

My name is Tina Weishaus, I am an alumna of Rutgers, a NJ taxpayer and I am speaking today on behalf of DivestNJ, a coalition of organizations which is leading the fight to get the NJ State Pension Plan to divest from fossil fuels..

I am here in support of the work that the Central Jersey Climate Coalition is doing at Rutgers with the same demand: **DIVEST YOUR ENDOWMENT OF FOSSIL FUELS NOW**. Continuing to invest in fossil fuels is literally investing in the destruction of our future.

There is no longer a financial rationale not to divest. The fossil fuel sector has been in serious decline for the last few decades and its outlook is increasingly negative. It was the worst performing sector of the S&P's 500 in 2018 and this year holds more of the same. It is no longer fiduciarily responsible for Rutgers to continue to hold onto these investments.

And more importantly it is no longer morally responsible. Rutgers produces the science that tells us we are on the brink of climate catastrophe. Many of your faculty have contributed to the UN reports on sea level rise, on ocean warming, on glacial melt...warning us that there are only a handful of years left to prevent irreversible tipping points. Here in NJ we are experiencing the worst sea level rise and temperature increase in the country.

DivestNJ supports the demands presented today: the establishment of an office of sustainability, an immediate climate plan which gets us to carbon neutrality by 2040 and divestment.

You must listen to the youth who are demanding a livable future. You must listen to your students and to your faculty!.. Make Rutgers a leader in sustainability and help protect our future!