



# Instructions for Form CT-186-M

## Utility Corporation MTA Surcharge Return

# CT-186-M-I

For continuing section 186 taxpayers only (certain independent power producers)  
Tax Law – Article 9, Section 186-b

**Important reminder to file a complete return:** You must complete all required schedules and forms that make up your return, and include **all pages** of those forms and schedules when you file. Returns that are missing required pages or that have pages with missing entries are considered incomplete and cannot be processed, and may subject taxpayers to penalty and interest.

### Up-to-date information affecting your tax return

Visit our Web site for tax law changes or forms corrections that occurred after the forms and instructions were printed (see *Need help?*).

### Change for 2009

**Fee for payments returned by banks** — A new law allows the Tax Department to charge a \$50 fee when a check, money order, or electronic payment is returned by a bank for nonpayment. However, if an electronic payment is returned as a result of an error by the bank or the department, the department won't charge the fee. If your payment is returned, we will send a separate bill for \$50 for each return or other tax document associated with the returned payment.

### Who must file

A taxpayer filing Form CT-186, *Utility Corporation Franchise Tax Return*, who does business or exercises a corporate franchise in the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District (MCTD), must also file Form CT-186-M and pay a metropolitan transportation business tax (MTA surcharge) on business done in the Metropolitan Transportation Authority region. The MCTD includes the counties of New York, Bronx, Queens, Kings, Richmond, Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester. If not, you do not have to file this form; however, **you must disclaim liability for the MTA surcharge on Form CT-186.**

### When and where to file

Form CT-186-M is due on March 15, following the close of the calendar year. If March 15 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the return is due on the next business day.

Mail your return to: **NYS CORPORATION TAX  
PROCESSING UNIT  
PO BOX 22038  
ALBANY NY 12201-2038**

### Private delivery services

If you choose, you may use a private delivery service, instead of the U.S. Postal Service, to mail in your form and tax payment. However, if, at a later date, you need to establish the date you filed or paid your tax, you cannot use the date recorded by a private delivery service **unless** you used a delivery service that has been designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury or the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance. (Currently designated delivery services are listed in Publication 55, *Designated Private Delivery Services*. See *Need help?* for information on obtaining forms and publications.) If you have used a designated private delivery service and need to establish the date you filed your form, contact that private delivery service for instructions on how to obtain written proof of the date your form was given to the delivery service for delivery. If you use **any** private delivery service, whether it is a designated service or not, send the forms covered by these instructions to: State Processing Center, 431C Broadway, Albany NY 12204-4836.

### Extension of time for filing MTA surcharge return

You may request additional time to file an MTA surcharge return by filing Form CT-5.9, *Request for Three-Month Extension to File*, on or before the due date of the return for which the extension is requested, and paying the MTA surcharge estimated to be due.

**Amended return** — If you are filing an amended return, mark an **X** in the *Amended return* box on page 1 of the return.

An amended New York State return requesting a credit or refund must be filed within three years of the time the original return was filed or within two years of the time the tax was paid, whichever is later; or, if no return was filed, within two years of the time the tax was paid. For additional limitations on credits or refunds, see Tax Law section 1087.

**Employer identification number, file number, and other identifying information** — For us to process your corporation tax forms, it is important that we have the necessary identifying information. Keep a record of that information and include it on each corporation tax form mailed. If you use a paid preparer or accounting firm, make sure they use your complete and accurate identifying information when completing all forms.

See Form CT-186-I, *Instructions for Form CT-186*, for instructions on reporting change of business information, using whole dollar amounts, converting decimals into percentages, showing negative amounts, and entering dates.

### Line instructions

**Line A** — Make your check or money order payable in United States funds. We will accept a foreign check or foreign money order only if payable through a United States bank or if marked **Payable in U.S. funds.**

### Computation of MCTD allocation percentage

**Lines 1 through 3** — Enter gross earnings from sources within the MCTD in column A.

**Line 4 — Column A** — Add lines 1 through 3; **column B** — Enter the gross earnings within New York State from Form CT-186, line 25, column A. Use the same method of accounting to compute MCTD gross earnings (that is, the **accounting** rule allocation method or the **formula** rule allocation method) as you used to compute your New York State gross earnings.

**Line 5** — Divide line 4, column A, by line 4, column B. This is your MCTD allocation percentage. If you do all of your New York State business within the 12 counties of the MCTD, enter **100** on line 5.

### Computation of MTA surcharge

**Foreign authorized corporations only:** see *Foreign corporations — maintenance fee* on Form CT-186-I.

### First installment of estimated MTA surcharge for the next period (Line 9a or 9b)

If, on your Form CT-186, you are required to make a first installment of estimated franchise tax for the next period, you must also make a first installment of the MTA surcharge for the next period.

**Line 9b** — Enter 25% (.25) of the amount on line 8 if (1) you did not file Form CT-5.9, **and** (2) the franchise tax on Form CT-186, line 7 is more than \$1,000.

Enter **0** if you did not file Form CT-5.9 and the franchise tax on Form CT-186, line 7 is **not** more than \$1,000.

**Line 13** — Form CT-222, *Underpayment of Estimated Tax by a Corporation*, is filed by a corporation to inform the Tax Department that the corporation meets one of the exceptions to reduce or eliminate the underpayment of estimated tax penalty pursuant to Tax Law section 1085(d).

**Line 14** — If you do not pay the MTA surcharge on or before the original due date (**without** regard to any extension of time for filing), you must pay interest on the amount of the underpayment from the original due date to the date you paid. Exclude from the interest computation any amount shown on line 9a or 9b.

