every day for NYSEG and Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E) customers.

NYSEG and RG&E employ thousands of workers in New York, including Hispanic workers who are key contributors to the state’s economy. Additionally, these companies have a significant impact on New York’s economy by spending over \$1.4 billion with New York suppliers just since 2023. This includes important equipment for the grid such as transformers and cables.

Millions are also being invested in energy infrastructure by NYSEG and RG&E to make the grid more reliable for customers and to help drive New York’s economic future for advanced manufacturing and AI data centers. This has a direct economic benefit to working families in New York, not to mention the more than \$500 million annually in state and local taxes contributed by the companies.

We cannot help but notice you have decided to single out NYSEG which happens to have Hispanic roots, and not other companies in New York with international ties from non-Hispanic countries. Debate on the future of energy in New York deserves to be based in fact, not with inflammatory claims that only further divide. We welcome constructive conversations about the best path forward for the state’s energy consumers, not disrespectful attacks and accusations that undermine the hard work of Hispanic workers who are dedicated keeping the power flowing to millions of New Yorkers’ homes and businesses.

Sincerely,

Julio Fuentes
Chairman
National Hispanic Energy Council

Javier Palomarez
CEO
U.S. Hispanic Business Council

Lazaro Mur
Chairman
Hispanic Business Alliance

Juan Ocha
President
National Federation of Latino Chambers
of Commerce & Associations