CAC Virtual Public Hearing (5/7)

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I would like to highlight the issue of hydrofluorocarbon refrigerants (HFCs) and their use and management in the transition off Fossil fuels in buildings.

An integral part of electrification of building is the installation of heat pumps. It is estimated that 1 million homes in NY state will install heat pumps by 2030

But heat pumps also use HFCs which are potent GHG.

Before this massive and costly transition accelerates, we would hope that heat pumps that contain climate neutral alternatives to HFCs, are available. Such pumps are available for European residential markets

I would like to recommend that NYSERDA launches a Challenge program that asks for RFPs to develop an innovative heat pump technology that use climates neutral alternatives to HFCs.

In the meantime, the increase in HFCs use will be significant and there are several regulations that hopefully will be put in place at the state level to limit the contribution of HFCs to the GHG emissions of New York State:

1. Account for HFCs in Building Codes and Efficiency Standards/Programs.
2. Enforcing a robust management plan to will ensure the minimization of HFC leaks and ensure safe recovery and disposal of gases