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Scarsdale, NY 10583

June 15, 2022

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you to express my belief that while the state of New York has certainly been moving in the right direction, there is much more that must be done to eliminate fossil fuels and promote clean energy.

Especially in a state as populous as New York, fossil fuels are a significant threat to our environment. Fossil fuels make up around 80% of the world's energy use, but according to the Natural Resource Defense Council, coal, one of the several forms of fossil fuels, is "responsible for over 0.3C of the 1C increase in global average temperatures. This makes it the single largest source of global temperature rise." In addition to their negative environmental impacts, the burning of fossil fuels was the cause of 8.7 million deaths around the world in 2018.

Fortunately, other energy sources are possible. While some of the issues that fossil fuels have created are irreversible, the best way to prevent further damage is by switching to clean energy. Frances Beinecke, the president of the Natural Resource Defense Council, claims that "Wind and other clean, renewable energy will help end our reliance on fossil fuels and combat the severe threat that climate change poses to humans and wildlife alike."

Despite the new legislation that the state of New York has implemented over the past decade, there is still much more that needs to be done. While the effects of the Regional and Greenhouse Gas and the Transportation and Climate Initiatives are critical, I believe that a greater exploration into the reduction of fossil fuels and CO2 already in our atmosphere is necessary. While there are many ways to tackle this issue, a simple solution would be to oversee the planting of several thousand trees. Trees and other plants are able to take in CO2 and release oxygen in its place. If New York were to fund this operation while increasing the promotion of clean energy, the changes to the global climate change rate would be historic.

Some may argue that since 1.7 million people worked in the fossil fuel industry, that eliminating fossil fuels will lead to unemployment. This argument is weak because those people could find jobs in the clean energy industry. So really, it may lead to job transitions, not job losses.

I hope you consider my proposal and use your heavy influence on the state of New York to take action. I know that lots of concerned citizens feel the same way I do. Therefore, I hope that you take my argument into thought. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Julia Kristol