

Talking Points: Labor Scoping Plan Public Hearings

Note: Members who participate at public hearings should be sure to introduce their names and their relationship to your union

Four Topline Asks

- (1) Environmental Justice and a Just Transition Must Come First:** Environmental justice must come first! This means prioritizing low-income communities and communities of color at the frontlines of the climate crisis. When it comes to creating the inclusive green economy of New York's future, the plan must include strong labor standards including prevailing wage, benefits, and local hire; funding for workforce development; better policies to incentivize good green jobs in NY; and more.
- (2) We Must Fund the CLCPA:** New York must establish a dedicated funding mechanism—by legislation if necessary—to ensure reductions of both greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions and to begin the state's large-scale transition to an equitable renewable energy economy. An equitable economy-wide pollution fee is likely the best approach to generate the necessary funds in a just manner.
- (3) New York Needs Scenario 3: Accelerated Electrification:** In order to ensure a zero-emissions power sector by 2040, New York needs a rapid, large-scale transition away from combustion. Of the three scenarios put forward by the Climate Action Council, we need to see Scenario 3: low-to-no bioenergy and the acceleration of electrification of both buildings and transportation.

Expanded Priorities for a Just Transition for Workers

- **A Worker and Community Assurance Fund** to provide direct support to fossil fuel-dependent workers across sectors (including wage replacement and pension support for displaced workers) as well as to communities who rely on fossil-fuel dependent industries
- **Stronger language around labor standards** including: prevailing wage and benefits, project labor agreements, benchmarks for local hire, as well as encourage community benefits agreements on any projects that use State funds or take place on State property
- **Buy NY and Best Value Procurement** (a) incentivize job creation along the clean energy, clean transportation, and low-carbon supply chains; and (b) prioritize companies and contracts that support high-road jobs creation.
- Additional **policies and programs** to attract companies come to New York to create jobs along the clean energy, clean transportation, and low-carbon supply chain
- **Funding for training, workforce development, apprenticeship, and pre-apprenticeship programs across sectors** (e.g. training for public transit and school bus workers on electric vehicles; training to buildings workforce on new manufacturing methods and construction approaches to improve building envelopes, training for fossil fuel industry employees on clean energy technology). This should include **funding to support worker attendance at existing training courses** e.g. wage coverage

High Quality Jobs Creation with Accessible for All

- **New York's green workforce is expected to grow up 38%, or 189,000 net jobs, by 2030.** By 2050, these numbers jump to 54% and 268,00 net jobs
- For every one job displaced, the State can expect to see **ten new jobs in its place**
- Jobs creation potential for green economy investments far outpaces the jobs creation potential of fossil fuel investments. **Every \$1 million invested in clean sectors such as solar, building retrofits, and public transportation expansion and upgrades will see between 7.3-11.2 jobs.** This is nearly 2-4 times higher than the job creation potential of those same investments in fossil fuel industries
- **The growth of New York's green workforce can also help grow the State's labor movement, strengthening workers' rights, wages, and benefits while protecting their health and wellbeing.** IBEW locals in California have leveraged the state's clean energy investments to increase their membership by 40-50%. In New York, the State's most recent 2020 Offshore Wind solicitation awards will help create over 5,200 jobs with prevailing wage negotiated under project labor agreements.
- **Investing in a clean energy economy will help grow the number of jobs with family-sustaining wages between \$28-\$37 dollars per hour by 6% while shrinking the proportion of low-wage jobs.** Each region of New York State stands to gain new green jobs with family-sustaining wages
- Job creation in clean energy industries will create opportunities for workers at all education levels
- **The growth of green jobs also presents a pathway to reimagine representation and equity, creating opportunities for women, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), justice-impacted individuals, unemployed individuals, members of disadvantaged communities, and other individuals traditionally underrepresented groups.** As the green economy workforce grows, New York can help target workforce development and job opportunities to underrepresented groups, engendering representation, access, and equity.