

Addenda #93 –October 2025

Re: Ch. 9, Progressive States Climate Policies

New York state Green Energy mandates

Re: Ch. 8, 2050 Net-Zero Emissions; Impossible!!

SDG 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The New York state Energy Planning Board is responsible for adopting a statewide energy plan and adopting rules and regulations as necessary to implement that plan. Part of that plan is to analyze where the state stands in achieving stated emissions reductions and goals for renewable energy production. Let's look at New Yorks 'goals' for renewable energy production first.

The 2019 Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) mandated that by 2040, all electricity produced must be '100% zero-emission.' The CLCPA 'Fact Sheet' boasts that, *Solar, wind, and other renewables, combined with energy storage will deliver affordable and reliable electricity over the next decade and beyond.*

FIGURE 23: 2024 ENERGY PRODUCTION BY FUEL SOURCE

	GWh	
Dual Fuel Fired (Gas/Oil)	54,091	
Natural Gas	13,115	
Fuel Oil	92	67,298
Waste Energy	2,230	2,230
Nuclear	27,073	27,073
Hydro	27,936	
Wind	6,012	
Solar	503	34,451
TOTAL	131,052	
"True Renewables"	34,451	26.29%
including nuclear	61,524	46.95%
Fossil Fuel	67,298	51.35%

"True Renewables", solar, wind and hydro produce 26% of all electricity in the state. When nuclear is added to the source, Renewable energy sources produce 47% of all electricity generated in New York state. Waste energy cannot be included as they still produce greenhouse gasses, but at lower levels.

Source: New York Independent System Operator, 2025 Power Trends, Supply Trends
Figure 22, page 44.

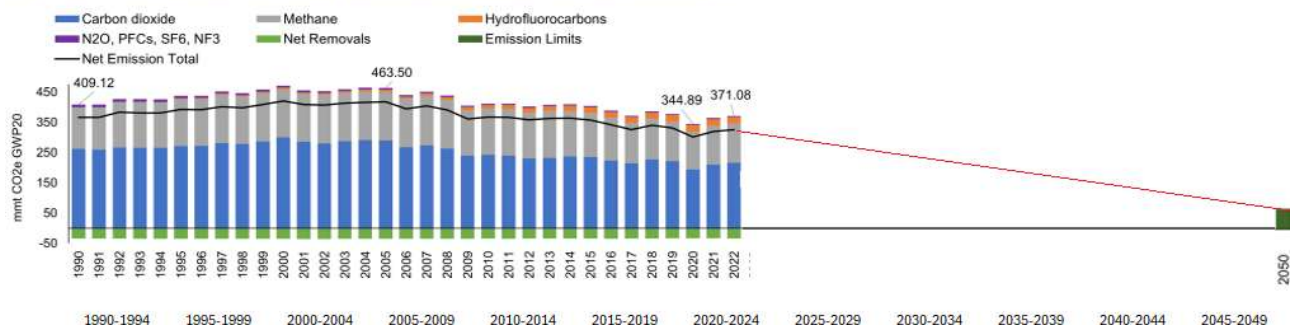
The Power Trends report is deceptive, because it deals with electricity *production* and not *total consumption*. Figure 15, Actual and Forecast Load, on page 40, shows that total usage or consumption in 2024 was 151,556 GWh. New York imported almost all additional electricity required to meet demand from PJM Interconnection, the regional transmission grid directly to the south/southwest of the state. The generation fuel mix of the PJM electrical grid is 65% fossil fuel (including almost 16% coal) and 35% renewables, so two-thirds of all electricity consumed by New York state in 2024 was generated by fossil fuels. I did the math on this just to prove that New York State is not as green as it claims to be.

Note: New York State actually exported more electricity to Hydro-Quebec than it imported from them in 2024 (see Addenda #92), so it can't use imported hydroelectricity to boost renewables in consumption as Governor Hochul likes to boast about.

So, where *does* New York State stand in achieving emissions reductions mandated by the 2019 CLCPA? The CLCPA set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 85% below 1990 levels, by the year 2050. Total statewide GHG emissions in 1990 were 409.12 million metric tons (mmt), so an 85% reduction would equal total emissions of just 61.37 mmt by 2050.

The most recent report on statewide GHG emissions shows a total reduction of 9.3% from the 1990 levels, through 2022. To meet the 2050 emissions goals, New York must see drastic reductions in emissions over the next 25-years. This means a dramatic increase in renewable power generation and a dramatic cut in fossil fuel power generation.

Figure ES.1: NYS Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Gas, 1990-2022 (mmt CO₂e GWf)



Source: 2024 Statewide GHG Emissions Report; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

The *Draft State Energy Plan* released by the State Energy Planning Board, is a 15-year outlook through 2024, to “guide energy direction and prioritize affordability, reliability, and economic development while supporting equity and a healthy environment. The Plan was released for public comment on July 23, 2025.

