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The significant part of the NYS proposed energy plan is what is left out. In the section on natural gas there is little attention on the amount of energy expended to extract the gas, and the negative long-term economic and environmental impact this industry will have on our state. The NYSDEC's DSGEIS does not adequately address these concerns. Make no mistake, the chemicals used in this process are known to cause long-term human health issues and irreversible environmental damage for which New York State must be held responsible. I object to the NY State Energy Plan as written. It is antiquated and does not address the real needs of our residents in the 21st Century. How will the state address the issu! e of volatile organics from natural gas storage facilities contaminating our air? How will the state compensate residents and municipalities for the destruction of our communities and our health? When our lakes, rivers, and aquifers show dangerous levels of carcinogens who will be held responsible...Governor Patterson, NSERDA? I have data showing that water from our lake has a AA rating, meaning it is usable for drinking, bathing, and food preparation. I will soon have data on the air quality as well. If that changes, after the drilling and the energy companies say we can't prove the link, as they always do, who shall our community sue? What is the true cost in dollars when rural, agricultural, and recreational areas are industrialized? What will the impact be on health and emergency services, policing, and infrastructure? In what part of the energy plan is the issue of conserving energy adequately addressed? What vision do you have for this state's future? It app! ears that the energy bill lacks a deep and thoughtful response to our real needs and a complete disregard for public health, safety, and welfare. Instead it seems to be a document encouraging more fossil fuel energy use and development. Make no mistake, those in office now will be held accountable down the road. So as NY State rakes in the initial dollars for energy development, it had better keep a rainy day fund for defending itself against class action lawsuits, especially after the energy companies have cut and run. When we lose our homes, our health, and our way of life, who do you think we will hold responsible? Donna De Costanzo, Senior Attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. wrote you a letter, which I support. Here are some suggestions from her letter, which I'd like to highlight. Please see her original letter for details: . Adopt a policy of acquiring all cost-effective energy efficiency. . Move expeditiously towards achieving the State's Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (EEPS) to reduce electricity consumption 15% below forecasted levels by 2015 and provide full funding for the EEPS. . Increase natural gas efficiency and ensure full funding for efficiency programs. Establish a plan of action, including a timetable, for repowering all older natural gas-fired power plants. . Ensure that all New York electric and natural gas utilities adopt and implement

Comment:

revenue decoupling mechanisms (RDMs) as soon as possible. Establish an incentive and education program to promote the adoption of energy efficiency leases to help address the "split incentive" issue. Implement the building efficiency recommendations that were developed by the Governor's Renewable Energy Task Force. Increase the deployment of clean Combined Heat and Power (CHP). Promote green infrastructure statewide to reduce energy consumption. Emphasize energy efficiency in lieu of supporting new natural gas production (see Energy Efficiency, above). Await the completion of the environmental review process and promulgation of improved environmental standards for natural gas production before advancing development of the Marcellus Shale or additional natural gas pipeline expansions. Refrain from encouraging natural gas production on State-owned lands. Adopt a package of policies to encourage smart growth and reduce VMT statewide, including legislation modeled after California's recently enacted SB 375. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment.