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**Contact:** Shane Mahar | 518-603-0791 | [shane.mahar@nypa.gov](mailto:shane.mahar@nypa.gov)

## **New York Power Authority and New York State Canal Corporation Unveil Final Installation of Iconic Lighting Program**

***LED Lighting Highlights CSX Railroad Crossing over the Erie Canal between  
Tonawanda and North Tonawanda***

***Photos of Illuminated Structure [Here](#)***

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) and New York State Canal Corporation today unveiled the final installation of its Iconic Lighting Program in Western New York. Spanning the Erie Canal between the City of Tonawanda and City of North Tonawanda in Niagara County, the CSX Railroad crossing is now illuminated nightly with LED lighting as a focal point over the historic waterway.

“As stewards of the New York State Canal system, and with the Erie Canal celebrating its bicentennial next year, the Iconic Lighting Program is the perfect way to reflect on our past while considering the important role the canal will continue to play for future generations,” said **New York Power Authority President and CEO Justin E. Driscoll**. “This lighting installation will draw new interest and enthusiasm for the waterway at its western terminus and to all the Tonawandas have to offer.”

The newly illuminated railroad crossing joins Erie Canal Lock E-17 in Little Falls, as well as the Fairport Lift Bridge over the Erie Canal in Monroe County, and two Oneida Lake lighthouses – one in Brewerton, in Oswego County, and another at Verona Beach in Oneida County.

**New York State Canal Corporation Brian U. Stratton** said, “This innovative program celebrates the canal waterway and its connection to so many communities by literally putting them in the spotlight. Residents and visitors alike will enjoy these beacons of light across New York for years to come as they take advantage of the endless recreational opportunities the historic and very vibrant Erie Canal has to offer.”

**City of Tonawanda Mayor John L. White** said, “The lighting of the railroad bridge across the Erie Canal highlights our city’s connection to the historic waterway, rail industry, and to our neighbors in North Tonawanda. I cannot thank Governor Hochul and our partners in government at the Power Authority and Canal Corporation enough for including us in this program.”

**City of North Tonawanda Mayor Austin Tylec** said, “North Tonawanda expresses our heartfelt gratitude to Governor Hochul, the New York Power Authority, and the New York State Canal Corporation for illuminating our iconic bridge connecting the Tonawandas over the historic Erie Canal.”

NYPA and the Canal Corporation contracted with New York City based Office for Visual Interaction (OVI), an architectural lighting design firm, and LiRo Engineers Inc. (LiRo), based on Long Island, to create these energy-efficient lighting installations that compliment the historic features of each Canal structure.

In 2023, the Iconic Lighting Program was internationally recognized with a prestigious LIT Lighting Design Award for the illumination of infrastructure along the New York State Canal system. OVI and the program won in the “Community Building Lighting” category. Last year’s LIT Lighting Design Awards attracted over 800 submissions from 58 countries.

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### **About the New York State Canal Corporation**

New York’s Canal system includes four 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 connect 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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