At a public hearing held in Albany on September 10, the Planning Board and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) was the target of criticism from radical climate activists, lawmakers and the public over the new plan, which admitted publicly for the first time that the state will not be able to meet short-term emissions goals let alone the long-term 85% reduction goal. The Energy Plan concludes that the 40% reduction in emissions by 2030 is likely out of reach. Statewide emissions reduction is just 9.3% at the end of 2022 with only five years remaining to hit that target number.

“We’re missing the goals by a mile; we’re just so, so far away,” said Alex Beauchamp, Northeast director for Food & Water Watch. “The most damning part of the whole report is they don’t have a plan to get back on track. They’re not even pretending to. They’re just sort of shrugging their shoulders and saying, ‘yeah, we’re gonna miss them.’”

Note: Food & Water Watch is a left-wing environmentalist activist organization that supports Progressive Democrat political candidates and that campaigns against fossil fuels, nuclear energy, bottled water, conventional agriculture and a host of other progressive causes and actively lobbies Congress to adopt its policy positions.

Source: www.opensecrets.org, www.influencewatch.org

The Energy Plan *Draft Pathway Analysis* stated the following;

- ***Reliable electricity supply requires buildout of a diverse set of resources*** (including wind, solar, energy storage, advanced nuclear, and repowering aging combustion power plants).
- ***All major fuels used in New York today will continue to meaningfully contribute to the State's energy mix through 2040*** including electricity, natural gas, and petroleum fuels. Continued investment in all fuel systems is necessary to assure safe and reliable energy services, in particular to meet peak day needs and to increase resilience.”

Source: <https://energyplan.ny.gov/-/media/Project/EnergyPlan/files/fact-sheet/Draft-Pathways-Analysis.pdf>

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In Addenda #44 – April 2024, I wrote a detailed explanation about how the electrical grid works. I noted how the grid must be “in balance” at all times, that the same amount of electricity must flow *into* the grid that flows *out* of it. The New York Independent systems Operator (NYISO) is responsible for ensuring the reliability of the 11,173 miles of transmission lines serving customers in New York state. Their annual *Power Trends* report has been warning about decreasing reliability of the grid for years, as progressive politicians continue to close reliable fossil fuel generating plants and replace them with unreliable renewable sources at a significantly lower rate than the retirements. The 2023 Power Trends report stated, “.... to achieve state policy mandates by 2040, up to 124 GW of installed generation capacity will be necessary, tripling the amount of generation capacity available today.”

The Energy Planning Board was being open and honest, confirming what NYISO has been saying for years, and what I have been saying all along. Even New York Governor Kathy Hochul has made an abrupt turnaround, expressing support for an “all-of-the-above energy strategy,” including nuclear power and postponing fossil fuel retirements. Hochul also admitted that solar and wind power only work in certain conditions. It's not surprising that the radical anti-fossil fuel crowd did not like any of the truthful revelations!

Perhaps the most often repeated criticism of fossil fuel use is that homes with natural gas appliances; stoves, dryers and water heaters, contributes to high asthma rates. This claim by environmentalists has been debunked by a recent study funded by the World Health Organization (WHO) and published in The Lancet British Medical Journal. The comprehensive study examined the health risks of cooking and heating with natural gas compared to electricity and other fuels. The results were clear and conclusive; “... a small increased risk of asthma in children was not significant”, “and no significant associations were found for adult asthma, wheeze, cough, and breathlessness” and finally “A significant decreased risk of bronchitis was observed.”

Source: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600\(23\)00427-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600(23)00427-7/fulltext)

Another part of the 2019 CLCPA had to do with job creation due to New York's energy policies. The Jobs Impacts section made the following claims;

Employment across the four major energy sectors—electricity, buildings, transportation, and fuels—is expected to increase 13% between 2025 and 2040, adding over 60,000 net jobs.

New Jobs are largely concentrated in the construction industry, which is expected to grow by roughly 60% (45,000 net jobs). Manufacturing jobs will also experience meaningful growth, growing by 55% (7,500 jobs).

Source: <https://energyplan.ny.gov/-/media/Project/EnergyPlan/files/fact-sheet/Jobs-Impacts.pdf>

Fact: Construction jobs are temporary at best, not permanent! I can state this with absolute fact and certainty from my thirty-five year career in the construction industry as a working field electrician and project manager. What are promoted as “new jobs,” are workers who shuttle from one current project to the next newer project. Large-scale construction projects are built in “phases”, with different groups of workers coming on site at different periods of time. Rarely are these groups on the same project, full-time, for the duration, they move from project to project, employed by the same contractor. Yet they are classified as a “new job” when they are costed against each new project.

Fact: Manufacturing jobs will also be temporary hiring to produce materials and equipment to build each project. After orders have been filled, if no new project orders are placed, manufacturing workers are laid off. Many companies are either hesitant to add too many employees due to costs involved or cannot find enough capable and qualified workers to fill positions. In these cases, material and equipment just take longer to produce, delaying completion of large-scale projects. For example, customers wait three years for high-voltage transformers and one year for distribution transformers. About 80% of all HV transformers and 40-50% of distribution transformers are built overseas.

