

For Immediate Release (With Photo; Caption on Page 2)

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New York Transco Names Red Hook Resident Andrew Welch Recipient of Inaugural Innovator of the Year Award

RYE BROOK, NY – New York Transco, the New York-based owner, operator and developer of bulk electric transmission facilities, marked its 10th anniversary as a leader in electric transmission success by awarding its inaugural Innovator of the Year Award to Red Hook, NY, resident Andrew Welch, the company's Director of Operations and Maintenance.

The Innovator of the Year Award will be presented annually to a New York Transco employee who exemplifies the company's commitment to creatively improving or advancing design, implementation, processes, and/or problem solving related to a core business function that benefits customers, communities, or the environment.

Mr. Welch was honored for leading the development of a specialized tool and method of cleaning transmission lines, while the line is energized, to minimize corona and any potential disruption to the area community. Corona is a common noise – a cracking or humming – that occurs when the air in close proximity to a transmission line becomes ionized by electricity emanating from the line. Dirt, dust, and abrasions on the surface of the line can intensify the sound, as can rain and humidity. Mr. Welch and his team developed a customized brush that, used in tandem with a hot stick and a corona camera, has proven effective at minimizing the noise without waiting until the line is taken out of service as has traditionally been required.

"Andrew was presented with a challenge and didn't stop working on it until he found a solution," said New York Transco President Victor Mullin. "His effort epitomizes what our Innovator of the Year Award is all about and exemplifies New York Transco's commitment to designing, building and operating transmission infrastructure that does its job safely, efficiently and with minimal disruption to line neighbors and the surrounding community and environment. We are thrilled to name Andrew the inaugural recipient of this honor."

"I'm just doing my job to make sure our communities are safe and we can all go about everyday life," said award recipient Andrew Welch. "I come from a long line of family that has worked in this industry and we've all been drawn to better serving our communities and the complexity of the work; it is very fulfilling, and I'm honored to be recognized for doing what I love."

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A native Long Islander, Andrew, his wife and two children have called Red Hook, NY, home for nearly a decade. Andrew has served in the electrical industry for over 25 years, previously working for Central Hudson Electric & Gas. Andrew has been employed at New York Transco since December 2020.

“Working on New York Transco’s New York Energy Solution (NYES) project was the pinnacle of my career thus far,” stated Mr. Welch. “I’m very proud of my work and it’s a real full circle moment to be able to drive by the NYES assets with my kids and point out all of the ways this is helping our area and New York as a whole.”

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About New York Transco

New York Transco is a New York-based owner, operator and developer of bulk electric transmission facilities with a mission to safely and efficiently deliver innovative electric transmission solutions that advance clean energy to best serve customers, communities and the environment. The Company is owned by affiliates of Con Edison, National Grid, Avangrid, and CH Energy Group. New York Transco has energized the [New York Energy Solution](#) in the Hudson Valley and the [Rock Tavern to Sugarloaf Project](#) in Orange County, and continues to advance the [Propel NY Energy](#) project in Downstate NY, the **Dover Station Project** in Dover, NY and **Energy Link NY** in New York City.

For more information on New York Transco and its electric transmission projects, visit nytransco.com or call 1-800-897-0179.

PHOTO CAPTION:

New York Transco resident Victor Mullin (left) presents the company’s Innovator of the Year Award to Director of Operations and Maintenance Andrew Welch.

