

Thank you for hearing us today. I am a member of the Sierra Club and am deeply concerned about climate change and deeply frustrated by our US congress who having been bought out by the fossil fuel industry, are highly unlikely to take any steps to address climate change. We have a moral obligation to lead the world in reducing our energy needs and move full speed ahead with renewable energy including wind, solar and geothermal. Since congress is unlikely to act let's show that New York can lead the way.

Reforming the Energy Vision has a wonderful ring to it but let's make this energy **vision** into true energy **plan** that includes **bold enforceable RPS** goals and benchmarks that get us to 100% renewables. We need to reduce our electric use by allowing everyone continued access to energy efficiency retrofits and energy saving technologies. Clean energy ownership must be easily accessible and open to all New Yorkers. REV should prioritize community owned and shared renewable development so that we can gain collective control over our energy choices, ensure local jobs, and keep energy dollars in our own communities.

About seven years ago as part of my quest to learn more about climate change, I visited Glacier National Park for a backpacking trip and a workshop on the melting of the glaciers in the park. In this most beautiful place, I learned that 100 years ago there were 150 glaciers in the park, at the time I was there 36 glaciers remained, and over the past seven years, that number has dwindled to 25 glaciers. Soon there will be no glaciers in Glacier National Park. Why should we care? I first came to climate change issues with concern for it's impact on the natural world, but have become increasingly aware of the devastating human impact and this is just one example. Hundreds of millions of people around the globe, including in the US, have historically relied on the runoff of glaciers for their drinking water and for agriculture. Their water supplies that have existed for thousands of years, are now turning into floods followed by drought.

The REV plan must include strong greenhouse-gas reduction targets and accountability measures to ensure they are met. These targets must include not just CO2 but **methane**, which according to the latest studies is up to 86 times more potent as a heat trapping gas than CO2 over the first 20 years of emission.

A huge thank you goes to Gov. Cuomo for the fracking ban, but if fracking is not safe in New York, it is not safe anywhere. As climate change is already taking hold worldwide, fresh clean water is becoming an evermore precious commodity here in the US and around the world. We must not support fracking anywhere by

continuing to rely on natural gas, we need to stop building natural gas infrastructure, we need to stop converting coal plants to natural gas, we need to turn to new ways like geothermal to heat our homes and buildings. Government support and subsidies for renewable energy should not be phased out.

With extreme weather, floods and droughts people around the world are already dying from climate change. 100 years ago digging up fossil fuels and using them to power our world seemed like a good idea. We didn't know it would lead to our own destruction. Now we know and it would be madness to not reform our vision. Let's lead the way with good jobs and a sustainable future.

Give us the tools and enforceable standards to move us to a truly renewable energy future say no to natural gas and yes to wind, solar, and geothermal.

Thank you