

April 3, 2018

Mr. John Bruckner
President
National Grid New York
One Metrotech Center, 16th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Re: Working Together to Retain the Integrity of Our Streets

Dear Mr. Bruckner;

We hope this letter finds you well, and would like to offer our congratulations on your elevation to the title of president of National Grid New York. We very much look forward to working with you to achieve our shared goal for a better Staten Island.

There is an issue we wish to bring to your attention, so that we may find a way to act as partners to alleviate what we perceive to be a serious problem. We are speaking of street cuts, and more specifically, the patch jobs done in the wake of underground work performed by developers, plumbing contractors, gas and electric utilities, cable operators and other entities that wish to, or need to, work below our streets. Some entities perform these restorations better than others, to be sure. However, it appears that the restoration of these cuts by National Grid has been consistently sub-standard and so must be addressed.

Due to inadequate public transportation options, Staten Island has become the borough most dependent on vehicular traffic, which makes proper maintenance of our streets and roadways extremely important to us. With that in mind, some years ago we implored City Hall to "Pave, Baby, Pave," and we're happy to say that Mayor de Blasio heard us loud and clear; he has responded by dramatically increasing the number of lane-miles that are re-surfaced each year.

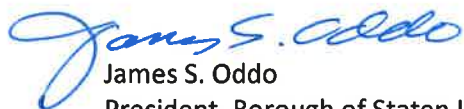
However, we have unfortunately seen many of our freshly paved streets marred by various agencies and contractors who are forced by circumstances beyond their control to cut into some of these streets. Almost invariably and for various reasons, these cuts cannot be delayed. What can be controlled, however, is the quality of the restoration – and this is the reason we are writing.



We are well aware of Local Law 30, which mandates National Grid to install more than four thousand new valves by December of 2019, and we acknowledge that this is a most challenging project. In fact, we had an open, honest and productive meeting with Bob De Marinis, National Grid's Vice President of Operations, back in October of 2017. However, the larger issue remains: when it comes to the restoration of these street cuts, we are sorry to say that National Grid, and others, can and must do a better job. Without going into the numerous specifics that have been brought to our attention not only by our constituents but by some city agencies, we are convinced that what is being passed off as an adequate restoration is anything but that.

We would be happy to host a meeting on Staten Island, perhaps at Borough Hall, to discuss the situation in greater detail, and perhaps share ideas that might alleviate this problem. Again, we understand the challenge National Grid faces because of Local Law 30, but simply cannot allow that to undermine, literally and figuratively, the yeoman's work being done by City Hall and the Department of Transportation to keep our streets in drivable conditions.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island



Steven Matteo
Minority Leader, New York City Council