

Addenda #2 – June 2023, Update February 2026

Re: Ch. 9, Progressive States Climate Policies

*SDG 11 – Make cities safe, resilient and sustainable*

*SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change*

*“New York State Passes Historic Ban Affecting Gas Appliances (Stoves Included)”*

yahoo!news, May 4, 2023

*On May 3, 2023, NY governor Kathy Hochul signed the FY2024 state budget. Included in that budget was the executive enacting of a 2021 policy known as the “All Electric Buildings Act”. This bill was proposed by Progressive Democrats during the 2021-2022 legislative session, but never came up for a vote.*

Progressive Democrats praised passage of the Act, claiming its benefits of “energy affordability,” job creation, and environmental benefits. “I sponsored the All-Electric Buildings Act before it passed in the budget in 2023. Then, like now, I was incredibly proud of this legislation and its ability to keep utility costs stable and affordable for ratepayers, while creating 100,000 green new jobs and transitioning New York to a future that’s not dependent on fossil fuel,” Said State Senator Liz Krueger. Any state resident that possesses critical thinking skills should be able to see the lies Senator Krueger made in that statement!

According to the latest data available from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the average residential U.S. electricity price in 2025 was 17.78 cents per kWh (kilowatt hour), a 5.5% increase from the previous year. The state that had the highest electricity costs in the continental United States was California (no surprise) at 31.91 ¢/kWh. The cost of residential electricity in New York state, 26.49 ¢/kWh, was the 45<sup>th</sup> highest in the continental United States. In 2018, the year before progressive Democrats passed the *Climate Leadership and Protection Act* (CLCPA), the average cost of electricity in New York state was 14.83¢/kWh. In the first two years following passage of the CLCPA, electricity costs in New York were pretty much unchanged, but following the release of the *Initial Report on the New York State Power Grid Study* in January 2021, utility companies requested a series of rate hikes required to fund massive upgrades to the state’s electric grid. (See Addenda #24, November 2023 and Addenda #93 Update, January 2026)

As a result of these rate hikes, the continued closure of less expensive fossil fuel generation plants and replacement with taxpayer subsidized renewable energy generation sources, the price of electricity in New York state increased by 78%, from 14.87 ¢/kWh in 2020, to 26.49 ¢/kWh in 2025. That’s an average annual increase of more than 15% per year!

Source: eia (U.S. Energy Information Administration) State Electricity Profiles, 2018 through 2025

The All-Electric Buildings Act was introduced into the 2021-2022 Legislative Session, but never received the support required to make it out of committee for a vote on the Senate floor. The Act was introduced again in the 2022-2023 Legislative Session and again in the 2023-2024 Legislative Session with the same results.

Frustrated by the Senates inability to advance this signature progressive climate legislation, Governor Hochul then abandoned the constitutional method of passing a bill in New York, placing the Act in the state 2023 fiscal year Executive Budget and forcing legislators to approve the bill in order to fund government spending.

“When I was sworn in, I promised that every decision I make will go through one lens: is it the best deal for New Yorkers?... This budget fulfills that promise and provides us with a blueprint for the short- and long-term future” stated Governor Hochul after the budget passed.

*Elected officials, contractors, developers, and advocates celebrate as NY's All-Electric Buildings Act takes effect*

Rewiring America, July 25, 2025

The New York State Building Code Council approved adding the Act to the states building code in July 2025. The code change required all newly constructed single-family and low-rise buildings up to 7 stories tall to be all-electric; no natural gas or propane connections allowed, beginning January 2026. Commercial and industrial buildings larger than 100,000 square feet were excluded from this code mandate. Beginning in 2029, all new buildings of all sizes must be built without fossil fuel equipment, with limited exceptions.

The science is on our side. The economics of affordability for people with their utility bills are on our side.

New York Senator Elizabeth Krueger (D), July 25, 2025

But not everyone was on board with building electrification. In October 2023, multiple fossil fuel companies, developers, and other industry groups filed a lawsuit against New York’s All-Electric Building Act. In July 2025, the United States District Court of the Northern District of New York ruled that New York has the power to enact the All-Electric Building Act. In November 2025, new lawsuits were filed against the Act in federal court and New York State agreed to delay the Act until the challenges were ruled on.

*New York delays all-electric building mandate amid federal lawsuit*

New York Construction Report, November 14, 2025

New York State’s push to require most new buildings under seven stories to use only electric appliances has been put on hold, officials said Wednesday, citing a federal lawsuit challenging the law’s constitutionality.

*The delay follows a federal court filing in which New York agreed to pause implementation until the lawsuit is resolved. Trade groups and labor organizations argue the law is pre-empted by federal regulations that govern energy standards for appliances such as furnaces and water heaters.*

Remember, Governor Hochul and her budget “advisors” bypassed the traditional constitutional method for passing legislation in New York by burying the bill into the fiscal year budget, where constituents wouldn’t read through the entire 166 pages to see what the budget contained.

"We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what is in it" – Nancy Pelosi on the Affordable Care Act, September 27, 2021

Governor Hochul went behind the backs of New York voters to get her bill passed, as she has done numerous times in order to get other climate legislation passed. There was no committee evaluation of the bill, no discussion by state legislators, no public commentary period. All 42 Senate Democrats voted Yea on the budget while all 21 Republicans voted Nay.

*State approves National Grid rate hike that will increase many household bills by \$600 a year*

Syracuse.com, August 14, 2025

*Syracuse, N.Y. -- Your National Grid bill is going up about 10% next month and will keep rising. Within three years, the cost of electricity and gas will increase by about \$600 a year for the average household in Upstate New York.*

*National Grid bills are going up next month; Here's how much you can expect to pay*

WKBW News 7 Buffalo, August 14, 2025

*BUFFALO, N.Y. (WKBW) — Hundreds of thousands of National Grid customers in New York State will soon start paying more for electricity, even though rates in New York State are already among the highest in the country.*

As I write this Addenda, I looked back at my electric and gas utility bills for last quarter of 2025, after that rate hike kicked in. Our household is on the “budget plan” which bills us for the average monthly electric and gas bill that we use over the past twelve months. In 2024 my budget was \$170 per month. In 2025, my budget was raised to \$180 per month, then \$190 per month. After the rate hikes kicked in, my budget was raised to \$237 per month, thirty-nine percent higher than at the beginning of 2024. My cost per kWh of electricity had increased from an average 18.84 ¢/kWh in 2023 to 22.30 ¢/kWh in 2025. That’s an increase of more than 18% over the past two years.

*“I was incredibly proud of this legislation and its ability to keep utility costs stable and affordable for ratepayers.”*

NY Governor Kathy Hochul, May 4, 2023

*The economics of affordability for people with their utility bills are on our side.*

New York Senator Elizabeth Krueger (D), July 25, 2025

I’ve said it before, and I’ll say it again... Climate change legislation was never about saving the planet. It was never about protecting and improving the health of New Yorkers. It was never about economic growth or adding thousands of new “green energy” jobs. It was never about stabilizing utility bills and making them affordable.

It was all about blindly following U.N. Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. It was always about CONTROL!

Impoverished New Yorkers, depending on the government to provide them with taxpayer funded heating subsidies have no control. They gave that control to Progressive Democrats in Albany when they voted to elect and/or keep them in office.