

New York Climate Advocacy Project

2025 Policy Agenda

for a Sustainable New York

New York must implement the 2019 Climate Act. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) mandates a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 85% by 2050. 70% of our electricity must come from renewable energy by 2030 with 100% by 2040. The law contains provisions to help low-income communities and communities of color transition to a renewable energy economy and requires that state agency decisions be consistent with required emission reduction goals. The CLCPA sets out strong goals, but its success will depend on aggressive action by the Governor, the legislature and state agencies to achieve these goals. We call for:

- Adequate public funding for the transition to renewables including new revenue measures to generate the funds needed along with annual expenditure reports;
- The immediate release of Cap and Invest regulations to cap harmful climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions and fund the transition to renewables with comprehensive reporting, annual emission reduction benchmarks and strong enforcement measures with no trading of allowances.
- Comprehensive legal, regulatory and policy changes to existing state agency practices to ensure that state agencies can, and are focused on meeting the CLCPA goals;
- Help for low- and moderate-income communities and communities of color to transition homes and businesses to renewable energy, and to address the harms to their communities from pollution from existing and former fossil fuel facilities;
- Broad steps by state agencies, local governments, and schools to decarbonize their internal operations and facilities including the decarbonization action plans for all state-owned facilities;
- Full and rapid implementation of existing climate laws including the Build Public Renewables Act to require the New York Power Authority to build public renewable energy, and the All Electric Building Act and NYC Local Law 97 to require all new buildings to be renewable;
- An end to fossil fuel subsidies and an end to new fossil fuel infrastructure including the Iroquois and Maple Hill pipelines, along with plans to shut down existing facilities;
- A just transition to a renewable energy economy including the creation of quality union jobs, prevailing wage requirements, and apprenticeship programs;
- No “false solutions” to the climate crisis including “renewable” natural gas (RNG), biofuels, green hydrogen or nuclear power.

Legislative proposals

- **NY Home Energy Affordability Act (NY HEAT):** aligns Public Service Commission (PSC) regulations with the climate justice and emission targets of the CLCPA. Eliminates ratepayer subsidies for new gas hookups and makes utility bills more affordable for low-to-moderate income customers. (A4870/S4158)
- **GAP Fund:** establishes a green affordable pre-electrification (GAP) program to fund and provide technical assistance for homes and buildings in need of a wide-range of currently unfunded retrofits that are necessary for healthy buildings and achievement of New York's climate mandates. (A2101/S3315)
- **Renewable Capitol Act:** mandates that several state facilities in downtown Albany including Empire State Plaza and the Capitol receive their electric power, heating and cooling from 100% renewable energy within three years. (A3466/S4842)
- **Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act:** eliminates over \$300 million in annual tax breaks provided by New York State to the fossil fuel industry. Limits the ability of fossil fuel companies to participate in several state economic development programs. (A3675/S3606)
- **Cap and Invest Protections:** ensures that the Cap Trade and Invest program currently under development meets the goals of New York's climate law with site or facility specific caps, and sector-specific benchmarks and goals for emissions reduction. Prohibits allowance trading and enacts strong enforcement mechanisms. (A3975/S4651)
- **Fund Climate Campaign:** provides funding for building decarbonization of low and moderate income households, including low-cost heat pumps and necessary remediation; and grants to community organizations serving disadvantaged communities for community-led pollution reduction projects.
- **Invest in Our NY (IONY) Package:** raises billions of dollars for climate justice and other vital state needs based on the principle of making large corporations and the wealthiest New Yorkers pay their fair share of taxes. (investinourny.org)

The NY Climate Advocacy Project (NYCAP) is an organization of New Yorkers who believe that global warming is the greatest threat to humanity and our planet, and that human use of fossil fuels has created this crisis. Our goal is to stop the development of new fossil fuel infrastructure and promote a rapid and just transition to 100% renewable energy with good jobs, while also supporting low income and communities of color who are disproportionately harmed by climate destruction and pollution.