

# Board of Supervisors

Lyons, New York 14489

## **RESOLUTION 320-22: 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**

Mr. Lasher presented the following:

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, 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 because New York's upstate nuclear plants avoid 16 million tons of carbon emissions annually; now therefore be it

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

RESOLVED, the Wayne County Board of Supervisors 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 Board provide certified copies of this Resolution to New York State's Climate Action Council prior to June 24, 2022, the NYS Public Service Commission, Governor Kathleen Hochul, and Wayne County's state representatives Senator Pamela Helming and Assemblyman Brian Manktelow.

Mrs. Bender moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Mr. Chatfield. Upon roll call, adopted.



**This is to Certify** that I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Wayne, have compared the foregoing copy of the resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of said County at a session held on the 21st day of June, 2022 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Wayne, this 21st day of June, 2022.

Kelley P. Loveless, Clerk of the Board  
Wayne County Board of Supervisors