

For Immediate Release: August 7, 2023 Contact: Shane Mahar | 518-603-0791 | shane.mahar@nypa.gov

## Media Availability & Photo Opportunity – New York Power Authority and New York State Canal Corporation to Commemorate Bicentennial of Champlain Canal

Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 am

Location: Champlain Canal Region Gateway Visitors Center 29 Ferry Street Schuylerville, NY

## Event:

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) and the New York State Canal Corporation, along with local officials and stakeholders, will commemorate the bicentennial of the Champlain Canal during a ceremony at the Champlain Canal Region Gateway Visitors Center in Schuylerville.

## Background on the Champlain Canal:

Officially opened in September of 1823, the 60-mile-long canal – the second-longest in the New York State Canal system – connects Lake Champlain to the Hudson River and New York City. Adjacent to the waterway, and now part of the Empire State Trail, the Champlain Canalway Trail allows outdoor enthusiasts the opportunity to take in the area's rich landscapes while walking, hiking, or cycling on sections of the canal's original towpath.

The opening of the Champlain Canal allowed the region's economy to flourish as residents and farmers were able to ship products inexpensively on the new waterway to bustling ports.

Today, the 11 locks on the Champlain Canal between Waterford and Whitehall are still utilized for commercial shipping of local products. Currently, aggregate stone from the Adirondacks is being shipped to the greater New York City area to support construction projects. In addition, the Champlain Canal is an asset for recreational boaters.

## About the New York State Canal Corporation

New York's Canal system includes four historic canals: the Erie, Champlain, Oswego, and Cayuga – Seneca. Spanning 524 miles, the waterway links the Hudson River with the Great Lakes, the Finger Lakes and Lake Champlain. The canals form the backbone of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and connects hundreds of unique and historic communities.

The New York State Canal Corporation is a subsidiary of the New York Power Authority.

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