

June 13, 2022

Draft Scoping Plan Comments  
NYSERDA  
17 Columbia Circle  
Albany, NY 12203

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to voice my overall opposition to the proposed NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, "The Climate Act."

Zero emissions electricity by 2040 is unrealistic and unobtainable by 2040. And also too costly for my family and NYS taxpayers. The proposal only speaks of more development of wind and solar, two unpredictable sources. Hydroelectric and nuclear investment is not mentioned, but important pieces to electricity for future generations. Using too much farmland for wind and solar development. New York's agriculture is special. Recurring droughts in central and western states position New York agriculture to be the breadbasket of our country with abundance of water and favorable weather.

Natural Gas. Natural gas is abundant, clean, and reasonably priced. Retiring and transitioning from natural gas electric generation is not the answer. Transitioning from natural gas to electrified heat in buildings is too costly for the consumer. We must continue to heat our homes and buildings with a broad approach on multiple fuel sources, including natural gas. Continue to build efficiencies in our heating systems to lower consumption and usage.

Electricity. We do not have a surplus of electricity in our state. Changing everything to electric will further stress the electric grid in New York and surrounding states, causing additional brown out and black out situations. Look at what is happening in California. What happens when there is a power outage in the winter and we can't heat our homes?

We also have a major shortage of electrical contractors and electricians. The electrical work needed to change to an all electric economy as proposed, cannot be accomplished in the short term. There is simply no electricians to do the work.

Our electric infrastructure is outdated and inadequate to run an all electric society. Why did NYS recently place a moratorium on bitcoin mining operations? Not enough electricity to meet this industry's needs is one reason. We are hurting our economy again in NYS by not allowing new industry and driving out current businesses due to

high costs of doing business and high taxes in NYS. Higher electric costs, utility taxes, and regulations will further hamper business and prospective new businesses in the future if the Climate Act is passed.

The technology and manufacturing for energy storage is and will not be close to store what is needed for maintaining a functioning society in the future. That leaves hydro and nuclear power as the best options to fill the gaps in the future.

In closing, we must be conscious of our environment for future generations. The cost and tax burden for my family and the taxpayers of New York with the proposed Climate Act is unaffordable and impractical. Multiple sources of energy is our future. We can't rely on just one source of energy (electric) as proposed. Our future energy requirements will need a precision-like approach to save our economy from which the Climate Act proposal imposes.

**I oppose the NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act**

Sincerely,



Jerome F. Pawlak

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Albion, NY 14411