

## September 29, 2022

## **Climate Action Council Approaches Final Plan**

New York State's Climate Council is inching its way towards a final, comprehensive, and economy-wide Climate Scoping Plan, due by law by December 31, 2022. Its first order of business during the most recent meeting on September 29 was to adopt a change to its bylaws that will allow videoconferencing, although a quorum of members still need to be present in-person. Then, the Council re-visited the Integration Analysis to examine how the recently passed federal climate legislation, part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), would affect the societal cost benefit analysis previously conducted on the entire plan. With the modelling assumptions that were used, the analysis found that the IRA will reduce the money needed for the state to meet the requirements of the CLCPA by \$42-68B – a significant reduction in costs for New Yorkers. That amount includes \$3-19B reduction in costs for electric vehicle and charging infrastructure and a slash in the amount needed to decarbonize NY buildings by \$7-11B. The Integration Analysis was also updated to include two new sensitivity studies reflecting inflation worries: one a high fuel price scenario, the other a high technology costs scenario.

This was followed by subcommittee reports on gas transition and economy-wide strategies, and a review of feedback received on the draft plan focused on Just Transition issues before adjourning until October 13.

Both the gas transition and economy-wide subcommittees appear to be successfully navigating these fraught and controversial topics after months of frequent discussions and negotiations among members. What remains to be seen is if the Council members can adopt these same nuanced and compromised positions and reach a successful majority vote in the affirmative on the entire plan. That vote is scheduled for December 19. ACE NY will continue to keep you posted.

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**About the Alliance for Clean Energy New York:** The Alliance for Clean Energy New York (ACE NY) is a broad coalition dedicated to promoting clean energy, energy efficiency, a healthy environment, and a strong economy for the Empire State, and is New York's premier advocate for the rapid adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. <u>www.aceny.org</u>