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/reshore-electrical-equipment-backlogs-transformer-breaker-nema/749265/>
<https://www.powermag.com/the-transformer-crisis-an-industry-on-the-brink/>

The final part of the Energy Plan I take issue with, is the Energy Affordability Impacts section. The analysis by the plan authors stated that “adoption of new, efficient equipment and electrification can cut energy spending by \$100 to nearly \$400 every month for many New York households...” This claim was surrounded by charts showing cost savings of electric vs. gas vehicles, heating and cooking equipment.

Fact: You can purchase either a 4.8 cu ft, four burner GE gas range, or a 5.0 cu ft, four burner GE electric range at Lowe's for around \$579. The cost of the equipment, therefore, is not a factor. The cost to run gas or electrical service to the range varies, due to many factors. Running a gas line could cost between \$525 to \$3,200. Running an electric circuit will be in a similar price range, depending on the length of the run and condition of the existing electric service panel. I call this a wash as well.

Fact: Gas stoves have much better temperature control than electric stoves, resulting in faster cooking times and lower energy use. The biggest factor in operational cost is the local utility price on electricity or gas, but electric stoves cost more to operate in most parts of the country.

Fact: Gas ranges are very durable and require virtually no maintenance, as there are no electric parts that can go bad. Electric appliances may break down periodically, requiring an expensive service call and need a replacement after ten years of service.

The energy plan summary continued...

With elevated energy prices, elevated expenditures follow. NYSERDA reports that for most fuel types, 2022 represented the highest expenditures in 15 years, and shown in Figure 5.14 New York's total energy expenditure reached nearly \$80 billion in 2022, over one-third of which was for out-of-state expenditures (\$29 billion). Energy prices for some fuel types have declined since peaking in 2022, though statewide expenditure data is not yet available for more recent years.

The Energy Plan stresses the importance of providing safe and reliable energy services. In her announcement of the start of the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE), New York Governor Kathy Hochul stated, “CHPE will provide competitively priced hydropower from Québec that is expected to deliver enough clean energy to power over one million homes...” The additional 1,200 MW of electricity imported from Hydro-Québec is not only an important part of achieving the 2030 renewable energy target, it is a critical part in ensuring the reliability and stability of the New York City electric grid. The NYISO has been warning for several years that New York City faces a deficiency of up to 446 MW within New York City beginning in summer 2025, due to the continued closing of fossil fuel generation sources and new renewable sources not keeping pace with retirements.

In-state renewable electricity generation could increase by 80% or more between 2025 and 2035, even in a scenario that models persistent headwinds to the pace of deployment. New York State will build on successes such as installing 6 gigawatts of distributed solar, completing South Fork Wind, breaking ground on the Champlain Hudson Power Express, Empire Wind 1, and Sunrise Wind, and the \$1 billion Sustainable Future Program, the largest single State Budget commitment to climate and clean energy in New York's history.

Fact: The Champlain Hudson Power Express is not “in-state electricity generation! This high-voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line will bring hydroelectricity from Québec to New York City. New Yorkers will be dependent on hydropower generation from dams in Québec, and subject to supply/demand of Canada. This reliance on electricity imported from Hydro-Québec has already been proven to be unreliable as it first reduced, then cut exports to the ISO-NE New England electric grid, due to low water levels and low auction prices. (See Addenda #92 – October 2025)

The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024 said that “only 17 per cent of the SDG targets are on track, nearly half are showing minimal or moderate progress, and progress on over one third has stalled or even regressed”, including SDG 7 *Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all*. “We need a surge in implementation”, said António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act 2024 Report said the progress on the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions is moving too slowly and has not made sufficient progress to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet its 2030 target. “The federal

government must pick up the pace in implementing effective measures” said Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development Jerry V. DeMarco .

The 2024 New York *Draft State Energy Plan* said that the 40% reduction in emissions by 2030, mandated by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act is likely out of reach.

Does anyone else see the pattern here?

2050 Net-Zero Emissions; Impossible!!

Addenda #93 Sources

Missed Deadlines Pile Up As New York’s Climate Law Turns Five

<https://nysfocus.com/2024/06/19/new-york-climate-law-progress>

New York is already missing its carbon reduction goals, and big ones are on the way

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/50192/20240722/new-york-is-already-missing-its-carbon-reduction-goals-and-big-ones-are-on-the-way>

Report: Potential delay in state’s renewable energy target

<https://www.adirondackexplorer.org/stories/delay-in-state-renewable-target/>

Why New York’s ambitious climate goals are drifting away

<https://www.politico.com/news/2024/02/07/new-york-energy-climate-goals-00139979>

New York's 2030 emissions mandate won't be reached until 2036, state analysis shows

<https://www.capitolconfidential.com/p/new-yorks-2030-emissions-mandate>

NY’s energy plan reveals missed 2030 climate targets

<https://usasolarcell.com/news/2025/07/26/nys-energy-plan-reveals-missed-2030-climate-targets/>

New York Energy Plan - Draft 2025 Energy Plan

<https://energyplan.ny.gov/Plans/Draft-2025-Energy-Plan>

Summary for Policymakers