

New York State Office of Mental Health Fuel Procurement Assistance

Since 1991, **Novus Engineering, P.C.** has provided fuel procurement assistance to the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH). Central to this effort has been the preparation and distribution by Novus of a monthly fuel price report. The report compares the costs of available fuels – utility sales gas,



transportation gas and fuel oil – for 19 dual-fuel capable psychiatric centers and identifies the least-cost fuel option. The psychiatric centers are located throughout the state in nine natural gas utility service territories. In addition, prices for five different grades of fuel oil and biofuel blends are tracked and reported. Recommendations provided by Novus affect OMH's purchasing decisions regarding nearly 1 million MMBtu of fuel valued at more than \$7 million annually.



Novus has also negotiated flexible-rate gas transportation service agreements with New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) on behalf of Elmira Psychiatric Center, and negotiates monthly customized sales gas rates for three facilities in the Brooklyn Union Gas territory.

Novus has analyzed gas service options and comparative fuel costs as part of new heating plant design on several campuses, and for evaluations of the relative merits of central heating plants versus decentralized heating systems.



NOVUS
ENGINEERING, P.C.

25 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

P: 518.439.8235

F: 518.439.8592

www.novusengineering.com

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