New York power producers are generating more electricity with fewer emissions

The proof is in the numbers:

Dramatic Environmental Improvements
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency data out in 2009 show a sharp decline in New York power plant emissions during the past decade. Between 1998 and 2008 in New York State: sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission rates have declined by 77 percent, carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission rates have declined by 28 percent and nitrogen oxide rates (NOₓ) have declined by 61 percent.

Renewable Energy Development
Since 2000, New York State has seen 2,000 megawatts of wind power and a new, state-of-the-art wind forecasting and monitoring system added to the grid. On February 19, 2009, 1,000 megawatts of wind power was simultaneously being injected into the grid.

Increased Generating Fleet Efficiency
How efficiently generators convert fuel into electricity is the measure of fleet efficiency. This parameter increased by 21 percent since 2000, meaning more electricity was produced while consuming one-fifth less fuel.

Generating More Electricity with Less
The performance of New York's electric generating fleet has improved dramatically in efficiency, economics and environmental characteristics under competitive wholesale electricity markets. See how New York's electric generators keep improving across five fundamental measurement parameters.

**Economic Stimulus**
New York State generators pay annual taxes of over $500 million dollars and provide more than 10,000 high-paying jobs to individuals across the state. These private investments are creating incentives for increased generator reliability and efficiency.

**Lower Electricity Prices**
In 2008, New York State's wholesale electricity prices, adjusted for fuel costs, were 18 percent lower than prices in 2000, when the markets began operating in New York. This is a $2.23 billion reduction in wholesale electricity costs on a current annual basis.

**Private Infrastructure Investment**
In total, New York has enjoyed 7,000 megawatts (MW) of private energy infrastructure investment since 2000. This represents a $10 billion investment in New York's generating infrastructure.

**Ratepayer Protection**
Unlike how it used to be when ratepayers got socked with cost overruns from poorly conceived and executed utility generating projects, ratepayers are protected in competitive markets. Under competitive markets, private investors bear all the risk created by new energy projects.

**Higher Fleet Availability**
Like any machine, generators need to be taken offline to be fixed from time-to-time making them unavailable to provide electricity. The percent of time electric generators are available to run is called "fleet availability." The higher the fleet availability, the fewer generating units needed to meet the same amount of demand. In New York from 2001-2007, fleet availability improved from 87.5 percent to 94.4 percent. This is equivalent to a 2,400 MW savings in required capacity, translating into the equivalent to four major power facilities avoided.

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