

FOSSIL FUEL LIES

ISSUE
#1

the industry campaign to gut New York's climate law

Since the passage of New York's climate law in 2019, the fossil fuel industry has conducted a campaign of delay, disinformation and false solutions to derail the law's implementation, while they rake in record profits at the expense of our climate and consumers. This is the first in a series of factsheets calling out the industry's disinformation campaign and highlighting real solutions to the climate crisis.

FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY TALKING POINTS:

Reliability

"Unless action is taken now to revise the way New York pursues its climate goals, the state will have insufficient electrical power to meet demand..."— James Hanley, the Empire Center¹

Truth: The Climate Action Council's Scoping Plan² lays out clear options for New York's transition to renewables while maintaining a reliable grid. "Maintaining a reliable electric system through this unprecedented grid transition is essential. We also know that delivering a cleaner, greener grid of the future is just as important for all New Yorkers. Working together, we can achieve both."
— Richard J. Dewey, NYISO³

Affordability

"Albany intends for us to heat our houses with electricity alone. Such a transition would mean huge costs for consumers with increased electricity prices resulting from skyrocketing demand..."— National Fuel⁴

Truth: Home electrification will lower energy costs for consumers and create thousands of good paying jobs. If New York makes polluters pay for the damages they have caused, stops subsidizing fossil fuels and offers incentives to

help consumers transition to renewables, the transition to clean renewable energy will be affordable for all New Yorkers.

Choice

"Consumers should retain the ability to choose how to fuel their homes and businesses, particularly in light of the CO2 emission reductions that have been facilitated by increased natural gas usage."— American Petroleum Institute⁵

Truth: Consumers want clean and affordable energy to heat and cool their homes. "Natural" or fracked gas is a climate destroying fossil fuel. It causes indoor air pollution and will become increasingly expensive as New York transitions to renewable energy. We shouldn't have to sacrifice our health, safety and the climate to heat and cool our homes: that's not a real choice.

Sources:

1. [Cold and Dark](#), James Hanley, April 2022, the Empire Center, page 2.
2. [NYS Scoping Plan](https://climate.ny.gov/resources/scoping-plan): <https://climate.ny.gov/resources/scoping-plan>.
3. [An Efficient Interconnection Process is Essential to the Grid of the Future](#), www.nyiso.com, October 30, 2023, Richard J Dewey, President & CEO, NY Independent System Operator. NYISO is responsible for maintaining the electric grid in New York.
4. <https://betterplannobans.com>, National Fuel.
5. [American Petroleum Institute Testimony before the Joint Public Hearing](#), Michael Giaimo, June 29, 2023.

January 2024