



EMILY GALLAGHER  
Assembly Member 50<sup>th</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY STATE  
OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

August 2, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips Secretary to the Commission  
New York State Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223

RE: CASE 20-G-0131 Proceeding on Motion of the Commission in Regard to Gas Planning Procedures

CASE 19-G-0309 – Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of The Brooklyn Union Gas Company d/b/a National Grid NY for Gas Service

CASE 19-G-0310 – Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Rates, Charges, Rules and Regulations of KeySpan Gas East Corp. d/b/a National Grid for Gas Service

Dear Secretary Phillips:

Please find attached for filing in the above referenced proceedings a letter signed by 53 elected officials from across New York State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Emily Gallagher'. The signature is written in black ink and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Emily Gallagher  
Assembly District 50

July 30, 2021

Governor Andrew Cuomo  
The Executive Chamber, Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

Commissioner John Howard  
New York State Public Service Commission  
3 Empire State Plaza- 20th Floor Albany, NY 12223  
c/o James Denn

Dear Governor Cuomo and Commissioner Howard,

We, the undersigned elected officials, are deeply concerned with the recent Joint Proposal (JP) filed by the Department of Public Service (DPS) in the downstate National Grid rate case (19-G-0309/10) and DPS's White Paper in the Gas Planning Proceeding (20-G-0131).

Both the JP and White Paper fail to align our state's gas system with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). And both ignore tens of thousands of public comments our constituents have submitted in these PSC proceedings, as well as in other cases, demanding that our money not go to the development of any new fossil fuel infrastructure.

We do not understand why both the JP and White Paper rely on a consultant to determine if new fossil fuel projects are "needed" when we already passed a law, the CLCPA, with mandates that require New York to move off fossil fuels to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Several studies, which have been filed in the DMM confirm that more gas infrastructure is not needed. National Grid itself already proposed a "no-infrastructure" alternative that would not rely on gas to meet the energy needs of its downstate customers, yet it seems the DPS and the company prefer to move forward with publicly opposed gas infrastructure anyway?

There is no reason any new fossil fuel project should even be on the table this late in the game.

We urge you to reject the JP in the downstate National Grid rate case which would raise monthly bills for New Yorkers already struggling with utility debt and force them to pay tens of millions of dollars connecting new gas customers, extending the life of pipelines and other fossil fuel infrastructure in downstate New York and \$129 million in particular for the North Brooklyn Pipeline, which has been vehemently opposed by the predominantly Black and Brown working class communities it goes through.

The entire state of New York is watching what is happening in the downstate National Grid rate case because we know it is only by working collectively as a state that we can meet our climate goals. We simply cannot continue to build projects like the North Brooklyn Pipeline and other fracked gas projects on Long Island, Staten Island and in North Brooklyn that will allow National Grid to increase long-term gas capacity. We stand with marginalized communities that have borne the brunt of fossil fuel pollution for decades and will not allow this racist and classist legacy to continue.

We ask that you go back and closely review the letter signed by over 200 elected officials submitted in the Gas Planning Proceeding to see what communities and elected officials across the state need. We are calling for a plan for National Grid customers and New Yorkers across the state that will align with the CLCPA and get New York off gas and on to renewable options in a timely, orderly, and affordable manner.

Sincerely,

Leroy Comrie, NY State Senate, NYS Senate District 14  
Julia Salazar, NY State Senate, NYS Senate District 18  
Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., NY State Senate, NYS Senate District 15  
Jabari Brisport, NY State Senate, NYS Senate District 25  
Liz Krueger, NY State Senate, NYS Senate District 28

Steve Englebright, NY State Assembly, District 4  
Steve Stern, NY State Assembly, District 10  
Nily Rozic, NY State Assembly, District 25  
Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, NY State Assembly, District 34  
Zohran K. Mamdani, NY State Assembly, District 36  
Robert Carroll, NY State Assembly, District 44  
Emily Gallagher, NY State Assembly, District 50  
Marcela Mityanes, NY State Assembly, District 51  
Maritza Davila, NY State Assembly, District 53  
Phara Souffrant Forrest, NY State Assembly, District 57  
Linda B. Rosenthal, NY State Assembly, District 67  
Danny O'Donnell, NY State Assembly, District 69  
Harvey Epstein, NY State Assembly, District 74  
Richard N. Gottfried, NY State Assembly, District 75  
Anna Kelles, NY State Assembly, District 125

Catherine Borgia, County Legislator, Westchester County  
Kathleen Talbot, Councilwoman, City of Peekskill  
Catherine Parker, Legislator, Westchester District 7  
Joseph Wetmore, Town Board, Town of Lansing  
David Vinjamuri, Trustee, Village of Pleasantville  
Mary Lambert, Trustee, Village of Hastings  
Heather Waters, Councilor, Town of Manlius  
Mary Kuhn, County Legislator, Onondaga County  
Robin Wilt, Councilmember, Town of Brighton  
Timothy Murray, Councilmember, Town of Caroline  
Bronwyn Losey, Town Councilperson, Town of Lansing  
Samy Nemir Olivares, District Leader AD53, Brooklyn  
Franco Carucci, Councilman, Gardiner  
Mary Lupien, City Council, Rochester  
Rachel Barnhart, Legislator, Monroe County  
Mitch Gruber, Rochester City Council, Rochester  
Elaine Denton, Town Councilor, Town of Manlius  
Katelyn M Kriesel, Town Councilor, Town of Manlius  
John Deer, Town Councilor, Manlius, NY

Vanessa Agudelo, Peekskill City Councilmember, City of Peekskill  
Kathleen E. Foley, Trustee, Village of Cold Spring  
Linda Puglisi, Town Supervisor, Town of Cortlandt  
Sarah Schnabel, Town Councilor, Town of Danby  
Deborah Dawson, Legislator, Tompkins County  
Jim Holahan, Councilperson, Town of Danby  
Paul H. Rudz, Village Trustee, Lancaster  
Joan Cergol, Councilwoman, Town of Huntington  
Jason K. Angell, Town Board, Town of Philipstown  
Robert Flaherty, Town Councilman, Town of Philipstown  
Judith Farrell, Councilwoman, Town of Philipstown  
Nick Page, County Legislator, Dutchess County District 18  
Amber Grant, Councilmember At Large, City of Beacon  
Sarah Salem, Councilmember At Large, City of Poughkeepsie