Paul DeCotis Energy Planning Board Energy Plan Comments NYSERDA 17 Columbus Circle Albany, NY 12204-6399

My name is Rebecca Gallo. I'm a 16 year old student and I'm very environmentally aware of what's happening on Long Island today. Long Islanders are huge energy users. And even I'm guilty for leaving the lights on when in a rush for the door. Electricity and natural resources are abused and being sucked clean. Pretty soon, at the rate we're headed, our electricity will be sparse in the future. If we begin to invest in projects such as offshore wind turbines and large scale solar projects it will help lower Long Islander's electricity bills. Not only would we be conserving energy, but it can also help create jobs, improve the economy and protect the environment.

Offshore wind power provides a set price on its energy as compared to fuel costs which can vary from time to time. Even though offshore wind's potential and with all of the public's support for clean renewable energy, LIPA isn't exactly pushing this new idea forward for a chance. LIPA is costly and not exactly environmentally friendly. The damaging addiction to burning fossil fuels is ruining the air we breathe and makes us not want to check the mail to see our power bills.

Solar energy is a whole new way to keep our lights on and also keep our air clean by running our lives off of the power of the sun. Solar power is able to meet peak energy demand locally, mainly because the sun shines brightest in the main "power sucking" months of the summer, while we blast our air conditioners for 2 months on end. If we don't act on this energy calamity soon Long island will experience climate change, such as increased flooding, sea level rise, and intensified storm events. But if we actually even start considering looking into investing in large-scale renewable projects, then we'll have a much larger chance of keeping our environment healthy and our prices lower.

If we don't act on these new proposals soon we could be landing ourselves in a complete energy crisis, and the future right now isn't looking so bright, meaning, we probably won't have much energy to spare. It might cost a ton of money to make all of this happen, but it would save us so much in the long run. So if we begin taking these new ideas for the offshore wind turbines and solar energy panels then we can save ourselves money, time, fossil fuels, and we also just might save our earth. No more "looking into it", it's time to act on it.

Thank you for your time, I can provide my e-mail address if you could contact me with any thoughts you have on the situation and the position you're in to maybe help out the cause.

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Sincerely,

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