

2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate change is a global emergency requiring immediate action. Superstorm Sandy downstate & Hurricane Sandy upstate illustrate that climate change is already seriously impacting New Yorkers. The ongoing health impacts of pollution in low-income communities of color who have been targeted by environmental racism is evidence enough that the state must move on a just transition agenda.

The landmark Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act (CLCPA) was a major step forward. Now we must make sure that the CLCPA meets its promise of drastically lowering greenhouse gas emissions, transitioning New York to a renewable energy economy, & reversing the effects of environmental racism in communities.



WE SUPPORT

Strong Implementation of the Landmark 2019 State Climate Law (CLCPA)

The CLCPA includes important provisions:

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 by mandating reductions in emissions.
- Help low-income communities & communities of color that have been disproportionately harmed by the fossil fuel industry & other sources of pollution, & by decades of economic disinvestment.
 - At least 35% (with a target of 40%) of certain state energy & other funds must be used to benefit these communities.
 - State agencies must consider the impact on these communities of practices like the placement of power plants, giving residents & advocates a way to force changes to undesirable projects proposed for their communities or to stop them entirely.

Many of the details of the CLCPA will be filled in by the Climate Action Council (CAC), a multi-agency task force with public representation. The final rules & state policies must comprehensively address climate change & provide for a just transition to a renewable energy economy, thus creating quality jobs.

Funding the Transition to a Clean Energy Economy through a Polluter Fee

We support the Climate & Community Investment Act (CCIA), which would generate billions through a polluter fee that puts a price on carbon & other greenhouse gas emissions. The money would be used to:

- Invest in large-scale & multi-region projects to reduce emissions & target areas of economic need
- Assist communities that have been disproportionately impacted by pollution & climate change
- Protect displaced fossil fuel workers through retraining, extended unemployment benefits & other means
- Provide assistance to New Yorkers to help reduce energy burdens

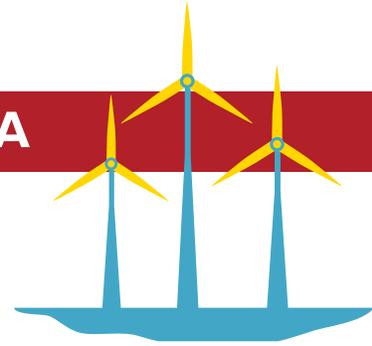
The CCIA will create well over 100,000 jobs each year.



WHY WE SUPPORT

Strong Implementation of the CLCPA

Net zero GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS **by 2050**



Invests in **MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES** that have been disproportionately harmed

with at least **35%** of certain funds used to benefit these communities

Funding the Transition to a Clean Energy Economy through a Polluter Fee

The CCA raises **\$15 BILLION** per year from corporate polluters

1/3 of the funds will go to **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

1/3 will go to large-scale investments to build a **RENEWABLE ECONOMY**

1/3 will be used to provide direct assistance to **LOW & MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES AND WORKERS**

Tax the Rich & Invest in Our Climate

Addressing climate change & climate injustice will cost billions of dollars & need a dedicated source of funding. Polluters for too long have gotten away with poisoning our communities without any consequence. To build a truly just state, we need money from as many sources as possible. It's not either/or, it's both - the rich & polluters both need to pay their fair share.

The Invest in Our New York Act is a package of six state bills that raises \$50 billion to ensure that we rebuild our economy by taxing the wealthiest New Yorkers. The full bill package & more information can be found at www.investinourny.org.

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