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**NEWS RELEASE: Friday, December 21, 2007**  
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## **JAMESTOWN BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES (BPU) WORKS WITH SKF AEROENGINE NORTH AMERICA (SKF) TO REDUCE ENERGY COSTS**

**The Jamestown BPU is working with SKF to reduce energy costs at the SKF facility in Falconer.**

**The BPU and SKF have signed a three-year flex rate tariff agreement. The two companies also have recently participated in an energy audit program in cooperation with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).**

**“We are pleased to announce that the Jamestown BPU and SKF have reached a three-year electric rate agreement under our economic development service classification,” stated David Leathers, BPU Interim General Manager.**

**Martin Fernlund, Operations Director of the Falconer SKF noted, “We are thankful for this initiative. Not only will it lower our cost of doing business but also it shows that the BPU is very involved in maintaining the competitiveness of Chautauqua County. Our business is growing and we are investing and hiring.”**

**According to Leathers, the unique flex rate tariff was developed by the BPU and approved by the Public Service Commission to help the Jamestown area community attract new industry and support existing BPU commercial and industrial customers. In exchange for reduced energy costs, participating manufacturers commit to retain a certain number of jobs and continue to invest in their facilities in order to foster economic preservation and development within the BPU service territory.**

**“The flex rate allows companies such as SKF to continue manufacturing in our local area while at the same time, competing in a global marketplace,” explained Leathers.**

**The SKF Group is the leading global supplier of bearings, seals and lubrication systems. SKF has 100 manufacturing sites distributed throughout the world, with its own sales companies in 70 countries.**

**SKF Aeroengine/Falconer, formerly known as MRC Bearings, is located on Maroco Road in Falconer, and is predominately involved in the manufacture of aerospace bearings for engines, gearboxes, helicopter transmissions and related applications. The plant is housed in a 215,090 square foot facility and currently employs 492 people.**

**Jamestown Mayor and BPU Board President Sam Teresi acknowledged that, “The City of Jamestown, through its Board of Public Utilities, is once again pleased to assist with the retention and expansion of a major business throughout the Greater Jamestown Area. This signed agreement demonstrates SKF’s continued commitment to the long-term viability of its local operations, which will have a positive impact on the City and the entire region.”**

**Leathers and Fernlund also announced their joint participation in a Flex Tech Energy Audit through a NYSERDA program. Clough Harbour & Associates LLP of Rochester has conducted an energy audit of SKF’s Falconer facility.**

**“The energy audit has presented opportunities for our company to make capital investments to further save energy costs at our plant,” noted Fernlund. “We appreciate the NYSERDA program and the BPU’s participation to assist us in keeping costs down. Together with the BPU, we look forward to exploring ways of receiving a higher percentage of green power in keeping with SKF’s policy to run and develop our business successfully with a commitment to safeguard resources for future generations.”**

**NYSERDA paid half of the energy audit costs. The BPU and SKF each provided one quarter of the expense.**

**“The BPU is proud of its ability to assist local industry, enabling area companies to remain in the Greater Jamestown Community and to employ our residents,” said BPU Board Chairman John Zabrodsky. “When the BPU works together with local commercial and industrial entities to maintain and grow their businesses, our entire community benefits.”**