

88

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 88
JULY 18, 1977

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
INTO ENERGY FAILURES**

Whereas, Energy is essential to the life and commerce of New York City, and

Whereas, New York City and its residents are generally not free to choose among competitive sources of electric energy; rather, New York City and its residents are generally required to deal with one supplier of electric energy, and must therefore, as consumers, rely upon that one supplier, and those federal and state agencies which have jurisdiction to regulate that supplier, for adequate and reliable electrical energy, and

Whereas, As a result of recent events in consequence of which the City of New York experienced a total and extended electrical power blackout, grave questions have arisen in regard to the appropriateness of the methods and manners by which energy is produced for, transmitted to, and distributed in the City of New York, and

Whereas, Energy failures in a city of the size and complexity of New York are intolerable, as they create crises which threaten the lives, safety, health and well being of the city's population and the security of property, and

Whereas, Such circumstances require a skillful and independent study and inquiry designed to discover the causes of energy failures and the remedies therefor.

Now, therefore, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby established a special commission of inquiry into energy failures, which commission shall consist of a chairman and two other commissioners to be appointed by the Mayor, to serve without salary but to receive payment for expenses reasonably incurred.

Section 2. Such commission shall make diligent inquiry into the management and operations of all organizations actually engaged, or potentially capable of engaging in, producing energy for, transmitting it to, or distributing it in the City of New York, and into the responsibilities, and discharge thereof, of such federal, state and local governmental organizations as have jurisdiction over the management and operations of such organizations. Such diligent inquiry shall be made to whatever extent is deemed by the commissioners to be necessary, convenient or useful in order to determine the cause or causes of, and remedies for, energy failures affecting the city and its people, and to make such reports, recommendations and proposals in regard thereto as the commission deems proper.

Section 3. The commission shall make such inquiries and investigation and shall hold such public and private hearings as it deems appropriate, and for such purposes shall have power to require and enforce by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents at such hearings and to take testimony under oath.

Section 4. The commission may appoint such employees, experts, and consultants as it deems proper within the appropriation provided therefore, and shall make reports to the Mayor at such times as the Mayor shall direct.

Section 5. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

jj25-29

ABRAHAM D. BEAME, Mayor.