



JEFF GALLAHAN
Assemblyman, 131st District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
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Committee

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Aging
Children and Families
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Tourism, Parks, Arts and
Sports Development

NYSERDA
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

RE: Public Comment on Climate Action Council Draft Scoping Plan

To Whom it May Concern:

New York is at a turning point. The most recent census data showcases the fact that New Yorkers, especially in upstate, are voting with their feet. They are moving to other states for jobs and opportunities. This has resulted in declining population growth in the MAJORITY of New York counties since 2010. We need to look at what is driving this exodus and the impact of the so-called Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) on New York's viability as a place to live, work and create jobs in.

A cursory examination of the proposed plan would leave the reader with the impression that there is unlimited public support for the most radical of carbon reduction measures and unlimited funding to make them a reality. It would also leave them with the impression that there exists enough technology and infrastructure to implement these measures.

However, that is not the case.

The CLCPA represents a wish list that has been devised within the safe and comfortable confines of a conference room or Zoom chat, rather than direct feedback from New York families, farmers and job creators.

Reading some of the more radical proposals such as a mileage tax, abolishment of all natural gas service and the war on gas stoves and appliances, one asks themselves where this councils actual priorities lay.

Furthermore, it disproportionately penalizes residents of rural areas who are already suffering under New York's oppressive tax, regulatory and job environment.

It would leave one with the impression that the actual goal of the CLCPA is the continued depopulation of rural areas.

One question I have is will the Climate Action Council explain to hardworking tradespeople and their families why they can't find work in New York and if not, who will they blame?

This proposal is nothing short of a declaration of economic war on working class families, who are already overburdened in New York. It will kill jobs, result in higher energy prices for everyone and do little to actually improve New York's environment. Instead it will put people out of work and further contribute to the decline of our state.

The Climate Action Council (CAC) has chosen positive press over people. These out of touch proposals represent a willingness to destroy the lives of middle class workers, crush small businesses and shutter farms in a misguided experiment that is doomed to failure from the start.

I hope you will consider my comments and the comments of the hardworking New York taxpayers who have submitted public comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Gallahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "G".

Jeff Gallahan
Member of Assembly
131st District