Dear Governor Hochul:

We, the undersigned Capital District and Hudson Valley organizations, urge your support for an immediate ban on gas in new building construction by the end of 2023.

In December, New York City enacted such a ban, striking a powerful blow against the fossil fuel industry, promoting good green jobs and reducing local air pollution while reducing the greenhouse gases driving climate change. Now it’s time for you to lead the way, helping establish New York as the first state in the nation to begin this necessary transition off fossil fuels in buildings.

The on-the-ground evidence shows that new buildings can be built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings relying on fossil fuels. Meanwhile, the deadly impacts of climate change are already being felt by New Yorkers, with storms and heat waves devastating our communities and taking lives. It is time for bold action to prevent further catastrophe.

We appreciate that your proposed budget includes a ban on gas in new construction. However, your proposal establishes the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That’s dangerously and unnecessarily too long to wait. New York City’s gas ban begins at the end of 2023. Likewise, legislation introduced by Senator Kavanagh and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023. In light of the worsening climate crisis, we urge you to support the more rapid timeframe in this year’s budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Progressive Schenectady
New Paltz Climate Action Coalition
NYPAN Greene
Congregation Beth Shalom
Women Against War
PAUSE (People of Albany United for Safe Energy)
Green Education and Legal Fund
Solidarity Committee, Capital District
NY Climate Advocacy Project
Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline
Sheridan Hollow Alliance for Renewable Energy (SHARE)
Energy Catalyst Technologies LLC
Aztech Geothermal, LLC
Solarize Albany
North Country Earth Action
Solarize Albany
Future of Small Cities Institute
The Climate Reality Project: Capital Region, NY Chapter

cc: Capital District and Hudson Valley Senate and Assembly members
Dear Governor Hochul:

We, the undersigned Rochester organizations, urge your support for an immediate ban on gas in new building construction statewide by the end of 2023.

Rochester is already seeing the impacts of the climate crisis, and it will only get worse without immediate action. More rain and rising water levels can erode the shoreline along Lake Ontario, and cause severe flash flooding events. Just this past summer, Rochester experienced an extreme heatwave, which is anticipated to become far more common as the climate crisis worsens. These impacts are documented to disproportionately harm low-income communities and communities of color, which represents many in Rochester.

Burning fossil fuels for energy use in buildings is the state’s top source of climate-heating pollution. All electric buildings would rely on heat pumps for heating, cooling, and hot water and greater energy efficiency – instead of polluting fossil fuels. Many new buildings are already being built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings heated and cooled by fossil fuel boilers and furnaces. It is time for bold statewide action to prevent worsening economic, environmental, and public health impacts.

In December, New York City ended gas in new construction, which will create clean energy jobs and reduce local and climate-heating air pollution. Now it’s time for you to lead the way, helping establish New York as the first state in the nation to transition buildings off fossil fuels.

We appreciate that your proposed budget includes a ban on gas in new construction. However, your proposal establishes the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That’s dangerously too long to wait. Legislation introduced by Senator Kavanaughs and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023, similar to the New York City law. In light of the worsening climate crisis, we urge you to support the more rapid and appropriate timeframe in this year’s budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Church Women United in New York State
Climate Solutions Accelerator of the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region
Color Henrietta Green
Roctricity
Rural Housing Opportunities Corp.
Sunrise Rochester
Wise Home Energy
Colorbrightongreen
GBC Sustainability Team
ABCRGR Creation Collaborative
Halco
Irondequoit United Church of Christ
Color Irondequoit Green

cc: Rochester area Senators and Assemblymembers
Hon. Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

February 7th, 2022

Dear Governor Hochul:

New York City just ended gas in new construction, which will create clean energy jobs and reduce local and climate-heating air pollution. As organizations active in Westchester County, we support this vital transition. We are writing to urge you to support passage of an immediate gas ban statewide. Now that new buildings can be built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings heated and cooled by boilers and furnaces relying on fossil fuels, it is time for statewide action.

