

# Advancing Building Sector Priorities in the NYS Energy Plan

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**New Yorkers for Clean Power Teach-In: Get Charged up for New  
York State's Energy Plan**

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# What is the New York State Energy Plan?

- **A comprehensive roadmap** to build a clean, resilient, and affordable energy system for all New Yorkers.
- provides broad program and policy development **direction to guide energy-related decision-making** in the public and private sectors within New York State.
- Development of the Plan is directed by the Energy Planning Board, pursuant to Article 6 of the [Energy Law](#).
- Comments are sought throughout the process from stakeholders and members of the public through a [Public Comment page](#) on the State Energy Plan web site and at public hearings.

# What is the Draft Scope?

- The [Draft Scope](#) is written to elicit feedback about the focus and direction of the Plan.
- public comments will inform development of a Final Scope, which will:
  - outline the framework and key areas of focus for the Plan
  - guide the planning process by identifying critical topics and objectives that the plan will address
  - ensure a comprehensive approach to meeting New York's future energy needs over a 15-year horizon through 2040
  - emphasize energy system reliability, economy-wide decarbonization, and balancing cost, equity, environmental, public health, and economic development objectives

# Priority 1: Adherence to the Scoping Plan

- SEP must implement [Climate Action Council's Scoping Plan](#) recommendations per [ECL 75-0103\(11\)](#).
  - The CAC Scoping Plan "shall inform the state energy planning board's adoption of a state energy plan in accordance with section 6-104 of the energy law. The first state energy plan issued subsequent to completion of the scoping plan required by this section *shall incorporate the recommendations of the council.*"
- The CAC Scoping Plan reflects robust public engagement and technical analysis
- The SEP should not revisit resolved policy decisions.

# Priority 2: Targets to Guide Transition

- Climate Act has targets for NYS's electric sector, but no other sectors.
- Scoping Plan found that achieving the Climate Act's emission limits will require a substantial reduction of fossil natural gas use and a strategic downsizing of the gas system
- Need statutory changes to enable transition (e.g., utility obligation to serve gas, 100 foot rule, etc.)
- Not having clear targets for creates significant challenges in planning, coordination, and execution of the transition to a decarbonized energy system.
  - This is particularly challenge for the utility gas system, which impacts several sectors.
- Plan should evaluate different standards and ultimately establish clear targets and a timeline for the gas system transition
  - Emission limits for Building Sector; reduction in gas demand, goals for downsizing system?

# Priority 3: Demand-Side Management

- Scoping Plan found “An emphasis and focus needs to be placed on permanent load reduction measures that can significantly reduce fossil natural gas usage and demand in the short term, while also providing benefits for the end users if and when buildings are electrified in the mid- to long-term.”
- Energy efficiency and demand flexibility should be the cornerstone of energy strategy
- Demand-Side Management is an essential strategy for reducing inequitable energy burdens and delivering benefits to Disadvantaged Communities and low- and-moderate income customers because of how they provide a variety of economic and social benefits by reducing demand, enhancing energy affordability, improving air and water quality, enhancing grid resilience, and elevating health and comfort.

# Priority 4: Limit Role of Low-Carbon Fuels

- CAC Scoping Plan rejected low-carbon fuels like RNG and clean hydrogen as primary tools for decarbonizing the gas system.
- Reliance on low-carbon fuels to decarbonize buildings is high risk
- SEP should more clearly cabin the role for hydrogen and RNG to "hard to electrify" use cases and provide initial guidance on the meaning of "hard to electrify."
  - Focus on hard to electrify segments of the gas system
  - Need framework for directing environmental attributes to best and highest uses case, which are largely not in the building sector.

# Priority 5: Promoting Affordability

- Prioritize support for low-income households and Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
  - Expand energy affordability programs
- Develop rate structures encouraging electrification and minimizing energy burden.
  - Need to address operating cost disparities of gas vs electricity
  - NY Cap and Invest is essential tool for correcting price signals, and raising money to address affordability for low income consumers make for that will drive decarbonization



# Priority 6: Equity in Implementation

- Analyze SEP recommendations under Section 7(3) to ensure equity impacts.
- Commit to 40% of benefits accruing to Disadvantaged Communities.
- Emphasize clean energy job training and accessible financing.
  - need better information on workers that will be transitioned and the work force that still needs to be developed

# Call to Action - make your voice heard

- Public comments on the Draft Scope are due by November 25, Extension requested until December 23
- Submit comments via [Public Comment page](#) on the State Energy Plan web site
- comments can also be submitted electronically to [nysenergyplan@nyserda.ny.gov](mailto:nysenergyplan@nyserda.ny.gov)