

More Than 100 Organizations Call On Governor Hochul to include the Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act In 2026-27 Executive Budget

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
Capitol Building
Executive Chamber
Albany, New York 12224

October 28, 2025

Dear Governor Hochul:

In 2024, New York State passed the **Climate Change Superfund Act**, thereby legally acknowledging that the fossil fuel industry is culpable for climate-related damages. We thank you for your leadership role on this landmark law. Yet, contrary to the majority of New Yorker's opinion about the fossil fuel industry's responsibility for climate change(1), our Federal government has given that very industry a carte blanche opportunity to both expand control over our energy choices and their wealth, at great expense to all living things.

We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to include a repeal of the most egregious fossil fuel polluter subsidies, an estimated \$350 million, in the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year State Budget as outlined in S.3606/A.3675. The Stop Climate Polluter Handout Act is simple — while New Yorkers subsidize the federally-supported fossil fuel industry, handing out \$1.8 billion annually, New York State will pull back 20% (or \$350 MIL) of those subsidies that represent the most noxious and harmful uses of fossil fuels.

Over the past few years, while extreme weather events have scarred communities across the world and global temperatures have broken records, so have profits among the West's largest privately held oil companies(2). **The repeal of \$350 million is estimated to be just one week of the fossil fuel industry's profit from New York State.**

How does it work? **The Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act** amends the tax code to remove \$350 million in tax handouts to the fossil fuel industry, pinpointing incentives for the highest-polluting fuels including butane, ethane, low-grade shipping "bunker" fuel, the operation of fracked gas infrastructure, and more. *The Act preserves tax breaks that benefit regular New Yorkers.*

With our state experiencing an affordability crisis and a simultaneous multi-billion dollar budget deficit due to Federal cuts, it is the most opportune time to rethink these handouts. Repealing just some of the indefensible fossil fuel industry tax subsidies will help close the budget gap and provide revenue to pay for priorities with real public benefit. **The fact is, these tax giveaways to Big Oil would never be passed in New York State today, so repealing them would result in the following fiscally responsible actions:**

- 1. Tackle Affordability and Add Revenue for Public Benefit Uses/ Restore Federal Cuts.** Repealing these handouts will raise \$350 million in annual State revenue which could provide funding for public benefit use and/or help close the gap in funding created by the Trump Administration's cuts.
- 2. Avoid Double Hit to Taxpayers and Address Affordability.** NYS taxpayers paid \$2.7 billion annually for climate damage repair and resilience; it's expected to cost hundreds of billions more over the next few decades³ adding to affordability woes in NY State. On top of paying for oil and gas industry tax breaks, taxpayers will pay to clean up and prepare for climate impacts exceeding that provided in the Climate Change Superfund.
- 3. Reach CLCPA Climate Goals.** Fossil fuel subsidies are outdated fiscal incentives, are misaligned with the CLCPA, and jeopardize our ability to reach legally mandated targets: a 70% renewable power sector and a 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. To reach CLCPA goals we must stop relying on fossil fuels; a key step is to stop forcing taxpayers to subsidize them.
- 4. Align with the State's Acknowledgement of the Fossil Fuel Industry's Culpability for Climate Destruction.** As law, the Climate Change Superfund Act acknowledges the fossil fuel industry's driving role in the climate crisis and climate-related damage; it is indefensible for taxpayers to simultaneously subsidize destruction.
- 5. Protect People & Communities.** Intensifying heat waves, floods, and storms already wreak havoc across the state, with disproportionate impacts on low income areas and communities of color. We must stop incentivizing the polluters that exacerbate environmental injustice.
- 6. Stop Inflating Industry Profits.** Fossil fuels are one of the most profitable industries in the world, raking in \$3 billion a day with profits that doubled from 2021 to 2022⁴. Taxpayer money should not be used to further inflate industry profits.
- 7. Stop Incentivizing Fossil Fuels:** Tax breaks should go to businesses offering public benefits, not to the wealthiest industry that causes mounting harm. Yet global fossil fuel subsidies have surged to \$7 trillion annually, far higher than those for clean energy⁵. We thereby give climate polluters the green light to keep up their destructive activity.

While the fossil fuel industry stands to gain billions through the Trump administration's tax breaks, weakened environmental regulations, and the elimination of clean energy incentives, New Yorkers will enter into a compounded energy affordability crisis with planned federal cuts to LIHEAP and potential reductions to NYSERDA's EmPower+ program - both oversubscribed programs.

