



Stop Danskammer February Month of Action Guide

- Instructions to Register for the Feb. 15th Public Hearing
- Info to submit a comment by Feb. 22nd
- Talking Points & Tips

Background

After DEC's denial of its air permit back in late October 2021, Danskammer appealed the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) decision. The DEC will hold a **virtual public hearing on February 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** The chance of Danskammer prevailing is slim, but it's as important as ever that we turn out to the hearing and reiterate the reasons why Danskammer should not receive its air permit. We've done a spectacular job so far at showing decision-makers that a new fracked gas plant is a horrible idea—let's continue our fight to stop Danskammer!

Deadline to sign up to speak is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 11th.

- **Comments must be 2 minutes or less!**
- No need to be an expert-- this is FOR THE PEOPLE!
- The hearing is online, and there is ONLY an audio option- no camera/video options.
- Speakers will be called in the order they register with preference given to elected officials and those who did not speak at one of the previous public comment hearings.

Register online to comment at the February 15th hearing

Direct Link to Register:

<https://meetny-broadcast-pilot.webex.com/meetny-broadcast-pilot/e.php?AT=SI&From=GPS&MK=23376738643> & then Click the blue "Register" link

Make sure you click "Yes I would like to make a statement"

Event Number: 2337 673 8643 Password: Feb15-5PM

Go to the bottom of the page and click REGISTER to fill out the registration form now or before **4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 11th**. Then on **February 15th at 5:00 p.m.**, follow the same instructions and click **JOIN**. (Sorry it is not easier. Please reach out to stopdanskammercoalition@gmail.com if you need help.)

Instructions for Attending the Public Comment Hearing

To join the hearing through the internet, visit www.webex.com and click "Join a meeting" at the top right-hand corner of the screen, and input the event number below.

Event Number: 2337 673 8643 Password: Feb15-5PM

To join by phone only, dial: 1-518-549-0500 Access Code: 2337 673 8643

Participants will be asked to "select audio system." It is recommended that participants choose to have the system "call me" or "call using computer." The "call me" option will require participants to enter their phone numbers.

Register to speak by telephone

Any person who is not able to login electronically may participate by telephone. [Call-in participants must register to speak in advance by calling the Department at 518-402-9003](#) no later than 4:00 p.m. Friday, February 11, 2022. Please provide your first and last name, address, email address if any, and telephone number and reference the Danskammer public comment hearing. On the day and time of the hearing, use the phone access phone number, (518) 549-0500, and the appropriate access code listed above to join the hearing.

All participants will be muted upon entry into the hearing. The ALJ will call each person who has requested to provide a statement to speak. The ALJ will continue the hearing until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made to include their comments in the record. The ALJ may limit the time available for oral comments to 2 minutes per person, as necessary to afford all participants an opportunity to be heard. We also recommend that lengthy comments be summarized for oral presentation and submitted in writing as provided above. The hearing will be stenographically recorded for inclusion in the record.

Submit Written Public Comments by FEBRUARY 22nd!

[Click here to submit quick & easy pre-written comment OR to submit your own!](#)

Written comments concerning Danskammer's Title V permit application, draft permit, DEC's notice of denial, and Danskammer's request for a hearing must be postmarked by Tuesday, February 22, 2022 and mailed to

Administrative Law Judge Michael S. Caruso at DEC's Office of Hearings and Mediation Services, 1st Floor, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY, 12233-1550, or **emailed to ALJ Caruso** ([CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENT](#)) **by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2022**. Written statements will be considered equally with oral statements given at the legislative public comment hearing, provided they are postmarked by Tuesday, February 22, 2022 or emailed by 5:00 p.m. on that date.

Danskammer Public Hearing Talking Points & Outline

Intro:

- **Hi my name is_____. I am from_____ and I urge you to uphold the DEC's decision to deny Danskammer's air permits.**

Problem:

- ***The proposed Danskammer plant is incompatible with NYS Climate Law.*** The proposal to build the Danskammer fracked gas power plant is incompatible with New York's climate law (the CLCPA) and climate justice and equity principles. NY has only 19 years to transition to an emissions-free grid. Continued investment in fracked gas at Danskammer would lock us into prolonged reliance on fracked gas power, limiting our ability to meet New York's climate commitment of a zero-emissions electric sector by 2040. If Danskammer is built, greenhouse gas emissions in NY will increase. Allowing Danskammer to be built after we passed the nation's boldest climate law would set a dangerous precedent for NY and tell the fracked gas industry that they can continue building out climate-destroying infrastructure in our state.
- ***The proposed Danskammer plant will increase air pollution and threaten public health.*** The new plant would run far more often than the current plant and could add over 25 times more health-damaging particulate matter and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to our region, and three times more NOx pollution, compared to the current Danskammer plant. Air pollution and associated respiratory illnesses are already elevated in Newburgh and the surrounding area.
- ***The proposed Danskammer plant is an unnecessary risk.*** Recent reports on the reliability of New York State's grid do not show any need at all for a new fracked gas plant in the Hudson Valley. The authorities that monitor New York State's grid have long planned for the retirement of Indian Point, and those plans do not include the new Danskammer plant. Better alternative uses -- mainly energy storage -- exist for that site that will support the transition to a clean energy economy.
- ***I am personally against Danskammer because...*** INSERT PERSONAL ANECDOTE.

Solution/Call to Action:

The Department of Environmental Conservation must reject Danskammer's proposal and make it clear that they will not approve any new fracked gas power plants.

Benefit:

- This action would protect frontline communities in and around the City of Newburgh who already suffer disproportionately from pollution and would be exposed to even more pollution by building a new fracked gas power plant.
- This action would send a clear message to the energy industry that it is time to invest in clean energy solutions like wind, solar and battery storage, NOT new fossil fuel plants. The clean energy industry is set to create thousands more good-paying jobs than these new fossil fuel plants would.
- Blocking Danskammer and all fracked gas power plants is a critical step in implementing the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, meeting our climate goals, and protecting all New Yorkers from the dangerous impacts of climate change.

Stop Danskammer Tips for Commenting

Don't worry about highly technical information. You don't need to be an expert!

The siting board has access to technical expertise, and attorneys against the plant are crafting legal arguments in response to this proposal. Your role is to show the decision makers that there is strong public opposition to this plant.

MUST HAVES: Your name, town/county, clear statement of opposition.

It's OK if you decide that you only want to say "My name is ____ and I live in _____ and I am asking you to stop Danskammer."

Additional elements should include ***why*** you feel the way you do.

- Think about **your own** reasons for wanting to act: Why does this matter to you?
- Who or what are you fighting to protect? What do you fear?
- Why are you in particular someone who cares about this issue?
- What simple facts can you add to bolster your claims? (See our talking points!)
- Write it down first & practice! (**The time limit is 2 minutes or less.** You might want to time yourself while you practice if you're worried about going over time. Most people speak at ~150 words/minute.)

You'll be great!