

Dear Climate Action Council,

I'm Laura Faulk and I live in Saratoga Springs. I'm the Co-chair of The Climate Reality Project, Capital Region, NY Chapter. My professional background is in science and engineering. I have a degree in physics from the University of Texas at Austin and was an engineer and manager in the semiconductor manufacturing industry. I'm gravely concerned about the increasing disruption to our life sustaining climate system.

I strongly support the CLCPA requirements that the New York State grid be powered by 70% emissions free electricity by 2030 and 100% by 2040. However, the state is not building out renewables fast enough to meet these goals. There is a lot of opposition in the state to the siting of renewables. I support the following strategies to accelerate the building of renewable energy and energy storage facilities:

- Expand education, adoption resources, and incentives for agrivoltaics. I recently attended a presentation by students at Skidmore College's Environmental Studies Program who worked on a Capstone project that considered farmer attitudes towards agrivoltaics adoption. They found that small farmers lack the time and resources to even consider agrivoltaics.
- Set a year-by-year target for permitting new wind, solar, and energy storage.
- Set MW targets to expand rooftop and parking lot solar and siting on brownfields, and develop a plan to reach those targets.
- Prioritize pairing of solar with electrification in low-income housing.
- To increase public support for renewables, and ease concerns about grid reliability, the state should launch a statewide education and public information campaign around climate, renewable energy, energy storage, and job training opportunities.
- Since New York State is situated near two of the Great Lakes, pumped storage hydropower should be considered in addition to battery storage technology.

Also, the Climate Action Council put forth three scenarios for our climate future. I am advocating for Scenario #3, which includes low-to-no bioenergy and hydrogen.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.

Laura Faulk