

**RESOLUTION NO. 109**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCLUSION OF UPSTATE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN NEW YORK STATE'S CLIMATE ACTION COUNCIL SCOPING PLAN AND EXTENSION OF THE ZERO EMISSION CREDIT PROGRAM**

By Legislator David Holst:

WHEREAS, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act calls for 100% carbon-free electricity in New York State by 2040; and

WHEREAS, New York's four upstate nuclear facilities in Oswego and Wayne counties are instrumental to achieving the state's decarbonization goals, because they operate continuously and currently produce 44% of New York's zero-carbon-emission electricity, representing 3,300 megawatts of reliable and safe power for New York's residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, these nuclear facilities are among upstate New York's largest employers, providing 25,000 direct and indirect jobs that are vitally important to the upstate economy; and

WHEREAS, upstate nuclear facilities contribute more than \$3 billion to New York's economy, and support our local schools and municipalities with \$144 million in annual state and local taxes; and

WHEREAS, the facilities operate with a 95% capacity factor, the highest in the nation, meet the highest standards of reliability and safety, and are well-positioned to run for decades; and

WHEREAS, the council's draft scoping plan recommends the Public Service Commission (PSC) review the existing Zero-Emissions Credit (ZEC) program for potential extension beyond the current expiration in 2029; and

WHEREAS, the PSC's review must take place prior to the expiration of the existing ZEC program in 2029 to allow for Nuclear Regulatory Commission relicensing of the plants, a process which can take several years; and

WHEREAS, the draft scoping plan also includes NYSERDA's cost benefit analysis for decarbonization implementation, which assumes that the upstate nuclear power stations continue operation with 20-year license extensions; and

WHEREAS, since New York's upstate nuclear plants avoid 16 million tons of carbon emissions annually, NYSERDA's analysis identifies additional consumer costs of \$9.8 billion dollars to achieve the state's decarbonization goals if the upstate nuclear fleet is not relicensed.

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Oswego County Legislature determines that maintaining the carbon-free nuclear plants in Oswego and Wayne counties will be essential to meeting New York State's emissions reduction goals at the lowest cost to consumers; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Oswego County Legislature supports the inclusion of upstate nuclear power facilities in New York State's Climate Action Council's draft scoping plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature hereby urges the New York State Climate Action Council to continue its recognition of these critical assets to meeting the state's climate goals in its Final Scoping Plan, due January 1, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Oswego County Legislature supports the draft scoping plan's recommendation to have the Public Service Commission review the existing Zero-Emission Credit program and strongly encourages the program's extension to cover a 20- year license extension at each of the four upstate nuclear plants; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature provide certified copies of this Resolution to New York State's Climate Action Council prior to June 10, 2022, the NYS Public Service Commission, Governor Kathleen Hochul, and Oswego County's state representatives Senator Patty Ritchie; Minority Leader Assemblyman Will Barclay, and Assemblyman Brian Manktelow.

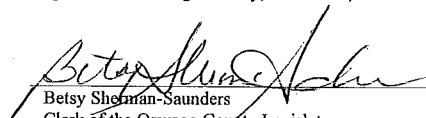
**ADOPTED BY VOICE VOTE ON MAY 12, 2022:**

**YES: 24 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 ABSTAIN: 0**

STATE OF NEW YORK)  
COUNTY OF OSWEGO) ss:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I, BETSY SHERMAN-SAUNDERS, Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature have compared the foregoing copy with the original resolution now on file in my office which was adopted by the Oswego County Legislature on May 12, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the said Legislature of Oswego County, New York, on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

  
Betsy Sherman-Saunders  
Clerk of the Oswego County Legislature