**Line 15** — Compute late filing and late payment penalties on the amount of MTA surcharge minus any payment you made on or before the due date (**with** regard to any extension of time for filing). Exclude from the penalty computation any amount shown on line 9a or 9b.

- A. If you do not file an MTA surcharge return when due or if the request for extension is invalid, add to the MTA surcharge 5% (.05) per month up to 25% (.25) (section 1085(a)(1)(A)).
- B. If you do not file a return within 60 days of the due date, the addition to the MTA surcharge in item A above cannot be less than the smaller of \$100 or 100% of the amount required to be shown as MTA surcharge (section 1085(a)(1)(B)).
- C. If you do not pay the MTA surcharge shown on a return, add to the MTA surcharge ½% (.005) per month up to 25% (.25) (section 1085(a)(2)).
- D. The total of the additional charges in items A and C above may not exceed 5% (.05) for any one month, except as provided for in item B above (section 1085(a)).

If you think you are not liable for these additional charges, attach a statement to your return explaining the delay in filing, payment, or both (section 1085).

**Note:** You may compute your penalty and interest by accessing our Web site and clicking on *Online Tax Center*, or you may call and we will compute the penalty and interest for you (see *Need help?*).

**Line 17** — If line 10 is less than line 11, subtract line 10 from line 11. This is the amount of overpayment. You may divide it on lines 18, 19, and 20 in any way you choose.

**Collection of debts from your refund or overpayment**

We will keep all or part of your refund or overpayment if you owe a past-due, legally enforceable debt to a New York State agency, or if you owe a New York City tax warrant judgment debt. We may also keep all or part of your refund or overpayment if you owe a past-due legally enforceable debt to another state, provided that state has entered into a reciprocal agreement with New York State. If we keep your refund or overpayment, we will notify you.

A New York State agency includes any state department, board, bureau, division, commission, committee, public authority, public benefit corporation, council, office, or other entity performing a governmental or proprietary function for the state or a social services district. We will refund or apply as an overpayment any amount over your debt.

The Tax Department is authorized to charge the taxpayer, as part of the taxpayer's tax debt, any cost or fee imposed or charged by the United States, or any state, for the payment or remittance of a taxpayer's overpayment to satisfy a New York State tax debt.

If you have any questions about whether you owe a past-due, legally enforceable debt to a state agency, or to another state, or whether you owe a New York City tax warrant judgment debt, contact the state agency, the other state, or the New York City Department of Finance.

For New York State tax liabilities only, call (518) 457-5434 (in-state callers without free long distance call 1 800 835-3554) or write to: NYS Tax Department, Collections and Civil Enforcement Division, W A Harriman Campus, Albany NY 12227.

**Composition of prepayments claimed on line 11**

If you need additional space, enter all relevant prepayment information on a separate sheet, and write **see attached** in this section. Transfer the total to line 11, *Total prepayments*.

**Third-party designee**

If you want to authorize another person (third-party designee) to discuss this tax return with the New York State Tax Department, mark an **X** in the *Yes* box in the *Third-party designee* area of your return. Also **print** the designee's name, phone number, and any five-digit number the designee chooses as his or her personal identification number (PIN). If you want to authorize the paid preparer who signed your return to discuss the return with the Tax Department, **print** the preparer's name in the space for the designee's name and enter the preparer's phone number in the space for the designee's phone number. You do not have to provide the other information requested. If you do not want to authorize another person, mark an **X** in the *No* box.

If you mark the *Yes* box, you are authorizing the Tax Department to discuss with the designee any questions that may arise during the processing of your return. You are also authorizing the designee to:

- give the Tax Department any information that is missing from your return;
- call the Tax Department for information about the processing of your return or the status of your refund or payment(s); and
- respond to certain Tax Department notices that you shared with the designee about math errors, offsets, and return preparation. The notices will not be sent to the designee.

You are not authorizing the designee to receive your refund check, bind you to anything (including any additional tax liability), or otherwise represent you before the Tax Department. If you want the designee to perform those services for you, you must file Form POA-1, *Power of Attorney*, making that designation with the Tax Department. Copies of statutory tax notices or documents (such as a *Notice of Deficiency*) will only be sent to your designee if you file Form POA-1.

You cannot change the PIN. The authorization will automatically end on the due date (without regard to extensions) for filing your next year's tax return.

**Privacy notification**

The Commissioner of Taxation and Finance may collect and maintain personal information pursuant to the New York State Tax Law, including but not limited to, sections 5-a, 171, 171-a, 287, 308, 429, 475, 505, 697, 1096, 1142, and 1415 of that Law; and may require disclosure of social security numbers pursuant to 42 USC 405(c)(2)(C)(i).

This information will be used to determine and administer tax liabilities and, when authorized by law, for certain tax offset and exchange of tax information programs as well as for any other lawful purpose.

Information concerning quarterly wages paid to employees is provided to certain state agencies for purposes of fraud prevention, support enforcement, evaluation of the effectiveness of certain employment and training programs and other purposes authorized by law.

Failure to provide the required information may subject you to civil or criminal penalties, or both, under the Tax Law.

This information is maintained by the Manager of Document Management, NYS Tax Department, W A Harriman Campus, Albany NY 12227; telephone (518) 457-5181.

**Need help?**

-  **Internet access:** [www.nystax.gov](http://www.nystax.gov)  
(for information, forms, and publications)
-  **Fax-on-demand forms:** 1 800 748-3676
-  **Corporation Tax Information Center:** (518) 485-6027  
In-state callers without free long distance: 1 888 698-2908  
To order forms and publications: (518) 457-5431  
In-state callers without free long distance: 1 800 462-8100
-  **Text Telephone (TTY) Hotline**  
(for persons with hearing and speech disabilities using a TTY): 1 800 634-2110