**Dear Climate Action Council:**

Thank you for accepting my comments regarding the Draft Scoping Plan.

I support the following:

* Expanding energy efficiency to reduce overall demand for fuels;
* Utilize a consumer-focused market-based energy transition to alternative power systems;
* Continue to utilize the existing natural gas delivery system and electric system for a reliable, resilient energy system- -with an emphasis on resiliency.
* The continued development of electric and hydrogen fueled engines.
* Smart utilization of renewable generating sources like solar and wind.

I do not support:

* The decommissioning of the gas system or existing nuclear plants.
* Gas or wood burning appliance bans.
* Over reliance on intermittent energy production sources like solar and wind.
* Phasing out Internal Combustion Engines.

In my local upstate community, it will cost my family tens of thousands of dollars to convert and update my home if a natural gas ban is enacted. Replacing my furnace with a heat pump would be expensive and a heat pump may not be suitable for my home, and they are much less efficient in the freezing weather. Our winters are cold and long (56% colder than downstate); our incomes are lower than New York City and Long Island, and our homes are older.

Another aspect of the plan envisions the use of more public transport and the electrification of the auto fleet. NYS is planning to ban the sale of internal combustion engines in the 2030’s- -I also think this is ill-advised. Electric vehicle technology is in its infancy and the current battery technologies raise numerous concerns in terms of utility, security, safety and durability. If EV’s prove successful, then consumers will adopt them on their own without mandates. Moreover, other technologies will no doubt be developed in the decades ahead- -mandating or outlawing technologies is ill advised.

We fundamentally do not understand how New York can tackle a significant increase in electric needs with energy that is dependent on wind and weather. Wind and Solar provide intermittent power generation and no battery system is going to provide sufficient reserve power to replace our existing base load power capability- -it is unrealistic, and even if possible would be wildly expensive. Moreover, even with efficiency gains, technology advances will drive higher power consumption in the future- -that is the path of human progress. This plan will be challenged to provide for even existing power needs.

As I understand it, the exact cost of this plan has not yet been determined and given the estimated exorbitant cost it needs to receive considerably more study. Overall, this plan needs retooling. We do not want to experience the rolling blackouts and brownouts that frequent California or experience the tragedy that struck Texas due to unusually frigid temperatures- -temperatures that are a regular occurrence here. Over reliance on wind and solar electricity production puts NY at risk for such failures. Until many questions are answered, it is irresponsible to move forward with CAC recommendations. Moreover, this plan as outlined will discourage people and businesses from remaining in NYS.

Overall, I think the transformation of our energy systems will require much more time and more new technologies; I believe it is unnecessary and unwise to centrally plan these changes. These changes are being proposed to help lower global CO2 emissions, but the impact represented by NYS is barely measurable. Our global atmosphere has 4/10ths of a percent of CO2 and nothing we do in NYS will impact that level higher or lower. Therefore, I do not agree our current circumstances merit the proposed level of forced change envisioned by this plan.

Sincerely,

Paul D Reid