We urge you to put an end to over \$350 million in unjustifiable tax handouts to the fossil fuel industry by including the elimination of these subsidies in the next budget: include Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act in the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year Budget.

Sincerely,
The Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act Coalition



The Climate Reality Project
NEW YORK STATE COALITION



NY RENEWS



SIERRA CLUB
ATLANTIC CHAPTER



AGREE
Alliance for a Green Economy



North Country Earth Action



#DIVESTNY



Reinvent Albany.

TIAA DIVEST!



New York State Council Of Churches



Dominican Sisters of Sparkill
Women making a difference



greenfaith

Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Binghamton



Environmental Action Coaliti



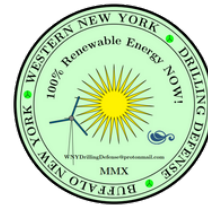
saneenergyproject



Hudson River Sloop Clearwater



WESPAC
FOUNDATION



Stop Climate Polluter Handouts Act S3606/A3675

10/28/2025

Climate, Environment, & Sustainability

350Brooklyn
 350NYC
 All Our Energy
 Beyond Plastics Queens
 Big Reuse
 Campaign for Renewable Energy
 Climate Can't Wait
 Climate Change Awareness and Action, Inc.
 Climate Families NYC
 Climate Reality Project NYS Chapters Coalition
 ClimateMama
 Communities for Local Power
 Community Advocates for a Sustainable Environment
 CURE100 (Communities United to Reduce Emissions 100%)
 Deep Green Resistance NYC
 Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society
 Divest NY
 Don't Waste New York
 Earthkeeper Health Resources
 Environmental Advocates NY
 Food & Water Watch
 Fossil Free Tompkins
 FrackBustersNY
 Gas Free Seneca
 Green Education and Legal Fund
 Green Ossining
 Green Warsaw
 Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
 Mothers Out Front - NY
 Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
 New Yorkers for Clean Power
 North Country Earth Action (NCEA)
 North Shore Audubon Society
 Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY)
 Northern Catskills Audubon Society
 NY Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)
 NY Renews Coalition
 NY-GEO
 People for a Healthy Environment
 People's Climate Movement - NY
 Possible Rochester|Possibe Planet
 Residents Allied for the Future of Tioga
 Reinvent Albany
 Roctricity LLC
 Sane Energy Project
 Seneca Lake Guardian
 Sheridan Hollow Alliance for Renewable Energy
 Sierra Club - Atlantic Chapter
 South Shore Audubon Society
 Stop NY Fracked Gas Pipeline
 Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)
 Stop Cricket Valley Energy
 Sustainable Finger Lakes
 Sustainable Hudson Valley
 Sustainable Warwick
 Third Act NYC
 Third Act Upstate New York
 TIAA-Divest!
 Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative
 United for Action
 Westchester Alliance for Sustainable Solutions
 Western New York Drilling Defense

Youth -Led

Fridays for Future NYC
 Sunrise -RPI
 Sunrise NYC
 WNY Youth Climate Council

Social & Environmental Justice

Citizen Action of NY
 Clean Air Coalition of Greater Ravena-Coeymans
 For The Many
 Make the Road New York
 New York Communities for Change (NYCC)
 Peace Action New York State
 South Asian Fund For Education, Scholarship and Training, Inc
 South Bronx Unite
 WESPAC Foundation, Inc.
 Westchester for Change

Political Advocacy

Broome Tioga Green Party
 Green Party of New York
 Indivisible Harlem
 Indivisible Mohawk Valley
 NY Progressive Action Network
 NYCD 16/15 Indivisible
 Putnam Progressives

Science & Research

Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island
 Hudson Valley Stream Conservancy

Faith-Based & Religious

Albany UU - Green Sanctuary Team
 Bronx Jews for Climate Action
 Capital Region Interfaith Creation Care Coalition
 Church Women United in NYS
 Dominican Sisters of Sparkill
 First Unitarian Church of Rochester
 GreenFaith
 Jewish Climate Action Network NYC
 Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns
 NYS Council of Churches
 Rivers and Mountains GreenFaith
 ROAR (Religious Organizations Along the River)
 Sisters of Charity of New York
 Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt
 UU Congregation of Binghamton, Green Sanctuary

Academia

Adelphi University - Environmental Action Coalition
 Iona University - Deignan Institute for Earth and Spirit
 SUNY New Paltz Environmental Task Force

Public Health

Concerned Health Professionals of NY
 Physicians for Social Responsibility - NY