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I am a citizen of New York State, and am fully in favor of transitioning to renewable sources for power. I do have doubts about the way NYS has planned the timing and method of the transition. My concerns are primarily with the proposals for natural gas, Oil, and gasoline.

I believe that the transition to greener sources of power should have begun years ago. The writing was on the wall decades ago, but our politicians did nothing to begin the transition. I do not think President Biden did anything to help with an orderly transition by shutting down the oil pipeline from Alaska, or by putting new limits on exploration and new production. I think he did just the opposite, and made our country more dependent on foreign nations, including Russia. Look were that has gotten us today!

I believe that forcing our New York citizens into moving from Bio-fuels to electricity, within a very tight timeline, is going to cause great hardship for our citizens. If we are currently using bio-fuels to heat our homes, and to run appliances, the expense will be far above what most of us can afford. This is especially true for natural gas which can be used for so many applications in the home. I also expect the cost of electricity to be far above the cost of using natural gas in the home.

 I used the phrase "forcing our New York citizens" which I believe is very accurate. Preventing those, who currently use natural gas in their home, from buying new appliances by 2030 (only 7 1/2 years from now) is certainly a pressure tactic. No gasoline automobile sales by 2035, just 13 years from now, is another pressure tactic. This is especially true since most of us are unaware of this proposal, and have not had a chance to prepare for a transition. I found out yesterday, one day before the comment deadline. The state should have informed us all by letters, email, news papers, broadcasts, etc. I am sure that only a small percentage of New York State citizens have had a chance to express themselves.

I also question the expense to the state. Currently, about 85% of New York City's electricity is produced by Bio-fuels. The cost of converting all that production to renewable sources will be astronomical, not to mention the rest of the state. Who will pay for this? Of course, the answer is all we citizens.

Another easily foreseeable problem is how NYS plans to supply all the additional electricity that will be needed for its citizens during the transition to 100% renewable. I am speaking about the effect on individual citizens and their families. What about supplying our industrial and business needs? Wind and Solar are certainly options, but can be very unreliable depending on the weather. Nuclear plants are generally reliable, and consistently produce power, but have their own problems - accidents, waste disposal etc. All these sources of energy come at great expense. Geothermal and heat pumps are good alternatives to heat individual homes but, again, are very expensive.

Another issue is how the rights of individuals who have bought into private natural gas wells will be handled. I am one of them. I have joint ownership with a neighbor of a gas well. Will our rights to use the well be canceled? If so, will the state pay us for the value of the well? Will the state pay us for the future loss of savings from using the well? I very much doubt this would be the case. Once again, the burden of cost would fall onto the backs of the citizens.

In closing, I want to reiterate that I do support a transition to renewable power. I just want it to be done properly, in a way that will not make our citizens suffer the burden of this change. In the mean time, why not use the abundance of Bio-fuels in this country to pay for the transition? We could be energy independent while selling to countries world-wide to pay for the costs. I am pretty sure that most countries would not refuse to buy and use bio-fuels. We might even be able to apply sales profits to pay down our debt. The National and NYS debts are already far too large to even imagine paying off any other way.

I think it is about time that our governments began showing the citizens that they really do care about them! And I am not talking about using their influence to buy votes for the next election. Come on New York, let’s be the first to show that kind of care!