We are already feeling the effects of the climate crisis. In September, Hurricane Ida killed six people in Westchester County alone. Each summer, we lose people to heat waves and the effects of heat-aggravating smog. These tragic deaths from heat and storms fueled by the climate crisis are a terrible preview of the vast toll if climate change is not held in check.

At the same time, a ban on gas in new construction will create clean energy jobs. Already, because of local restrictions on gas, some areas in Westchester have been gas-free for new construction. The building and construction industry has adjusted: air or ground source heat pumps are now being installed across the county. A new green industry is accelerating in job growth, which is especially beneficial to workers in renovation and construction.

We appreciate that you included a ban on gas in new construction in your proposed Executive budget for the state. However, your proposal defers the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That's too long to wait. New York City’s gas ban begins at the end of 2023. Likewise, state legislation introduced by Senator Kavanaugh and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023. We urge you to come together with the State Senate and State Assembly to pass such a requirement in the state budget.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Bedford 2030
Brightcore Energy
Climate Reality Project, Westchester Chapter
Dandelion Energy
Earthkeeper Health Resources
Grassroots Environmental Education
Green Ossining
Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition
Mothers Out Front- Westchester Rivertowns
NYCD16 Indivisible
RENU Engineering Technologies
Safe Energy Rights Group
Sierra Club Lower Hudson
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion
Sunrise Westchester
WESPAC Foundation, Inc.

Cc: Westchester County Senate and Assembly members
Hon. Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224  

February 5th, 2022  

Dear Governor Hochul:  

We, the undersigned Western New York organizations, urge your support for a ban on gas in new building construction statewide by the end of 2023.  

Western New York is already experiencing impacts from the climate crisis, from the growth of toxic algae blooms on Lake Erie, to crumbling lake shorelines, more intense storms, and life-threatening flash floods.  

Burning fossil fuels for energy use in buildings is the state’s top source of climate-heating pollution. All-electric buildings would rely on heat pumps for heating, cooling, and hot water and greater energy efficiency – instead of polluting fossil fuels. The technology has been proven. Across the state, new buildings are already being built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings heated and cooled by fossil fuel boilers and furnaces. Our organizations do not want Western New York to be left behind with more polluting buildings, and worsening air quality. That’s why bold action to electrify new buildings statewide is critical.  

In December, New York City ended gas in new construction, which will create clean energy jobs and reduce local and climate-heating air pollution. Now it’s time for you to lead the way, helping establish New York as the first state in the nation to transition buildings off fossil fuels.  

We appreciate that your proposed budget includes a ban on gas in new construction. However, your proposal establishes the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That’s dangerously too long to wait. Legislation introduced by Senator Kavanagh and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023, similar to the New York City law. In light of the worsening climate crisis, we urge you to support the more rapid and appropriate timeframe in this year’s budget.  

Thank you for your consideration.  

Sincerely,  

Clean Air Coalition of WNY  
Effervescence  
Environmental Justice Task Force of the WNY Peace Center  
Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WYY
NYPIRG at Buffalo State College
Organize for Action WNY
Sierra Club Niagara Group
Western New York Environmental Alliance
Dear Governor Hochul:

We, the undersigned organizations of the Central New York region, urge your support for an immediate ban on gas in new building construction statewide by the end of 2023.

Syracuse currently experiences 10 to 15 days with temperatures that exceed 90 degrees in July and August. According to the New York Climate Clearinghouse’s climate models, that number will increase by an average of 56 days per year by 2100. Temperatures above 90 degrees make people more susceptible to heat stroke and death, particularly in low income communities and communities of color. Additionally, the changing climate is already leading to more flooding and extreme weather events in the Central New York region.

Burning fossil fuels for energy use in buildings is the state’s top source of climate-heating pollution. All electric buildings would rely on heat pumps for heating, cooling, and hot water and greater energy efficiency – instead of polluting fossil fuels. Many new buildings are already being built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings heated and cooled by fossil fuel boilers and furnaces. It is time for bold statewide action to prevent worsening economic, environmental, and public health impacts.

