



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New Yorkers continue to endure the effects of a warming global climate, in large part because of harmful carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gasses emitted from power plants and other sources; and

**Whereas**, the result has been some of the most severe weather events in our history, including Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, Superstorm Sandy in 2012, Niagara County and Mohawk Valley flooding in 2013, Long Island flooding in 2014, and extreme cold and lake-effect snow events in Western New York this past winter; and

**Whereas**, New Yorkers increasingly recognize the importance of working together, and with other states and regions, to prepare for further changes and to take strong action to reduce emissions, as needed, to avoid the worst effects of climate change; and

**Whereas**, New York State has been a national leader in reducing emissions as a partner in the nation's first carbon dioxide trading program for power plants, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which has become a model for the federal Clean Power Plan; and

**Whereas**, New York State also is a national leader in the transition to a cleaner, more resilient and affordable energy future through the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) strategy with more than 40 new and innovative initiatives developing new economic opportunities across the State and inspiring global progress to reduce emissions; initiatives such as the Clean Energy Fund, which includes New York Green Bank and NY-Sun; the Large Scale Renewables Program; Shared Renewables; K-Solar; NY Prize; Community Partnership; Charge NY, BuildSmart NY; 5 Cities Energy Master Plans; and the Cleaner, Greener Communities Program; and

**Whereas**, all these efforts provide substantial economic benefits to New Yorkers, including new business and employment opportunities and more affordable energy bills; and

**Whereas**, 167 local governments, representing 6.4 million New Yorkers, have voluntarily pledged to be Climate Smart Communities and are taking advantage of State support to mitigate emissions and adapt to climate change; and

**Whereas**, New York State is beginning to implement the groundbreaking Community Risk and Resilience Act, which will protect New Yorkers from sea level rise, storm surge, and flooding; and

**Whereas**, the issue of climate change takes center stage in New York City during the seventh annual Climate Week, which marks the final leg towards critical international negotiations to reduce emissions at the UN Conference of Parties in December 2015, marking a critical time to demonstrate New York State's commitment to action and inspire international commitments to protect our environment, economy, and communities from global climate change;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim the week of September 22 - 29, 2015 as

## CLIMATE WEEK

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the privy seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-second day of September in the year two thousand fifteen.

Governor

*Wesley J. Mishon*  
Secretary to the Governor