



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

Whereas, today, the effects of climate change present unprecedented challenges and dangers to our planet and our lives, with increasing severe weather events, intense heat waves and drought, harmful greenhouse gas emissions, destructive wild fires, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and significant ice loss; Climate Week 2023 brings together the global community of scientists, environmental experts, and policy makers with shared urgency and awareness of our need to intensify our efforts to take extreme action and decisive steps to address these human driven changes to the earth; and

Whereas, New York State's nation-leading Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) requires a reduction in statewide greenhouse gas emissions of 40 percent from 1990 levels by 2030, and 85 percent by 2050, putting the State on a path to carbon neutrality, and establishes an aggressive clean energy agenda, requiring 70 percent of the state's electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030, and 100 percent zero-emission electricity by 2040; and

Whereas, in December 2022, the New York State Climate Action Council released the final Scoping Plan to provide a roadmap for the State to achieve its targets; and

Whereas, New York State is prioritizing environmental justice with its commitment to provide a minimum of 35 percent and a goal of 40 percent of overall benefits of clean energy and energy efficiency investments to disadvantaged communities; ensuring pollution does not disproportionately burden disadvantaged communities; and prioritizing reductions of greenhouse gas emissions and co-pollutants in these areas; and

Whereas, the New York State Enacted Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget includes investments in sustainable buildings, energy affordability, and clean energy development, including making New York the first state in the nation to enact comprehensive legislation for constructing modern zero-emission new homes and buildings; and

Whereas, these funding measures and laws advance our Administration's priority to propose an affordable, equitable, and effective Cap-and-Invest Program, which will establish a declining cap on greenhouse gas emissions, limit potential costs to New Yorkers, invest proceeds in programs that drive emission reductions in an equitable manner, and maintain the competitiveness of New York businesses and industries; and

Whereas, the transition to clean and renewable energy through innovative technologies are creating new economic opportunities across the state as well as programs to assist communities with implementing locally based climate action; there are dozens of renewable energy and new transmission projects under development that, once completed, will transform the way homes and businesses are powered, and investing in the increased resilience and reliability of our transmission system through the development of high-impact projects will enable the efficient transfer of renewable power throughout the state; and

Whereas, we are committed to reducing greenhouse gases and improving air quality through 100 percent zero-emission requirements for new cars by 2035 and new trucks by 2045, decreasing fugitive emissions from natural gas infrastructure, and ensuring individual agency decisions are evaluated in the context of New York State's Climate Act goals, including the comprehensive reviews of permits and other facility authorizations; and

Whereas, protecting our residents, businesses, communities, infrastructure, and natural resources from the effects of a changing climate is a priority of our state and its people, and New Yorkers have overwhelmingly approved passage of the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022, which is delivering a historic \$4.2 billion investment in a cleaner future and strengthening communities' ability to withstand more frequent storms and severe weather; and

Whereas, New York State is poised to maximize the opportunity provided by the landmark Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to tackle our most pressing climate and energy challenges with investments and support for state and local governments; and

Whereas, the global challenges of climate change take center stage during Climate Week NYC 2023 and New York State stands firmly pledged to driving climate action in partnership with other states and nations;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim September 17 - 24, 2023 as

## CLIMATE WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twelfth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-three.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh