

**Final  
News Release: Business Grants  
March 15, 2005**

**NYSEG AWARDS \$50,000 GRANTS TO SCHUYLER AND  
TOMPKINS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Rochester, NY, March 30, 2005** – NYSEG today awarded \$50,000 economic development grants to the Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPED) for its \$186,000 marketing campaign to promote a new 45-acre business park and to Tompkins County Area Development (TCAD) for its \$150,000 business attraction marketing initiative.

“We have a long history of working to ensure that the communities we serve remain competitive and continue to provide a solid foundation for economic growth,” said Jim Laurito, NYSEG’s president. “The grants to SCOPED and TCAD are part of a commitment to spend \$56 million in economic development funds through 2006 to help existing businesses grow, attract new businesses and create jobs.”

SCOPED will use the funds for a comprehensive marketing initiative to specific industries. “This investment will greatly assist us with our recent efforts to market Schuyler County,” said J. Kelsey Jones, SCOPED’s executive director. “We have been working with Development Counsellors International (DCI), the leader in economic development marketing, to assist us with communicating our county’s advantages to our target markets.”

TCAD will target technology related industries. “Because of Cornell University’s prominence in nanotechnology and material science research, we have an excellent opportunity to attract new private sector investment to our area,” said Michael Stamm, TCAD’s president. “We are pleased that NYSEG has chosen to partner with Tompkins County in our new targeted marketing initiative.”

Under NYSEG’s Economic Development Outreach Program, qualifying organizations may receive grants of up to \$50,000 to help offset costs relating to attracting new investment to the region. Under its Brownfield and Building Redevelopment Program, qualifying businesses may receive grants of up to \$150,000 to encourage the redevelopment of brownfield sites and

industrial facilities. Under its Utility Infrastructure Investment Program, qualifying businesses may receive up to \$100,000 for electricity-related infrastructure improvements.

**About NYSEG:** NYSEG is a subsidiary of Energy East Corporation [NYSE:EAS], a super-regional energy services and delivery company in the Northeast. We serve 848,000 electricity customers and 253,000 natural gas customers across more than 40% of upstate New York. By providing outstanding customer service, promoting competition and focusing on growth, we will continue to be a valuable asset to the communities we serve. For more information about NYSEG, visit [nyseg.com](http://nyseg.com)

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