In December, New York City ended gas in new construction, which will create clean energy jobs and reduce local and climate-heating air pollution. Now it’s time for you to lead the way, helping establish New York as the first state in the nation to transition buildings off fossil fuels.

We appreciate that your proposed budget includes a ban on gas in new construction. However, your proposal establishes the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That’s dangerously too long to wait. Legislation introduced by Senator Kavanaugh and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023, similar to the New York City law. In light of the worsening climate crisis, we urge you to support the more rapid and appropriate timeframe in this year’s budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GreeningUSA
Peacework CSA
NYPIRG at Syracuse University and SUNY ESF
Syracuse Cultural Workers
Syracuse Peace Council
Alliance for a Green Economy
Anthony’s Heating and Contracting LLC
NP Environmental
CNY Poor Peoples Campaign
CNY Solidarity Coalition
Halco
Climate Change Awareness & Action
Urban Jobs Task Force
Green Party of Onondaga County

cc: Central New York Senators and Assemblymembers
Dear Governor Hochul:

We, the undersigned organizations of the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions, urge your support for an immediate ban on gas in new building construction statewide by the end of 2023.

As major tourism and agricultural regions of the state, the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions of New York are particularly sensitive to the changing climate. Grapes are one of New York’s highest-profile crops, and the New York Wine & Grape Foundation estimates that the industry accounts for nearly $6 billion in direct economic impacts, including tourism. Grapes are a sensitive crop that need narrow temperatures for ideal growth and taste - but the Finger Lakes are already experiencing detrimental impacts from climate change, including overall warmer spring and summer temperatures, and more mildew, rot, and pests from increased rainfall and humidity.

Burning fossil fuels for energy use in buildings is the state’s top source of climate-heating pollution. All electric buildings would rely on heat pumps for heating, cooling, and hot water and greater energy efficiency – instead of polluting fossil fuels. Many new buildings are already being built and operated with heat pumps and at higher energy efficiency at effectively the same cost as buildings heated and cooled by fossil fuel boilers and furnaces. It is time for bold statewide action to prevent worsening economic, environmental, and public health impacts.

In December, New York City ended gas in new construction, which will create clean energy jobs and reduce local and climate-heating air pollution, and in November, Ithaca voted to electrify and decarbonize all of its buildings. Now it’s time for you to lead the way, helping establish New York as the first state in the nation to transition buildings off fossil fuels.

We appreciate that your proposed budget includes a ban on gas in new construction. However, your proposal establishes the date for the ban to take effect as late as 2027. That’s dangerously too long to wait. Legislation introduced by Senator Kavanaugh and Assemblymember Gallagher institutes a ban by the end of 2023, similar to the New York City law. In light of the worsening climate crisis, we urge you to support the more rapid and appropriate timeframe in this year’s budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fossil Free Tompkins
Seneca Lake Guardian
Gas Free Seneca
Sustainable Tompkins, Inc.
Committee to Preserve the Finger Lakes
Sustainable Tompkins, Inc.
Campaign for Renewable Energy
People for a Healthy Environment
Stone Quarry House
Protecting Our Waters
Coalition for Outreach, Policy & Education
Elmirans and Friends Against Fracking
Rural Housing Opportunities Corp.
Dryden Resource Awareness Coalition
NYPIRG at SUNY Cortland
Fossil Free Tompkins
Residents Allied for the Future of Tioga
Broome Tioga Green Party
FrackBustersNY
Coalition to Protect New York
North Country Earth Action
Mothers Out Front Tompkins
Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative
RTSPCPinnacle
Susquehanna Group of Sierra Club
Network for a Sustainable Tomorrow
Chemung County Mother’s Out Front
Sunrise Ithaca
UU Congregation of Binghamton, Green Sanctuary
Climate Reality Finger Lakes Greater Region NY Chapter
LaMorte Electric Heating and Cooling

cc: Southern Tier and Finger Lakes Senators and Assemblymembers