PAUL BOLOGNA
Assemblyman 144th District

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October 2, 2025

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

We write to you today on behalf of the many concerned constituents across New York State regarding the rapidly approaching implementation and benchmark dates of initiatives resulting from the goals set forth in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).

The overwhelming majority of constituent calls, emails, and conversations our offices receive are about two concerns: rising electricity bills and questions about how looming energy mandate deadlines will affect their lives and businesses. As each industry begins to grapple with the logistics of compliance, it has become clear that our State must pause and reassess implementation. Energy producers, consumers, businesses, the construction industry, and industry leaders all need time and flexibility to work through the practical challenges this law presents.

Protecting our environment remains an important responsibility, but it must be balanced against ensuring that New York has a strong economy and affordable energy. Our State must maintain a diverse portfolio of energy sources to support both consumers and businesses. We should be investing in traditional energy sources while responsibly growing renewables at a pace the market can sustain. We can hedge against volatility, modernize the grid, and achieve a transition that actually works. But pretending we can outlaw natural gas and magically fix affordability, reliability, and the environment all at once? That's not just naïve — it's reckless.

One of the most glaring concerns continues to be the deficiencies in the electric infrastructure. The New York State Draft Energy Plan places a heavy emphasis on power production and energy source shifting to renewable energy. The concern is that the subsequent steps in "Electrifying the Economy" as Doreen M. Harris, President and CEO of NYSERDA, has admitted, leaves much to be desired in terms of detail and implementation.

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As we are sure you are aware, compliance with new green energy initiatives will, by design, force more electrical energy consumption, thus requiring more electrical grid capacity. In discussing this matter with stakeholders, electrical engineers, power producers, business leaders, and energy transmission experts, New York State cannot and will not have the transmission or distribution capacity necessary to safely move forward with the current plan. As one of our members stated at NYSERDA's Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 3rd, in Buffalo, "*New York State could produce an infinite amount of renewable electricity, but without a complete modernization of our electricity infrastructure, there is no way to get that energy to consumers effectively."*

New York State leaders have assured the public that these policies would lower the cost of housing and energy. Yet the reality we are witnessing is quite the opposite—higher costs and mounting uncertainty.

As one of your own cornerstone initiatives, you have stated numerous times that you are committed to making housing more affordable, along with increasing the housing supply to lower the demand, thus lowering the cost. These electrification mandates and benchmarks run contrary to your stated objective of housing affordability.

While the market is naturally moving toward renewable energy, the initiatives in response to the CLCPA are rushing this transition, denying industry and consumers the time needed to develop and flesh out long-term best practices for an electrification experiment of this scale.

For these reasons, **we strongly urge you to issue an Executive Order before the close of this year to enact, at a minimum, a five-year moratorium on all benchmark dates of initiatives resulting of the goals set forth in (CLCPA) – specifically restrictions on the use of natural gas and mandated electrification**. <u>This includes a moratorium on enforcement and implementation</u>. These include, and are not limited to, the following:

1) ***All-Electric Building Act -*** *phasing out the use of fossil fuels for heating, hot water, and cooking starting January 1, 2026, for most low-rise buildings under seven stories.*

2) ***Advanced Clean Car Act -*** *NYS Advanced Clean Car II (ACC II) Act requires that manufacturers must sell a certain percentage of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and imposes stricter emission standards for internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. Starting with model year 2026, dealers in New York State must sell 35% ZEVs.*

3) ***Advanced Clean Truck Regulations -*** *manufacturers of medium and heavy-duty vehicles (M/HDVs) are required to sell an increasing percentage of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs).*

4) ***We urge you to NOT sign the "100 Foot Rule" - A.8888 (Simon) –*** *which would eliminate the utility's obligation to cover the initial cost of natural gas service shifting the cost to the applicant.*

Taking these prudent steps will allow industry stakeholders an appropriate time to address unresolved logistical concerns and minimize the impact on consumers and everyday New Yorkers.

Thank you for your consideration of this urgent matter. We look forward to working with you to ensure New York advances environmental stewardship in a way that also preserves affordability, opportunity, and economic growth for our residents.

Respectfully,

Paul Bologna
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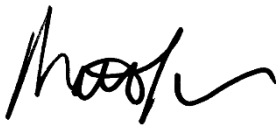
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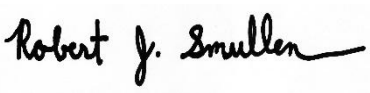
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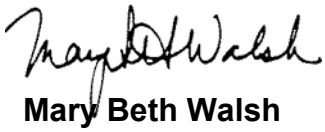
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