

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 20, 2026

Timothy P. Cawley
Chief Executive Officer
Consolidated Edison, Inc.
4 Irving Place
New York, NY 10003

Dear Mr. Cawley,

We are writing you regarding recurring dielectric fluid leaks into the Bronx River originating from Con Edison facilities in Yonkers. These incidents raise serious environmental concerns and public health concerns, which warrants urgent attention at the highest levels of your organization.

For 25 years, the Bronx River Alliance, alongside thousands of community partners and local advocates, have worked tirelessly to restore the Bronx River from an industrial dumping ground into a living river once again. Their efforts have helped revive a fragile ecosystem, protect the habitat of dozens of species, and create safe and meaningful public access to a waterway that communities in our districts deeply value. The federal government has invested over 50 million dollars in this restoration effort, with multiple federal agencies playing an active role in the cleanup and recovery of the Bronx River.

We do not want to see this important work undone. Repeated leaks of dielectric fluid threaten to undo years of hard-won progress and risk returning the river to a state we are determined never to revisit. Over the past two years alone, we understand that there have been major leaks that have measurably affected water quality in the Bronx River. While these leaks often originate upstream, the downstream impacts on Bronx communities are significant and immediate. These incidents have understandably heightened concerns about the condition of Con Edison's aging infrastructure, the adequacy of maintenance practices, and the transparency surrounding leak detection and response.

To better understand how Con Edison addresses these risks, we hope you will provide clarification on the following matters:

- 1) Regarding the August 2025 leak attributed to pipe erosion caused by condensation, how frequently does this issue occur, and what other common causes have been identified as contributors to dielectric fluid leaks?
- 2) What monitoring measures are currently in place to detect these issues before they escalate into leaks? Specifically, does Con Edison utilize automated sensors or real-time

monitoring systems? Are there any third-party monitoring services employed? Is the monitoring and detection of leaks handled exclusively in-house?

- 3) What concrete steps are being taken to prevent future leaks? Has Con Edison shared comprehensive maintenance and mitigation plans with municipal partners or relevant oversight bodies?
- 4) Is there an ongoing effort to systematically map aging or high-risk infrastructure, particularly at the Yonkers facility and along substations or dielectric feeder lines, that poses the greatest threat to polluting the Bronx River?

We remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting the Bronx's natural resources and safeguarding the health of our constituents. We believe utility companies operating in our communities must be held to the highest standard of environmental stewardship. We look forward to receiving your response, including all relevant documentation related to Con Edison's long-term infrastructure modernization plans, safety and communication protocols for this region.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

CC:

The Honorable Amanda Lefton
Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 1224